

**SCRIPPS RESEARCH
INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
August 13, 2025**

I. MEETING

The Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) of Scripps Research held a meeting via videoconference August 13, 2025, commencing at 2 p.m. Pacific Time. The meeting was held pursuant to notice duly given and a quorum was present.

Committee Members Present		Committee Members Absent	Others Present
Juan Carlos de la Torre	Michael Bobardt	Jim Gohres	Amy Green
Elizabeth Ford	Smita Chopade	Stephen Munday	
Roberto Aiolfi	Cheryl Andreoli		
Mychelle Fernandez	Elizabeth Montano		
Elyse Walk	Steven Robert Head		
Raphael Park	Case McNamara		

I. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2025 IBC Meeting.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

III. BIOSAFETY OFFICER & IBC ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

None.

IV. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Raphael Park will abstain from voting on his protocol #08-13-25-02.

V. REVIEW OF PROTOCOLS

FULL COMMITTEE REVIEW

NEW

1. IBC Protocol #: 08-13-25-01, Chanda, Sumit

Title of Study: Identify key virus-host interactions for alphaviruses, orthobunyaviruses and orthohantaviruses and development of host-directed broad-spectrum antivirals

Department: Immunology & Microbiology

Primary Reviewer: Roberto Aiolfi

Secondary Reviewer: Smita Chopade

NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-2

Biosafety Level: BSL-2+

Animal work: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of IMM 212D completed on 12/29/23.

Training: Pending training.

Summary of Discussion: A summary of the research proposal was thoroughly discussed, including but not limited to agent characteristics; types of manipulations planned; sources of the nucleic sequences; nature of the nucleic acid sequences; hosts and vectors to be used; whether any attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced. The committee assessed key risks presented by the research and confirmed the appropriate biocontainment level for the conduct proposed.

The following action items were identified as needing to be updated on the protocol:

Infectious Agents

Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus (VEEV) (epizootic strains, e.g., IAB and IC) are listed as HHS/USDA Tier 1 Select Agents. At the present time TSRI does not have a Select Agent Program. These experiments can only be conducted using Enzootic strains (e.g., ID, IE, IF) which are not select agents.

Study Design/Project Description

A description of what perturbagens are and whether an infection with perturbagens will be performed and how is needed here. Clarification of the timeline of the procedure involving perturbagens is needed.

Review outcome: Conditional approval; full approval granted upon completion of the above listed action items.

2. IBC Protocol #:	08-13-25-03, Ken, Megan
Title of Study:	Studying RNA-protein recognition in HIV packaging
Department:	ISCB
Primary Reviewer:	Juan de la Torre
Secondary Reviewer:	Raphael Park
NIH Guidelines:	III-D-1, III-D-2, III-D-3, III-E-1
Biosafety Level:	BSL-2+
Animal work:	☐ Yes ☒ No
Biosafety Inspection:	Inspection of SR 211B TBD.
Training:	Pending training.

Summary of Discussion: A summary of the research proposal was thoroughly discussed, including but not limited to: agent characteristics; types of manipulations planned; sources of the nucleic sequences; nature of the nucleic acid sequences; hosts and vectors to be used; whether any attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced. The committee assessed key risks presented by the research and confirmed the appropriate biocontainment level for the conduct proposed.

The following action items were identified as needing to be updated on the protocol:

General Information

The containment assessment needs to reflect BSL-2+ for HIV.

Location of Study

A centrifuge with aerosol containment needs to be available and listed as such for generation of infectious recombinant HIV-1 (BSL2+).

Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids

It is recommended to include the name of the specific lentiviral vector and the mammalian expression vectors that will be used to express the different indicated genes.

Study Design/Project Description

The addition of details about the amount of infectious virus that will be produced for each mutant and the specific experiments that will be done with the recombinant infectious HIV1s is needed.

Review outcome: Conditional approval; full approval granted upon completion of the above-listed action items.

