



Minutes

BRI Institutional Biosafety Committee
Institutional Biosafety Committee
12/9/2025
1:00 pm
Zoom

1 **Statements of Confidentiality and Conflicts of Interest**

Quorum and Meeting Access: The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm and noted that the meeting was open to the public. Quorum existed at the start of the meeting with 11 voting members present. A quorum was maintained for the entire meeting.

Confidentiality: The Chair reminded the committee that while the meeting is open to the public, the information discussed during the meeting should be treated as confidential.

Conflict of Interest: The Chair asked the committee if any members needed to declare a conflict of interest with respect to any matter on the agenda. The Chair notified committee members that if they had a conflict of interest, they must leave the room during the final discussion and voting on that IBC submission.

2 **Attendees**

Committee Members Present

Lewis Bowen (Campus Operations)	Biological Safety Officer
Lezi E (Cell Biology Neurobiology and Anatomy)	R/SNA Technology Expert
Benjamin Gantner (Medicine)	Chair
Kunal Gupta (Neurosurgery)	R/SNA Technology Expert
Anna Huppler (Pediatrics)	R/SNA Technology Expert
Eric Jensen (Research Office)	Animal Containment Expert
Tyce Kearl (Medicine)	R/SNA Technology Expert
	HGT Expert
Nikki Lytle (Surgery)	R/SNA Technology Expert
Angela Mathison (Surgery)	R/SNA Technology Expert
Sandy Montes-Gruber (Non-MCW)	Non-Affiliated Member
Laura Stephens (Non-MCW)	Non-Affiliated Member
Matthew Surdel (Medicine)	R/SNA Technology Expert

Committee Members Absent

Kenneth Allen (Research Office)

Alternate Animal Containment
Expert, Non-Voting

James Case (Non-MCW)

Non-Affiliated Member

Qizhen Shi (Pediatrics)

R/SNA Technology Expert

3 Meeting Minutes Reviewed at this Meeting

[11/11/2025 \(Zoom\)](#)

Motion:	Minutes Approved
Yes Votes:	12
No Votes:	0
Abstained:	0
Recused:	0
Total Votes:	12

4 New Business

The first and second business items were discussed before the past Meeting Minutes and Administrative Report were reviewed.

1. IBC Standard: *Review of IBC Applications*

The Chair presented the updated Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Standard: *Review of IBC Applications* to the Committee. The updated Standard includes clarification that while all new IBC Applications and renewals are to be reviewed in their entirety, the focus of amendment review should be on the changes that have been made in the IBC Application, as discussed at the November 11, 2025 IBC Meeting. A Committee member asked if amendment reviews should also include sections of the IBC Application that may not have been updated by the Principal Investigator in the submitted amendment but are affected by recently approved or updated IBC Position Statements or have issues that may have been missed in the original approval. The Chair explained that such issues will be identified when applications are reviewed at the time of renewal, so unless the changes made in the current amendment affect the safety of previously approved materials, Committee members should focus on the changes that were made in the amendment. . A Committee member noted she recently reviewed an amendment which added more to the application than was stated in the Amendment Summary, and asked how the reviewers should handle these situations. The Chair stated that reviewers should utilize functionality in eBridge that highlights where changes have been made in the SmartForm. If Committee members need assistance with this, they may contact the IBC Office. The reviewers should also request that the PI update the Amendment Summary to include all changes made. There being no further discussion, upon a motion duly made by a Committee member and seconded, the Committee voted to approve the updates to the IBC Standard.

2. 2026 IBC Meeting Dates

The Chair provided the Institutional Biosafety Committee the meeting dates for 2026.

(A Committee member joined the meeting at 1:30 pm. Quorum was maintained with 12 Committee members.)

3. Administrative Report

The Chair asked the Committee Members to review the Administrative Report and then invited discussion. No concerns were raised.

4. Exempt Rodent Report

The Exempt Rodent Report was provided to the Committee members.

5 Application Reviews

IBC20250048	Immunology
Principal Investigator:	Nicholas Jarjour
Motion:	Decision Pending Changes
Yes Votes:	12
No Votes:	0
Abstained:	0
Recused:	0
Total Votes:	12
NIH Guidelines:	Section III-D-1, Section III-D-3, Section III-D-4, Section III-E, Section III-F-1, Section III-F-8 (C-I), Section III-F-8 (C-II)
Biosafety Level(s):	BSL1, BSL2

Deliberations: The Chair introduced this new Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) application, allowing the Primary Reviewer to describe the study. The Principal Investigator's (PI's) lab is studying how

5**Application Reviews**

tissue-resident memory T cells (TRM) and macrophages evolve throughout life. To generate T cell memory in mice, the lab will utilize a variety of pathogens including lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus (LCMV), Listeria, Heligmosomoides (H.) polygyrus, and vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV). All but H. polygyrus have recombinant forms that will be used according to the scope of the experiment. Additionally, T cells and macrophages will be genetically engineered using retrovirus and clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats (CRISPR) in an attempt to change the self-renewing properties of the cells. The Committee confirmed that all personnel listed in the application completed safety training appropriate for work with the materials described. The Primary and Secondary Reviewers agreed that the protocol is well-written, and the risk assessment and mitigation strategies are thorough. The Primary Reviewer requested a few minor changes, including that the PI clarify where biological materials are stored, include protective equipment (e.g. low aerosolization pipette tips) described in the attached standard operating procedures (SOPs) into the IBC application SmartForm, and provide SOPs for LCMV, Listeria monocytogenes, and VSV as appropriate. The Animal Containment Expert (ACE) and Biological Safety Officer (BSO) had no additional concerns. A Committee member noted that the PI needs to indicate that Listeria and LCMV can cause disease in immune-compromised individuals. After brief discussion, upon a motion duly made by the Primary Reviewer and seconded, the Committee voted to approve this application pending the requested changes.

IBC20250046 [Xian Lab Sample Processing](#)

Principal Investigator: Hongxu Xian
Motion: Decision Pending Changes
Yes Votes: 12
No Votes: 0
Abstained: 0
Recused: 0
Total Votes: 12
NIH Guidelines: Section III-D-4, Section III-F-8 (C-VII)
Biosafety Level(s): BSL1, BSL2

Deliberations: The Chair introduced this amendment of an Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) application, and the Secondary Reviewer went on to explain the study. The Principal Investigator (PI) proposes to investigate how mitochondrial stress and immune activation drive chronic inflammation in autoimmune and neurodegenerative diseases. Human plasma and peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) from lupus and Alzheimer's disease patients and healthy controls, as well as murine cell lines, will be used in the studies. Diphtheria toxin (DT) will be administered into mice to study plasmacytoid dendritic cells (pDC)-specific effects on immune activation. The Committee confirmed that all personnel listed in the application completed safety training appropriate for work with the materials described. The Primary and Secondary Reviewers requested several changes, including that the PI confirm whether microorganisms will be used in this study, provide a risk assessment for handling human cells and tissues, and clarify if recombinant DNA will be used in the study. The Animal Containment Expert (ACE) and Biological Safety Officer (BSO) had no additional comments. After brief discussion, upon a motion made by the Secondary Reviewer and seconded, the Committee voted to approve this application pending the requested changes.

6**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 1:00 pm in Zoom.