



Institutional Biosafety Committee

Committee Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2025 - 11:30 AM (Online)

CALLED TO ORDER: 11:34 am (Online)

I. Members in attendance:

Michael Swan, Eric Hetherington, Sanjiv Chokshi, Edgardo Farinas, Richard E Arlaus, Sagnik Basuray, Gary Sarkis, and Megan DeJoseph

II. Review of minutes from previous meeting
(7.121.2025) Approved by all.

III. Protocols Reviewed:
New Protocol:

Elisa Kallioniemi

Decoding Pain Modulation in the Motor Cortex: A Multimodal Approach Using Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation, Electroencephalography, and a Biosensor for Pain Quantification

Blood collection (EDC2, 105 Lock St), Blood analysis and storage (Tiernan Hall)
411B (EDC2), T205, T209
BSL-1

This protocol was submitted at BSL-1, but the Committee was concerned that the proposed lab space (EDC2, 105 Lock St) was not set up for blood collection, which requires BSL-2 facilities. The Committee decided to communicate the requirements of BSL-2 laboratories to ensure safe handling of biological agents. Specifically, it noted that access must be restricted to authorized personnel and researchers only, with appropriate signage indicating biohazards, required personal protective equipment, and emergency contact information. All personnel must complete biosafety and bloodborne pathogen training and may need vaccination against certain pathogens depending on the work being conducted. The laboratory must maintain strict protocols for decontamination, incident response, and spill control, and food and drinks are prohibited in the workspace.

The Committee also noted that universal precautions are mandatory, requiring access to sinks for handwashing after handling potentially infectious materials and before leaving the lab, along with proper handling and disposal of sharps and

sharps waste. Furthermore, the PI was informed that waste materials such as cultures and pipette tips must be decontaminated before disposal when applicable, and work surfaces must be disinfected after each use and following any spills. A spill response protocol and kit must be readily available, and all incidents must be recorded, reported, and followed up with medical evaluation when necessary. Finally, the facility must provide access to fire extinguishers and safety equipment including eyewash stations and safety showers, and all surfaces and furniture should be non-porous to facilitate easy disinfection.

This protocol will be approved by the core IBC team at Biosafety Level 2 once all of the conditions listed above are met.

Amendment:

Bryan Pfister

Assaying biocompatibility of cells with materials
GITC 0408, York 305, 307
BSL-II

The Committee approved the proposed work on human dermal endothelial cells (HMEC1), mesenchymal stem cells (HMSCs), and adipose-derived stem cells (ADSCs).

Renewal:

Lijie Zhang

Biological controls of mercury transformation
Colton: 130D & 120L
BSL-1

The Committee approved the proposed bacterial and algae culture, harvest, wash, and experimental assay work.

III. Other Business

The Committee welcomed the new EHS Director, Michael Swan.

Adjourned: 11:54 am