THREE-YEAR RENEWAL

1. IBC Protocol #: 08-13-25-02, Park, Raphael

Title of Study: Structure and function of the EXS secretion machine

Department: ISCB

Primary Reviewer: Case McNamara

Secondary Reviewer: Roberto Aiolfi

NIH Guidelines: III-B-2, III-E

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Animal work: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of MB 101 completed on 7/28/25.

Training: Pending training.

Summary of Discussion: A summary of the research proposal was thoroughly discussed, including but not limited to: agent characteristics; types of manipulations planned; sources of the nucleic sequences; nature of the nucleic acid sequences; hosts and vectors to be used; whether any attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced. The committee assessed key risks presented by the research and confirmed the appropriate biocontainment level for the conduct proposed.

The following action items were identified as needing to be updated on the protocol:

Location of Study

The microscopy facility is BSL1, this should be reflected here.

Review outcome: Conditional approval; full approval granted upon completion of the above-listed action items.

MIGRATIONS

1. IBC Protocol #: 10-14-15-04, Hangartner, Lars

Title of Study: Investigation of Heterosubtypic Immunity to Influenza Virus

Department: Immunology & Microbiology

Primary Reviewer: Steve Head

Secondary Reviewer: Cheryl Andreoli

NIH Guidelines: III-E-1

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Animal work: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of IMM 307D, 310 completed on 2/5/24.

Training: Training verified and on record.

Summary of Discussion: A summary of the research proposal was thoroughly discussed, including but not limited to: agent characteristics; types of manipulations planned; sources of the nucleic sequences; nature of the nucleic acid sequences; hosts and vectors to be used; whether any attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced. The committee assessed key risks presented by the research and confirmed the appropriate biocontainment level for the conduct proposed.

The following action items were identified as needing to be updated on the protocol:

Location of Study

Clarification is needed as to whether a biosafety cabinet is in the BSL2 room listed here.

Infectious Agents

The source of the agents needs to be added here.

Human/Non-human Primate Material

Human saliva needs to be added to the list of Human/Non-Human Primate Materials.

Study Design/Project Description

Detailed information regarding the amount of virus produced, the generation of monoclonal antibodies, and the manipulation of human derived samples is needed here.

Review outcome: Conditional approval; full approval granted upon completion of the above-listed action items.

2. IBC Protocol #:	09-13-17-03, Hangartner, Lars
Title of Study:	Use of rhesus monkey blood cells for SHIV amplification and in vitro cell assays
Department:	Immunology & Microbiology
Primary Reviewer:	Mychelle Fernandez
Secondary Reviewer:	Steve Head
NIH Guidelines:	N/A
Biosafety Level:	BSL-2+
Animal work:	☐ Yes ☒ No
Biosafety Inspection:	Inspection of IMM 309A, 310 completed on 2/5/24.
Training:	Training verified and on record.

Summary of Discussion: A summary of the research proposal was thoroughly discussed, including but not limited to agent characteristics; types of manipulations planned; sources of the nucleic sequences; nature of the nucleic acid sequences; hosts and vectors to be used; whether any attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced. The committee assessed key risks presented by the research and confirmed the appropriate biocontainment level for the conduct proposed.

The following action items were identified as needing to be updated on the protocol:

Location of Study

Clarification is needed as to whether a biosafety cabinet is in the BSL2 room listed here.

Human/Non-human Primate Material

Information regarding the source of NHP PBMCs is needed.

Study Design/Project Description

More detailed information regarding the study design, and clarification that SHIV will be handled under BSL-2+ conditions is needed here.

Review outcome: Conditional approval; full approval granted upon completion of the above-listed action items.

3. IBC Protocol #: 07-14-20-01, Hangartner, Lars

Title of Study: Lentiviral transduction vectors for the generation of target cells expressing viral surface antigens
Department: Immunology & Microbiology
Primary Reviewer: Cheryl Andreoli
Secondary Reviewer: Mychelle Fernandez
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-2, III-E-1
Biosafety Level: BSL-2
Animal work: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of IMM 309A, 310 completed on 2/5/24.
Training: Training verified and on record.

