West Virginia University
Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
November 2025

DATE: 11/17/25
TIME: 3:00pm
LOCATION: BMRF 101 with a Zoom option

The November 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 at 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. Notashia Baughman, Unaffiliated community member
6. Kathy Brundage
7. Marcus Cervantes
8. Tata Cotroneo
9. Robert Gerbo
10. John Hando
11. Eric Jeppesen
12. Jeremy Larew, Unaffiliated community member
13. Ivan Martinez
14. Dan Panaccione, Plant expert
15. Chris Waters
16. Rebecca Jernigan, Animal Expert
17. Dylan Willis

Non-committee Members: Amy McCreary

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

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES REVIEW

*The October IBC meeting was cancelled due to a lack of protocols to review.

Minutes for the prior (September) meeting were provided to committee members to review before the November meeting occurred. A member noted that there was a small mistake on one of the protocols. This was addressed and changes were made for full committee approval of the September minutes.

Discussion:

Modernization of Biosafety Initiatives Summary — The NIH is launching a new Biosafety Modernization Initiative to strengthen biosafety policies, practices, and oversight in response to the evolving risks associated with rapidly advancing science and technology. As part of this effort, the NIH will modernize existing biosafety policies to more comprehensively address current and emerging biosafety needs.

In addition, the NIH seeks to strengthen partnerships with institutional oversight bodies by empowering Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBCs) and reinforcing their role as the primary level of local oversight, comparable to Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees (IACUCs) that help ensure a safe and responsible research environment.

This initiative supports the NIH's commitment to conducting gold-standard science under gold-standard biosafety conditions, with the goal of creating a more effective, transparent, and modern biosafety system. Collaboration with ABSA will help guide the development of the new guidelines. The current plan is to publish a Draft Policy in Spring 2026, allowing time for public comment and revision.

IBC Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) — The IBC SOP has been updated to reflect current committee practices. Updates include revisions to the active committee member list, clarification of procedures for addressing multi-member groups, guidance on closed session meetings, and the process for publishing finalized meeting minutes. The SOP also clarifies protocol approval processes, including distinctions between minor and major amendments and the respective approval responsibilities of the Biosafety Officer (BSO) and/or the attending veterinarian.

PROTOCOLS FOR REVIEW

Protocol # (New/Renewal/Amendment)	**19-04-01 (renewal)**
Protocol Title	**Impact of Neutrophil Extracellular Traps (NETs) in Cancer and Inflammation.**
PI Name	**Boone, Brian**
Biohazards	***Recombinant nucleic acids*** **Type of genes:** NA **Type of vector**: NA **Applicable NIH guidelines:** NA ***Human, animal, or plant pathogens*:** Human blood or tissue samples could contain pathogens, patients are screened prior to surgery. Diphtheria Toxin. ***BBP & OPIM*:** Blood samples (Human), Tissue samples (Human) ***Introduction into Animals*** **Species:** mouse **Material:** Diphtheria Toxin

Proposed Biosafety Level	BSL2
Reviewer Summary	The protocol renewal will evaluate the impact of NETs on the pathophysiology of cancer and other inflammatory conditions. It will utilize human cell lines *in vitro,* and diphtheria toxin in a mouse model.

There was a motion to approve the amendment at BSL2, pending the IBC recommended revisions:

Page 2 - Update Biosafety Cabinet date, or when it's scheduled to occur

Page 3 - Check safety glasses

Page 5 (BBP) - For exposure response, please add that the Biosafety Officer will be contacted in the event of an exposure.

Page 6 (animals) - V109 no longer a BSL2 room. Contact OLAR to determine what room you'll be working in.

For exposure response, please add that the Biosafety Officer will be contacted in the event of an exposure.

Materials and Methods - In the study design for mice, please add that the tumors and blood collected will be transported to 5608 in secondary containment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Protocol # (New/Renewal/Amendment)	**22-10-03 (renewal)**
Protocol Title	**Evaluation of Dicycloplatin (DCP) as a Treatment for Bladder Cancer.**
PI Name	**Cambell, Steven (Kandzari)**
Biohazards	***Recombinant nucleic acids*** **Type of genes:** NA **Type of vector**: NA **Applicable NIH guidelines:** NA ***Human, animal, or plant pathogens*:** NA ***BBP & OPIM*:** NA ***Introduction into Animals*** **Species:** Mouse **Material:** Human Bladder Cancer Cell Line
Proposed Biosafety Level	BSL2

Reviewer Summary	This protocol will evaluate the effects of the chemotherapeutic drug cisplatin against bladder cancer using human cancer cell lines in a mouse model.

There was a motion to approve the amendment at BSL2, pending the IBC recommended revisions:

Page 2 - Update biosafety cabinet date.

Page 5 (BBP) - For exposure response, please add that the Biosafety Officer will be contacted in the event of an exposure.

Material and Methods - state that mice will be restrained during injections.

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 3:37 PM.