



Minutes

MCW Institutional Biosafety Committee Institutional Biosafety Committee 11/11/2025 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 10 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 III (Finance and Administration)	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
Tyce Kearl (Medicine)	R/SNA Technology Expert HGT Expert
Angela Mathison (Surgery)	R/SNA Technology Expert
Qizhen Shi (Pediatrics)	R/SNA Technology Expert
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

Eric Jensen (Research Office)
 Nikki Lytle (Surgery)
 Sandy Montes-Gruber (Non-MCW)

Animal Containment Expert
 R/SNA Technology Expert
 Non-Affiliated Member

3 Meeting Minutes Reviewed at this Meeting

10/14/2025 (Zoom)

Motion:	Minutes Approved
Yes Votes:	10
No Votes:	0
Abstained:	0
Recused:	0
Total Votes:	10

4 New Business

1. IBC Consultant

The Chair notified the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) that the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Cancer Center (CC) has submitted a Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG) and is pursuing a National Cancer Institute (NCI) Cancer Center designation. One of the concerns that was raised by the NCI in their initial review of MCW Cancer Center's request was the time to activation of clinical trials; IBC review is one component of the activation. With that in mind, the Office of Research has requested that an independent consultant review IBC processes. The consultant is from a firm that had been used previously to evaluate the processes of MCW's Institutional Review Board (IRB). The Chair stated that the consultant is expected to come in early December to begin the evaluation. The Chair will keep the IBC informed of the process and if anyone wishes to discuss the evaluation, they can contact either him or the Biological Safety Officer (BSO).

2. Review of Amendments

The Chair reminded the Committee that review of amendments does not require the review of the application as a whole, and that the focus should be on the changes made within the SmartForm. The IBC Coordinator demonstrated how to compare the different versions in the application's SmartForm to assist with identifying where changes have been made in an amendment. The Chair stated that the IBC Review Standard will be updated to clarify the focus of amendment review. The updated Review Standard will be brought for the Committee to review at a future meeting.

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

IBC20220103_REN01 [Efficacy and safety of Cav3.2iPA and NaviPAs in human sensory neurons](#)

Principal Investigator: Hongwei Yu

Motion: Decision Pending Changes

5**Application Reviews**

Yes Votes: 10
No Votes: 0
Abstained: 0
Recused: 0
Total Votes: 10

NIH Guidelines: Section III-D-1, Section III-D-2, Section III-D-3, Section III-F-8 (C-I)

Biosafety Level(s): BSL2

Deliberations:

The Chair introduced this renewal of an Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) application and the Primary Reviewer went on to explain the study. The Principal Investigator (PI) studies the efficacy of the inhibitory peptide aptamer (iPA) on CaV3.2, a voltage-dependent (T-type) calcium channel protein subunit, or the sodium channel inhibitory peptide aptamer NaviPAs, using induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC)-derived neurons or human dorsal root ganglion (DRG) neurons. Lentivirus is used to introduce small peptides derived from natural Cav3.2 into cultured cells, including hiPSC-SN and HeLa cells. A select neuron toxin (Tetrodotoxin) will also be used in this protocol, as well as DRG sensory neurons from rats. 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 stated that the risk assessment and mitigation strategies are adequate. The Reviewers had several requests, including that the PI describe the goals of the study, define all acronyms in the application, and clarify whether the lab will generate lentivirus in the lab. The Biological Safety Officer (BSO) requested that the PI clarify whether rat DRG sensory neurons will be administered to other animal cells. After brief discussion, upon a motion duly made by the Primary Reviewer and seconded, the Committee voted to approve this renewal application pending the requested changes.

IBC20160060_REN03 [Ocular imaging in animals post AAV, or rDNA injection](#)

Principal Investigator: Joseph Carroll

Motion: Decision Pending Changes

Yes Votes: 10

No Votes: 0

Abstained: 0

Recused: 0

Total Votes: 10

NIH Guidelines: Section III-D-4, Section III-E, Section III-E-1, Section III-E-3, Section III-F-2, Section III-F-8 (C-II)

Biosafety Level(s): BSL1

Deliberations:

The Chair introduced this renewal of an Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) application, allowing the Primary Reviewer to describe the study. The goal of the Principal Investigator (PI) is to learn about retinal photoreceptor health, disease, and development. Adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors are used to transduce retinal cell populations with fluorescent proteins in live Thirteen-lined ground squirrels and tree shrews, then imaged to visualize the retina using repeated in vivo live imaging approaches. AAVs are prepared at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW). DNA constructs injected or electroporated directly into developing retinal space are used to test if gene knockdown or overexpression impacts retinal development. Finally, clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats (CRISPR)/Cas9 is used to generate novel transgenic ground squirrels. The Committee confirmed that all personnel listed in the application completed safety training appropriate for work with the materials described. The Primary Reviewer stated that the risk assessment and mitigation strategies are appropriate. The Reviewers requested that the PI clarify which genes will be targeted, whether tissues will be collected, and how AAV will be administered to animals. The Animal Containment Expert (ACE) and Biological Safety Officer (BSO) had

5**Application Reviews**

no additional comments. Upon a motion duly made by the Primary Reviewer and seconded, the Committee voted to approve this renewal application pending the requested changes.

IBC20160061_REN03 **Exploration of the role of angiogenesis in lung development and regeneration**

Principal Investigator: Akiko Mammoto

Motion: Tabled

Yes Votes: 10

No Votes: 0

Abstained: 0

Recused: 0

Total Votes: 10

NIH Guidelines: Section III-D-1, Section III-D-2, Section III-D-3, Section III-D-4, Section III-E, Section III-F-8 (C-I), Section III-F-8 (C-II)

Biosafety Level(s): BSL1, BSL2

Deliberations:

The Chair introduced this renewal of an Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) application, and the Primary Reviewer elaborated on the study. The Principal Investigator (PI) will continue studies on the role of angiogenesis in lung development and regeneration. Studies are performed in vitro, using cell lines and primary cells, as well as in vivo, using mouse, rat, and pig models. Genes of interest (including angiopoietin like 7, adiponectin, Twist1, YAP1, and Wnts), are manipulated with various methods including mammalian expression vectors (pcDNA), viral vectors, or small interfering RNA (siRNA). The application uses microorganisms (including human influenza A and non-pathogenic E coli), viral vectors (including adeno-associated virus (AAV), amphotropic murine retrovirus, and 2nd generation lentivirus), recombinant DNA (including siRNA and pcDNA expression plasmid), human source materials (including human lung tissue, modified and non-modified human primary cell lines, and HEK293 cells), and animal products (rat and mouse tissues with human or animal cells, mouse/pig/rat primary cell lines). 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 stated that the risk assessment and mitigation strategies require more clarification regarding the differences between biological safety level (BSL)2 versus BSL2+ practices and when to implement them. Additional changes were requested to align the full application with the work described in the Research Objectives. The Animal Containment Expert (ACE) requested a few changes, including that the PI clarify where animals would be housed and who will be responsible for animal husbandry. The Biological Safety Officer (BSO) had no additional Comments. For these concerns, upon a motion duly made by the Primary Reviewer and seconded, the Committee voted to table this renewal.

6**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:02 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 1:00 pm in Zoom.