SCRIPPS RESEARCH
INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 14, 2026

I. MEETING

The Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) of Scripps Research held a meeting via videoconference January 14, 2026 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
Stephen Munday	Smita Chopade	Steven Robert Head	
Elizabeth Ford	Cheryl Andreoli		
Roberto Aiolfi	Elizabeth Montano		
Mychelle Fernandez	Case McNamara		
Elyse Walk	Raphael Park		

I. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2025 IBC Meeting.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

III. BIOSAFETY OFFICER & IBC ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

NIH Biosafety Modernization Initiative (Elyse Walk).

IV. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

V. REVIEW OF PROTOCOLS

Summary of Discussions: Summaries of each research proposal were 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.

FULL COMMITTEE REVIEW

AMENDMENTS

1. IBC Protocol #:	**09-11-24-01, Briney, Bryan**
Title of Study:	Discovery and validation of neutralizing antibodies against non-enveloped BSL-2 viruses
Department:	Immunology & Microbiology
Primary Reviewer:	Roberto Aiolfi
Secondary Reviewer:	Smita Chopade
NIH Guidelines:	III-D-1, III-D-2
Agents:	human rhinovirus 16, human astrovirus 1-8, E. coli DH5 alpha, Human PBMCs, Human Astrovirus 1-8 pseudo virus, human kidney cell lines HEK 293.

Biosafety Level: BSL-2+, ABSL-2
Animal work: ☒Yes ☐No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of IMM 309A, 310E, 130, 111 completed on 12/11/25.
Training: Training verified and on record.

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

General Information
In this section, the human rhino virus is mentioned for use in animals. However, in the animal section it is not, this needs clarification.

Location of Study
Location of animal studies needs to be added.

Study Design/Project Description
A detailed description of all studies proposed in the General Information section, including work with human rhinovirus and animals, is needed here.

Risk Assessment
Use of sharps and specific procedures needs to be updated.

Exposure Control
The mode of agent transportation into the vivarium needs specification here.

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

2. IBC Protocol #: **02-10-21-09, Yang, Xiang-Lei**
Title of Study: Physiopathological Function of tRNA Synthetases
Department: ISCB
Primary Reviewer: Raphael Park
Secondary Reviewer: Mychelle Fernandez
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-2, III-D-3, III-D-4, III-E-3
Agents: Adeno-associated virus, E. coli (DH10B, DH5-alpha), Epstein barr virus, Lymphocytic Choriomeningitis virus, lentivirus, Retrovirus, human primary cells, human cell lines, monkey cell line.
Biosafety Level: BSL-2, ABSL-2
Animal work: ☒Yes ☐No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of BCC 377A completed on 12/17/25.
Training: Pending training.

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

Human/Non-human Primate Material
Removal of a duplicate table entry is needed here.

Regulatory Assessment
Revision is needed, reconsider III-D-3.

Risk Assessment
Completion of the table is needed.

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

RENEWALS

1. IBC Protocol #:	**01-14-26-01, Schultz, Peter**
Title of Study:	Creating synthetic molecules using tools of organic physics, synthetic chemistry and biological systems to develop protein therapeutics, synthetic vaccines and screening approaches.
Department:	Chemistry
Primary Reviewer:	Juan de la Torre
Secondary Reviewer:	Roberto Aiolfi
NIH Guidelines:	III-D-2
Agents:	Hepatitis B virus, Pseudomonas aeruginosa (Pa01, Pa1651, Pa14), Staphylococcus aureus (RN4220), E. coli (H10407, XL-1 Blue, p57-2), Recombinant baculovirus, human cell lines, human primary cells.
Biosafety Level:	BSL-2, ABSL-2
Animal work:	☒Yes ☐No
Biosafety Inspection:	Inspection of CHWL 263 completed on 12/3/25.
Training:	Training verified and on record.

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

General Information
Work with preformed fibrils should occur at BSL-2 not BSL-1, this should be reflected in the containment assessment as well as throughout the protocol.

Vertebrate or Invertebrate Animals
Removal of animal work is needed or an IACUC protocol needs to be initiated.

Exposure Control
An SOP specific for a-syn procedures and handling to be used as guidance is needed and should be uploaded.

