



## Minutes

**BRI Institutional Biosafety Committee  
Institutional Biosafety Committee  
4/14/2026  
1:00 pm  
Zoom**

### 1 Statements of Confidentiality and Conflicts of Interest

**Quorum and Meeting Access:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:04 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 redacted meeting minutes will be made public, the information discussed should be considered confidential to protect the identity of individuals and the competitiveness of proprietary or technical information.

**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
Anna Huppler (Pediatrics)	R/SNA Technology Expert
Eric Jensen (Research Office)	Animal Containment 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
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Kunal Gupta (Neurosurgery)  
 Nikki Lytle (Surgery)  
 Sandy Montes-Gruber (Non-MCW)

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

### 3 Meeting Minutes Reviewed at this Meeting

03/10/2026 (Zoom)

<b>Motion:</b>	Minutes Approved
<b>Yes Votes:</b>	10
<b>No Votes:</b>	0
<b>Abstained:</b>	0
<b>Recused:</b>	0
<b>Total Votes:</b>	10

### 4 New Business

#### 1. Review Best Practices

The Chair first thanked the Committee for their hard work and dedication. He then stated there have been issues noted regarding delayed application reviews. The Chair noted three areas of concern during review that have been extending review times.

- Missing deadlines before meetings
- The amount of time to complete Designated Review (DR)
- The number of rounds of DR for application(s)

The Chair asked that the Committee be mindful of completing reviews in a timely manner. He also asked that Committee members make sure that critiques reflect the IBC's core mission to evaluate biosafety concerns and adherence to the *NIH Guidelines*. If a minor concern is found that is not related to the IBC's core mission, that concern may not need to be sent back if there are no other biosafety or NIH adherence concerns. The Vice Chair asked if examples of concerns that may not need to be routed back could be assembled. The Chair will discuss this possibility with the Biosafety Office and bring back the information back to the IBC if possible.

#### 2. IBC Standard: *IBC Membership & Responsibilities*

The Chair presented the revised Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Standard, *IBC Membership & Responsibilities*. The revisions to the standard removed the two-term limit for Committee members. The Chair asked if there were any questions or concerns. There being none, upon a motion duly made by an IBC member and seconded, the Committee voted to approve the revision to the standard as written.

#### 3. IBC Standard: *Establishing Standards and Position Statements*

The Chair presented the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Standard, *Establishing Standards and Position Statements*. The NIH Guidelines require that institutions establish and implement policies that provide for the safe conduct of research with recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules and ensure compliance with the NIH Guidelines. To that end, the IBC continuously evaluates its conduct and establishes Standards or Positional Statements as necessary to document its positions and processes with respect to various aspects under its purview, in part to maintain consistency in its decisions. The purpose of this document is to describe the purpose of and process for establishing IBC Standards and IBC Position Statements. The Chair asked if there were any questions or concerns. There being none, upon a motion duly made by an IBC member and seconded, the Committee voted to approve the standard as written.

#### 4. IBC Standard: *Addressing Noncompliance/Reportable Events*

The Chair presented the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Standard, *Addressing Noncompliance/Reportable Events*. The role of the IBC is to review research involving

the possession and use of biological toxins, microorganisms, human or non-human primate (NHP) tissue or cells, animal tissue or cells, and any use of recombinant DNA as described in the NIH Guidelines, and to assist investigative staff in establishing practices designed to protect the safety of personnel working with those agents. Failure to follow the practices described in an approved IBC Application (“noncompliance”) can place the safety of personnel at risk and the institution out of compliance with the NIH Guidelines. The purpose of this document is to provide guidance with regards to addressing noncompliance and/or reportable events and bringing them to the attention of the IBC. The Chair asked if there were any questions or concerns. There being none, upon a motion duly made by an IBC member and seconded, the Committee voted to approve the standard as written.

5. IBC Standard: *Availability of IBC Meeting Minutes and Public Comment*

The Chair presented the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Standard, *Availability of IBC Meeting Minutes and Public Comment*. Per Section IV-B-2-a-(7) of the NIH Guidelines, “an institution shall make available to the public all Institutional Biosafety Committee meeting minutes...If public comments are made on Institutional Biosafety Committee actions, the institution shall forward both the public comments and the Institutional Biosafety Committee's response to the Office of Science Policy, National Institutes of Health.” The purpose of this document is to document the process by which Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Meeting Minutes will be made available to the public and public comments will be forwarded to the NIH Office of Science Policy. The Chair asked if there were any questions or concerns. There being none, upon a motion duly made by an IBC member and seconded, the Committee voted to approve the standard as written.

6. IBC Position Statement: *BRC Locations*

The Chair presented the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Position Statement, *BRC Locations*, which states that individual room numbers should not be listed in IBC applications for areas in the Biomedical Resource Center (BRC). A member of the Biosafety Team requested a clarification to the description of the animal facility and the Committee concurred. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee voted to approve the position statement with the requested clarification.

7. Continuing Education - Changes to Sections H and P of the IBC Application SmartForm

The Research Safety Committees Manager presented updates to the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Application SmartForm that will go into effect in eBridge on April 18, 2026. The updates will affect Section H (Viral Vectors), which will add questions to clarify the risks associated with the vectors used and the mitigation strategies that will be used, and Section P (Engineering Controls and PPE), which will add questions to clarify when specific PPE will be used to perform certain procedures with a particular biological material. A Committee member asked if sample responses could be prepared to assist Principal Investigators in answering the questions added in Section H. The Biosafety Office noted that they have fact sheets for other biological agents in the IBC Application SmartForm and would look into developing something similar for this section as well.

8. Administrative Report

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

9. Exempt Rodent Report

The Exempt Rodent Report was provided to the Committee members.

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## 5 Application Reviews

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**IBC20250054** iPSC Blood Progenitor Differentiation

Principal Investigator: Wade Sugden

**Motion:** Decision Pending Changes**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-1, Section III-F-8 (C-I), Section III-F-8 (C-II)**Biosafety Level(s):** BSL1, BSL2, BSL2+

**Deliberations:** (A guest rejoined the meeting at 2:00 pm.) The Chair introduced this new Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) application, allowing the Secondary Reviewer to describe the study. The Principal Investigator (PI) proposes to investigate molecular regulators of hematopoietic stem and progenitor cell function and erythroid differentiation using induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) as a human cell platform. Both adeno-associated virus (AAV) and lentiviral vectors will be used in this project to manipulate gene expression in human primary or iPS-derived hematopoietic progenitors, and transduced cells may be transplanted into mice. The Primary and Secondary Reviewers stated the risk assessment and mitigation strategies are appropriate. The Reviewers requested that the PI include a brief description of how biological materials will be used in the study; clarify the PI's experience handling lentiviral vectors; and confirm the protocol being used to produce lentiviral vector in the lab, including the volume cultured. The Biological Safety Officer (BSO) requested that the PI indicate who will be shipping biological materials for this study and ensure they have the appropriate training. The Animal Containment Expert (ACE) had no additional comments. Upon a motion duly made by the Secondary Reviewer and seconded, the Committee voted to approve this application pending the requested changes.

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## 6 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:07 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 1:00 pm in Zoom.