West Virginia University
Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
June 2025

DATE: 06/27/25
TIME: 3:00pm
LOCATION: BMRF 101 with a Zoom option

The June meeting of the West Virginia University Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) was called to order by Karen Martin at 3:00 PM. The meeting was open to the public with public notification on the university's IBC website.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Committee members present for the meeting were (role/expertise noted, as applicable):

1. Karen Martin, IBC Chair
2. Matt Stinoski, Institutional Biosafety Officer
3. Josh Parenti, Associate Biosafety Officer
4. Mariette Barbier
5. Kathy, Brundage
6. Robert Gerbo, Occupational Health Representative
7. John Hando
8. Brian Huggins, County Health Department Representative
9. Ivan Martinez
10. Jamie Moore, Non-affiliated community member
11. Chris Waters
12. Rebecca Jerningan, Animal containment expert
13. Dylan Willis

Non-committee Members: none

A majority of the committee was present; therefore, a quorum was established.

***PREVIOUS MEETING* MINUTES REVIEW**

A copy of the April IBC minutes was emailed to committee members for review prior to the meeting. There was no meeting in May due to lack of protocols to review. There was a motion and unanimous committee agreement to approve the minutes and accept them as written.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Dylan Willis has joined the EHS team as the Research Support Specialist. As part of this role, Dylan will serve on the IBC representing safety. He was introduced as a committee member.

The NIH put out a notice related to the moratorium on what they call “dangerous GOF research” and requires each institution to review ongoing research activities to ensure all projects are in compliance with the order. I reviewed the active IBC protocols and confirmed that all our open research protocols are in compliance. I authored a memo of attestation confirming this review and had a consult with Legal regarding it. It will be submitted to Dr. Ming Lei, Interim VP of Research on July 1.

PROTOCOLS FOR REVIEW

Protocol # (New/Renewal/Amendment)	**24-06-01 (amendment)**
Protocol Title	***Redox mediated epigenetics in endothelial cells.***
PI Name	**DeVallance, Evan**
Biohazards	***Recombinant nucleic acids*** **Type of genes:** non-hazardous histone gene modifiers **Type of vector**: AAV **Applicable NIH guidelines: III-D-3, III-D-4** ***Human, animal, or plant pathogens*:** N/A ***BBP & OPIM*: N/A** ***Introduction into Animals*** **Species:** mouse **Material:** AAV
Proposed Biosafety Level	BSL1
Reviewer Summary	This amendment adds AAV in a mouse model “The AAV vectors are BSL-1 and will be made and purified by vector builder. The vectors will be for expression and shRNA under the control of mouse tissue specific promoters (liver-albumin & endothelial cells- CD144. This doesn’t increase the BSL or any aspect of safety but since it’s different vector it required full committee review.

A motion to approve the amendment at BSL1, pending the below documented recommended revisions:

Page 2- Biosafety Cabinet date needs updated

Page 3- check safety glasses for PPE

Page 6 (rDNA) For exposure response, Please add that the Biosafety Officer will be contacted in the event of an exposure and the exposed will report to the Emergency Department with a copy of the Infectious Agent Fact Sheet.

Page 8 (BBP) For exposure response, Please add that the Biosafety Officer will be contacted in the event of an exposure and the exposed will report to the Emergency Department with a copy of the Infectious Agent Fact Sheet.

Page 9 (animals)- On table, for highest concentration, what is vg/mouse? Is that a typo?
For risk assessment, mice treated with AAV can be housed at ABSL1. Please update accordingly.

Mat& Methods- Transportation in sealed secondary containment, not tube rack.
Summarize procedure, don't need step by step.(similar to AAV).

The motion was unanimously approved.

Protocol # (New/Renewal/Amendment)	**15-04-09 (amendment)**
Protocol Title	***Protein unfolding ATPase for the treatment of blindness***
PI Name	**Sokolov, Maxim**
Biohazards	***Recombinant nucleic acids*** **Type of genes:** mRNA Cre (non-hazardous) **Type of vector**: lipid nanoparticles (LNP) **Applicable NIH guidelines: III-D-3, III-E** ***Human, animal, or plant pathogens*:** N/A ***BBP & OPIM*: N/A** ***Introduction into Animals*** **Species:** mouse **Material:** LNP mRNA
Proposed Biosafety Level	BSL1
Reviewer Summary	This amendment adds Lipid NanoParticles delivery of mRNA Cre to express non-hazardous genes in a mouse model. Previously approved for BSL1 AAV, now adding LNP delivery. This doesn't increase the BSL or any aspect of safety but since it's different vector it required full committee review.

A motion to approve the amendment at BSL1, the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL FOR ADJOURNMENT

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting if there were no further items for discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 PM.