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

2. IBC Protocol #:	**01-14-26-02, Briney, Bryan**
Title of Study:	Development of pan-betacoronavirus vaccines/Novel B cell epitope discovery against human coronaviruses
Department:	Immunology & Microbiology
Primary Reviewer:	Cheryl Andreoli
Secondary Reviewer:	Michael Bobardt
NIH Guidelines:	III-D-1, III-D-3
Agents:	Lentivirus, MERS Pseudotyped retrovirus, mouse-adapted merbcovirus MERS-CoV-M35c4, mouse-adapted sarbecoviruses SARS-CoV-2 MA10, Retrovirus, SARS pseudotyped retrovirus, SARS-CoV-2 and variants, human cell lines, non-human primate cell line.
Biosafety Level:	BSL-2+, ABSL-3
Animal work:	☒Yes ☐No
Biosafety Inspection:	Inspection of IMM 309A, 307D, 130, 310E completed on 12/11/25.
Training:	Training verified and on record.

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

General Information
The AUP needs to be uploaded.

Infectious Agents
The table needs to be completed.

Vertebrate of Invertebrate Animals
Hamster infection with SARS-CoV-2 needs to be added to the table. MERS-CoV should be listed as ABSL-3 in the table.

Human/Non-human Primate Material
Potential pathogens present in human cells lines need to be added to the table.

Study Design/Project Description
A detailed description of the experimental procedures with MERS-CoV is needed.

Regulatory Assessment
Work under NIH guidelines III-D-3 is not being performed, and III-D-2 is, this should be reflected.

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

MIGRATIONS

1. IBC Protocol #:	**05-12-21-03, Sanna, Pietro**
Title of Study:	Sanna Lab Studies
Department:	Immunology & Microbiology
Primary Reviewer:	Michael Bobardt
Secondary Reviewer:	Beth Ford
NIH Guidelines:	III-D-1, III-D-2, III-D-4-b
Agents:	Adeno-Associated Virus (AAV), Adenoviral Vectors (CAV-canine), Adenoviral Vectors 5, E. coli DH5alpha, GP deleted rabies virus vectors derived from vaccine strain SAB, Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV)- HSV-Based Viral, Human cytomegalovirus (HCMV), Lentiviral vectors, Pseudorabies Virus (PRV)- Bartha Strain (Vaccine strain)¸ Semliki Forest Virus Vector- replication deficient, Sendai virus vectors expressing transcription factors to generate IPSCs from rat fibroblast, Sindbis Virus Vectors, human cell lines, human primary cells.
Biosafety Level:	BSL-2, ABSL-2
Animal work:	☒Yes ☐No
Biosafety Inspection:	Inspection of MB 109F, 114-2, 100CC, B276, B277, 114, 118 completed on 8/31/22.
Training:	Pending training.

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

Location of Study
Location of the ABSL-2 work needs to be added, including stereotaxic surgery and housing post-72 hour infectious period. Clarification of which rooms actually have an autoclave is needed.

Infectious Agents

HIV-1 infected brain tissue needs to be added to the list of agents. All agents outlined in the general information section need to be added here.

Vertebrate or Invertebrate Animals
Clarification on whether Semliki Forest virus vector leaves the animal is needed.

Human/Non-human Primate Material
Details regarding the source of the human primary cells are needed, and HIV-1 infected brain tissue needs to be added to the table**.**

Risk Assessment
A description of who will perform animal husbandry during the infectious period is needed. HIV-1 infected brain tissue needs to be added to the table.

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

2. IBC Protocol #:	**12-08-21-02, Weiss, Friedbert**
Title of Study:	Control of opioid-motivated approach and avoidance behavior by neuronal ensembles
Department:	Neuroscience
Primary Reviewer:	Mychelle Fernandez
Secondary Reviewer:	Raphael Park
NIH Guidelines:	III-D-1, III-D-4-a
Agents:	G-deleted pseudotyped rabies virus, Adeno-Associated Virus (AAV).
Biosafety Level:	BSL-2
Animal work:	☐Yes ☒No
Biosafety Inspection:	Inspection of BCC B213 completed on 12/18/25.
Training:	Pending training.

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

General Information
A summary of accomplishments over the past three years, and containment safety information of stereotaxic injections using risk group 2 agents is needed.

Location of Study
The location of the ABSL2 work is needed.

Study Design/Project Description
Door cards need to be attached.

Regulatory Assessment
The Bloodborne Pathogen standard should be checked/applicable.

Risk Assessment
Confirmation of experiments not posting a risk to DAR personnel is needed.

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

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled IBC meeting is **Wednesday, February 11, 2026,** 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.