



Institutional Biosafety Committee
University of Arizona
November 19, 2025
Zoom
10:00AM – 11:00AM
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Dr. Michael Riehle, Dr. David Besselsen, Ceasar Ramirez, Dr. Kathryn O’Connell, Dr. Judith Brown, Patricia Gundy, Dr. Mrinalini Kala, Dr. Anita Koshy, Dr. Jonathan Sexton, Jennifer Uhrlaub, Hien Trinh, Dr. Lynn Stone

Non-members’ Present: Marcy Milbrandt

Members Absent: Rhonda Evans, Dr. Michael Riggs,

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM

1. Review of the previous meeting minutes: October 15, 2025
2. Biosafety Level 2 (Non-rNucleic Acid) Applications
 - a. Samantha Harris, PhD, Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Approval No. 12235
Protocol Title: Regulation of muscle contraction by myosin binding protein-C
Agents: Deidentified human tissues

*Currently has a BSL1 protocol, updating agents to BSL2 with same protocol

The Committee agreed to table your protocol for the following reasons:

- Please provide more information on the sonicating and blending equipment and procedures.
 - As stated in the protocol, “safety blenders, safety sonicators will be used...”- please provide equipment details
- The Committee is requiring that a biosafety cabinet (BSC) be used for all blending and sonicating work, since this is a major concern for aerosols.
 - MRB should have a shared BSC; if unable to find one, contact Ceasar Ramirez to work with other PIs to find a shared BSC.
- The Committee is wanting the use of N-95s removed from the protocol.

- b. Jennifer Stern, PhD, Medicine, Approval No, 12499
Protocol Title: Stern Laboratory
Agents: Serum (Human), Tissue (Mouse)

The Committee agreed to provisionally approve your protocol with the following recommendations and additions to protocol:

- Please provide more information on the mice work,
- The removal of using a surgical mask is section G2,
- The recommendation of handling the biohazardous agent(s) inside the biosafety cabinet (BSC),
- And then providing details if the lab will be generating liquid waste (usual disposal is a final bleach concentration of 10%, allow 15 minutes exposure time, then discard down drain while rinsing with water).

3. Biosafety Level 2 (Non-Exempt-rNucleic Acid) Application

- a. Steven Scoville, MD, PhD, Surgery, Approval No. 12497
Protocol Title: Human Natural Killer Cell Development and Function
Agents: Blood (Human), Tissue (Human), Cell Lines (Human), Lentivirus

This protocol falls under NIH Guideline III-D-4-a

The Committee agreed to approve your protocol but wants to delete the mention of autoclaving on your protocol, since autoclaving your biohazardous waste is not required if the lab plans on using Risk Management's biohazardous waste pickup.

- b. Hany Abdel-Hafiz, PhD, Cancer Center, Approval No. 12498
Protocol Title: Tumor Progression and Metastasis in Mice (CRISPR)
Tumor Progression and Metastasis in Mice
Agents: Cell Lines (Human), Cell Lines (Mouse), Recombinant lentiviral vectors (non-replicative)

This protocol falls under NIH Guideline III-D-4-a

The Committee agreed to table your two protocols and are requesting more information/clarification on the following:

- Please provide more information on the animal work being done (stereotypes, what type of injections, etc.),
- Will the manipulation(s) with the mice be done inside a biosafety cabinet (BSC)?

- c. Leigh Combrink, MSc, PhD, School of Natural Resources and the Environment, Approval No. 12495
Protocol Title: DNA / RNA extraction - Hantavirus Project
Agents: Blood (rodent)

This protocol falls under NIH Guidelines III-D

*Tabled at October's IBC meeting- see highlighted areas in IACUC protocol that discusses handling, euthanasia, CDC's correspondence is also attached.

The Committee approved this protocol with one additional question:

- Can you please provide clarification on how the lab will handle the mice once they have been anesthetized and placed in bags, since they most likely will urinate and defecate inside the bags?

4. Compliance Review Issues

a. The audit report for October and November 2025.

b. Incident(s):

1. Worker exposed to NHP feces- BSO

- a) BSO notified the committee of the eye exposure to NHP feces while worker was spraying down equipment used for the NHP experiment. While investigating, it was recommended that lab workers use the provided face shield with eye protection and follow the provided SOPs in the animal facility.

5. Old Business

a. Dr. Worobey's Response- see attachment with SARS-CoV added to research objectives

- Committee members reviewed and were satisfied with information provided

b. Dr. Combrink's Response- see attachment with combination of the 2 WNV protocols

- Committee members reviewed and were satisfied with information provided

6. New Business

a. Dr. Li's heat inactivation

- The Committee agreed that they would like for lab to use UV cross-linking for inactivation instead of heat inactivation and do one validation with the different timeframes that were done for the heat inactivation.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2025, via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46AM.

Prepared by: Ceasar Ramirez

Reviewed by:



Michael Riehle, PhD
Chair, Institutional Biosafety Committee