University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)
Microsoft Teams MINUTES OF MEETING
September 15, 2026

Members attending the meeting: Burgin, Tiffani; Cerecero, Jennifer; Chatterjee, Bandana; Chen, Ching-Kang Jason; Dray, Eloise; Gould, Georgianna; Mishra, Bibhuti; Paukert, Martin; Pugh, Jason; Shiio, Yuzuru; Vogel, Kristine; Wiederhold, Nathan; Xiang, Yan; Yeh, Chih-Ko; Bloodworth, Rebecca; Macias, Dorothy (alternate for Cerecero, Jennifer - voting)

Guests Present: Rincon, Erica; Melendez, Griselda; Barlett, Emily.

Absent members: Chen, Chun-Liang; Clark, Robert; Dell, Shelbie; Gauduin, Marie Claire; Kautz, Tiffany; Prewit, Egle; Salamango, Daniel.

1. **Panel Chair Announcement**
   The meeting was called to order at 11:15 a.m. by the IBC Chair, Dr. Yan Xiang.
   This is the first meeting of FY2027.
   Introduction of Committee Members.
   Charge to the Committee- Jennifer Cerecero, Executive Director, Environmental Health & Safety Department

2. **Confidentiality of Panel Proceedings and Conflict of Interest**
   The members of the panel and the persons employed by the panel shall maintain the confidentiality of the panel's proceedings unless such information is already made available to the public. The Parties shall maintain the confidentiality of the panel's hearings, deliberations, and initial report, and all written submissions to, and communications with, the panel.

   Board Members will be reminded of their responsibility to declare any conflicts of interest prior to the discussion of an agenda item. Members will be reminded that in the event they have a conflict of interest (e.g. a member of the research team or is supervised by a member of the research team), the Member with a conflict may be in the meeting room to provide information requested by the IBC but will be asked to leave the meeting room before the final discussion and voting on the protocol with which the IBC Member has a conflict.

3. **Approval of minutes from the previous meeting**
   The Committee approved the minutes as written from the August 11, 2026, IBC meeting.
   Approved (15 voted to approve, 0 opposed, 0 abstained)

4. **Review of Approved Protocols-** The spreadsheet of approved protocols for FY2027 will be sent out for review in December 2026.

5. **Old Business –** None

6. **Educational Items –** IBC training on the NIH Guidelines and IBC responsibilities.

7. **Occupational Medicine-** As of September 1, 2026, there were fourteen cases of needlesticks, nine cases were by UT staff members, and five cases were by UT students. There were ten cases of bloodborne exposures: five involving students and five involving UT staff members. There was a case of laser exposure to the eyes by a UT staff member. There was a non-fatal electric shock case involving a UT staff member. There was a case of a head injury involving a UT staff member.

8. **Other –** US government policy for Stopping High-Risk Life Sciences Research

9. **Review of EHS Assistant-**
   Review any issues with the EH&S Assistant program.

10. **Meeting Reminder**

    The next meeting will be held on October 13, 2026.

Protocols for Review

11. Presentation, Discussion, and Voting on an Initial Protocol:
Protocol ID: 0000022430
Principal Investigator: Kumarapperuma, Sidath; Research Imaging Institute
Title: Novel CNS targeted imaging probe development. Subproject 1: Targeting VEGFR3 to study glymphatic dysfunction. Subproject 2: Development of TLR4-targeted imaging probes.
Review Type: Full Committee Review
Form Type: Initial

Approved (15 voted to approve, 0 opposed, 0 abstained)

Initial application to work with human cell line (HEK293) and vector (pcDNA3.1-hVEGFR3-mTurquoise) at BSL-2 containment.
Protocol does include the use of recombinant DNA.

This protocol was approved as written.

NIH Guidelines:
Use of human cell/cell lines or tissues (e.g. Human blood, 293 cell lines, SCF) II-A-3, Appendix C-1
Use of recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules for detection purposes (e.g. probes) III-F
Use of recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecule in cultured cells. III-E, III-F

12. Presentation, Discussion, and Voting on a Renewal Protocol:
Protocol ID: 00000022195
Principal Investigator: DeFronzo, Ralph; Medicine-Diabetes

Title: N/A
Review Type: Full Review
Form Type: Renewal

Approved (15 voted to approve, 0 opposed, 0 abstained)

Renewal application to work with human blood/tissue, human urine, human serum, Primate blood/tissue, and Primate urine at BSL-2 containment.
Protocol does not include the use of recombinant DNA.

This protocol was approved with clarifications.

1. The committee requested current IRB approval letters.
2. The committee requested clarification on whether new samples will be collected and the role of the VA site.

NIH Guidelines:
Use of animal cells/cell lines or tissues (e.g. tissue culture research) II-A-3, Appendix C-1
Use of human cell/cell lines or tissues (e.g. Human blood, 293 cell lines, SCF) II-A-3, Appendix C-1

13. Presentation, Discussion, and Voting on a Renewal Protocol:
Protocol ID: 00000022402
Principal Investigator: Amaechi, Bennett; Comprehensive Dentistry
Title: N/A
Review Type: Full Review
Form Type: Renewal

Approved (15 voted to approve, 0 opposed, 0 abstained)

Renewal application, to work with human teeth, Streptococcus mutans, Actinomyces spp., and Aggregatibacter actinomycetemcomitans at BSL-2 containment.
Protocol does not include the use of recombinant DNA.

This protocol was approved with clarification.

NIH Guidelines:
This protocol/amendment did not fall under any additional sections of the NIH Guidelines.

14. Presentation, Discussion, and Voting on a Renewal Protocol:
Protocol ID: 00000022093
Principal Investigator: Xiang, Yan; Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics
Title: Novel translational control mechanisms in host range restriction of Pox virus: R01AI151638
Review Type: Full Review
Form Type: Renewal

Approved (15 voted to approve, 0 opposed, 0 abstained)

Renewal application, to work with human cell lines (HELA, HEK293, Vero, BS-C-1, BT-20), replication-defective Lentivirus, Zika virus, Vaccinia virus (MVA,WR, ACAM2000 strains), Myxoma virus, and vectors (LentCRISPRv2, pMD2.G, psPAX2, pCW57) at BSL-2 containment. Work with E. coli (lab strains) and vectors (pcDAN3, pET) at BSL-1 containment.
Protocol does include the use of recombinant DNA.

This protocol was approved as written.

NIH Guidelines:
Use of animal cells/cell lines or tissues (e.g. tissue culture research) II-A-3, Appendix C-1
Use of human cell/cell lines or tissues (e.g. Human blood, 293 cell lines, SCF) II-A-3, Appendix C-1
Use of or the cloning of genes from, or into a Risk Group 2, 3, 4 or restricted agent. III-D-1, 2
Use of virus or viruses (experiments involving influenza viruses fall under III-D-7) III-D-3, III-E-1
Cloning and vector construction in bacteria and yeasts. III-E, III-F
Use of recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecule in cultured cells. III-E, III-F

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M.

Dr. Yan Xiang
Institutional Biosafety Committee Chair
University of Texas Health San Antonio

Dorothy Macias
Dorothy Macias
Recorder, Institutional Biosafety Committee
University of Texas Health San Antonio

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