

**SCRIPPS RESEARCH
INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
October 08, 2025**

I. MEETING

The Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) of Scripps Research held a meeting via videoconference on October 08, 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	
Elyse Walk	Elizabeth Montano	Raphael Park	
		Steven Robert Head	
		Case McNamara	

I. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

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

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. BSL-3 Facility Certification and Re-Opening
2. NIH Biosafety Modernization Initiative: <https://osp.od.nih.gov/policies/biosafety-and-biosecurity-policy#tab2/>

III. BIOSAFETY OFFICER & IBC ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Lipton Lab Tissue Culture Room Discussion

IV. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Steven Head will abstain from voting on protocol #10-08-25-01 for the Genomics Core.

V. REVIEW OF PROTOCOLS

FULL COMMITTEE REVIEW

NEW

1. IBC Protocol #: 10-08-25-01, Wang, Sean
Title of Study: Nucleic acid extraction and protein/virus binding studies of BSL2 samples in the Genomics Core Facility
Department: Core Facilities
Primary Reviewer: Cheryl Andreoli
Secondary Reviewer: Elyse Walk
NIH Guidelines: N/A
Biosafety Level: BSL-2
Animal work: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of MB 28E, 28A, 28G TBD.
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

The containment assessment needs completion.

Infectious Agents

Lentivirus needs to be added to the list.

Exposure Control

Confirmation of the use of vacuum line filters in biosafety cabinets is needed.

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

AMENDMENTS

1. IBC Protocol #:	09-11-19-05, Law, Mansun
Title of Study:	Viral Studies
Department:	Immunology & Microbiology
Primary Reviewer:	Juan Carlos de la Torre
Secondary Reviewer:	Cheryl Andreoli
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
Biosafety Inspection:	Inspection of IMM 206-207 completed on 8/7/23.
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:

Risk Assessment

The vertical transmission section needs to be completed.

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

2. IBC Protocol #:	12-09-15-07, Teijaro, John
Title of Study:	Novel mechanisms for controlling persistent virus infection
Department:	Immunology & Microbiology

Primary Reviewer: Juan Carlos de la Torre
Secondary Reviewer: Elyse Walk
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-2, III-D-4-b
Biosafety Level: BSL-2, ABSL-2
Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of IMM 317 completed on 9/11/25.
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:

Study Design/Project Description

Additional information on the immune cell transfer into the donor mouse is needed. Specifically, the strains used, whether this is performed with human or mouse cells, the downstream applications, and whether this is used for other studies.

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

RENEWALS

1. IBC Protocol #: 10-08-25-07, Wyatt, Richard
Title of Study: In vivo efficacy of ACE2 protein blockers in rodents challenged with SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern (VOCs)
Department: Immunology & Microbiology
Primary Reviewer: Michael Bobardt
Secondary Reviewer: Smita Chopade
NIH Guidelines: III-D-4-b
Biosafety Level: BSL-3, ABSL-3
Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of IMM 204 completed on 8/28/25.
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

The associated IACUC protocol needs to be linked.

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

2. IBC Protocol #: 10-08-25-03, Constantinides, Michael
Title of Study: Microbial Response of innate-like t cells
Department: Immunology & Microbiology
Primary Reviewer: Beth Ford
Secondary Reviewer: Michael Bobardt
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-4-a, III-E-3, III-F-1, III-F-3, III-F-4
Biosafety Level: BSL-2+, ABSL-2
Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of IMM 304, R12, MB 28J completed on 9/15/25.
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:

Study Design/Project Description

Door cards need to be attached.

Animal work with BSL2+ agents and measures taken to mitigate transmission needs to be described.

A statement of the use of anesthesia or lack thereof is needed.

Risk Assessment

A description of the risks associated with working with agents that can be transmitted via animals is needed.

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

3. IBC Protocol #: 10-08-25-06, Teijaro, John
Title of Study: Vaccine Efficacy and Tissue Immunity in MMR and SARS-CoV-2
Department: Immunology & Microbiology
Primary Reviewer: Smita Chopade
Secondary Reviewer: Roberto Aiolfi
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-4-b
Biosafety Level: BSL-2+, ABSL-2
Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of IMM 317-318 completed on 9/11/25.
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

The associated IACUC protocol needs to be linked.

Vertebrate or Invertebrate Animals

A description of the measures in place to prevent aerosol generation during virus propagation and tissue homogenization is needed.

Study Design/Project Description

A description of the measures in place to prevent aerosol generation during virus propagation and tissue homogenization is needed.

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

4. IBC Protocol #: 10-08-25-04, Ghadiri, Reza

Title of Study: Bioactive Cyclic Peptides

Department: Chemistry

Primary Reviewer: Elyse Walk

Secondary Reviewer: Beth Ford

NIH Guidelines: III-E-1

Biosafety Level: BSL-2, ABSL-2

Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of BCC 104 completed on 9/9/25.

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:

Study Design/Project Description

A description of the downstream applications of protein expression in cells is needed.

Risk Assessment

Additional risks to immunocompromised personnel for vancomycin resistant *Enterococcus* and methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* needs to be described.

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

5. IBC Protocol #: 10-08-25-05, Petrascheck, Michael

Title of Study: Developing compounds that delay cellular senescence and protect from other age-associated toxicities

Department: Molecular & Cellular Biology

Primary Reviewer: Roberto Aiolfi

Secondary Reviewer: Elyse Walk

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

Biosafety Level: BSL-2+, ABSL-1
Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Biosafety Inspection: Inspection of DNC 146, 156 completed on 9/8/25.
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:

Human/Non-human Primate Material

Add potential pathogens for cell lines.

Study Design/Project Description

A description of downstream applications for cell work and work with *C. elegans* is needed.

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

DMR REVIEW

1. IBC Protocol #: 10-08-25-02, Kern, Dorothee
Title of Study: Expression of recombinant protein using *E. coli* BL21 DE3
Department: ISCB
NIH Guidelines: III-E-1
Biosafety Level: BSL-1
Animal work: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Training: Training verified and on record.
REVIEW OUTCOME: **Approved.**

2. IBC Protocol #: 08-12-20-04, Ye, Li
Title of Study: Central control of metabolism
Department: Neuroscience
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III -D-4-a
Biosafety Level: BSL-2, ABSL-1
Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Training: Pending Training.
REVIEW OUTCOME: **Approved.**

BIOSAFETY REVIEW

1. IBC Protocol #: 02-09-22-02, Parker, Christopher
Title of Study: Chemical Proteomics
Department: Chemistry
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-2, III-E-1
Biosafety Level: BSL-2
Animal work: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Training: Training verified and on record.
REVIEW OUTCOME: **Approved.**

2. IBC Protocol #: **12-09-20-01, Droujinine, Ilia**
Title of Study: Mapping of peptide communication between organs and organisms
Department: Molecular & Cellular Biology
NIH Guidelines: III-D-2, III-D-4
Biosafety Level: BSL-2, ABSL-1
Animal work: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Training: Training verified and on record.
REVIEW OUTCOME: **Approved.**

3. IBC Protocol #: **08-14-13-07, Zwick, Michael**
Title of Study: Sorting HIV Envelope Libraries
Department: Immunology & Microbiology
NIH Guidelines: III-D-1, III-D-2, III-D-3
Biosafety Level: BSL-2+
Animal work: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Training: Training verified and on record.
REVIEW OUTCOME: **Approved.**

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled IBC meeting is **Wednesday, November 12, 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.