Summary of Discussion: A summary of the research proposal was thoroughly discussed, including but not limited to: agent characteristics; types of manipulations planned; sources of the nucleic sequences; nature of the nucleic acid sequences; hosts and vectors to be used; whether any attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced. The committee assessed key risks presented by the research and confirmed the appropriate biocontainment level for the conduct proposed.

The following action items were identified as needing to be updated on the protocol:

Location of Study

Clarification is needed as to whether a biosafety cabinet is in the BSL2 room listed here.

Human/Non-human Primate Material

The source of primary human cells (PBLs and neutrophils) is needed here.

Review outcome: Conditional approval; full approval granted upon completion of the above-listed action items.

AMENDMENTS

1. IBC Protocol #: 10-13-21-08, Hang, Howard

Title of Study: Infection Studies
Department: Immunology & Microbiology
Primary Reviewer: Smita Chopade
Secondary Reviewer: Case McNamara
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-2, III-D-4-a, III-D-4-b
Biosafety Level: BSL-2, ABSL-2
Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of IMM 115 completed on 1/13/23.
Training: Training verified and on record.

Summary of Discussion: A summary of the research proposal was thoroughly discussed, including but not limited to: agent characteristics; types of manipulations planned; sources of the nucleic sequences; nature of the nucleic acid sequences; hosts and vectors to be used; whether any attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced. The committee assessed key risks presented by the research and confirmed the appropriate biocontainment level for the conduct proposed.

The following action items were identified as needing to be updated on the protocol:

General Information

Links to IACUC protocols need to be updated. More details regarding post-procedure cage handling following in vivo work with *Enterococcus* and *Staphylococcus* is needed here.

Review outcome: Conditional approval; full approval granted upon completion of the above-listed action items.

2. IBC Protocol #: 09-12-18-06, Johnson, Kristen

Title of Study: Identification of novel modulators of innate immunity, inflammation and immuno-oncology
Department: Biology Calibr
Primary Reviewer: Raphael Park
Secondary Reviewer: Juan de la Torre
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-3
Biosafety Level: BSL-2+
Animal work: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of Calibr 2134, 2136, 2135, 2133, 2132, 2128 completed on 10/3/22.
Training: Pending training.

Summary of Discussion: A summary of the research proposal was thoroughly discussed, including but not limited to: agent characteristics; types of manipulations planned; sources of the nucleic sequences; nature of the nucleic acid sequences; hosts and vectors to be used; whether any attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced. The committee assessed key risks presented by the research and confirmed the appropriate biocontainment level for the conduct proposed.

The following action items were identified as needing to be updated on the protocol:

Amendment

Details of the new biologicals and the experimental procedures should be added here.

General Information

Information regarding confirmation of Non-Human Primate material being herpes B free is needed here.

Review outcome: Conditional approval; full approval granted upon completion of the above-listed action items.

DMR REVIEW

1. IBC Protocol #: 09-13-23-01, Ran, Chen

Title of Study: Neural mechanisms of interoception
Department: Neuroscience
NIH Guidelines: III-E-3
Biosafety Level: BSL-2, ABSL-1

Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Training: Training verified and on record.
REVIEW OUTCOME: Approved.

BIOSAFETY REVIEW

1. IBC Protocol #: 09-11-19-05, Law, Mansun
Title of Study: Viral Studies
Department: Immunology & Microbiology
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-2, III-D-3, III-D-4-b, III-E-1
Biosafety Level: BSL-2+, ABSL-2
Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Training: Training verified and on record.
REVIEW OUTCOME: Approved.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled IBC meeting is **Wednesday, September 10, 2025**, via Teams at 2:00 PM. If full committee review protocols are not received by the next deadline date and there are no agenda items for full committee discussion, the meeting will be canceled. Members will be notified via e-mail of meeting cancellations one week before the scheduled meeting.