

Minutes of the Institute Biosafety Committee Meeting

May 13, 2026

Convened at: 1:06 pm and Adjourned at 1:37 pm

Present: Drs. Gelman (Chair), Ding, Fang, Ionov, McGray, Thanavala, Mr. Hartley, Ms. Holtz, Ms Keough and Mr. Flagler.

Absent: Drs. Gerber, Mr. Atwal

ORSP Staff: Ms Pusateri, Ms Herter, Mr. Caruana and Ms. Bennett

Guests: None

Meeting Place: Virtual meeting/Teams.

Minutes of April 15, 2026 were approved.

Vote: Unanimous.

Adverse Event/Accident/Incident Report

April Employee Health Service report; no incidents.

ORSP - No reports.

Old Business

1. Safety Story; this months story highlighted having a questioning attitude with attention to detail. Laboratory inspections; February and March are pending:
Laboratories were visited February 5th with Dr. Thanavala joining the team.
 - a. Evans BSL 2 lab: OES to follow up (see checklist).
 - b. Repasky BSL2 lab: OES to follow up (see checklist).
 - c. Webster BSL2+ lab: OES to follow up (see checklist).Laboratories were visited March 5th with Dr. Ionov joining the team.
 - a. Barbi BSL 2+ lab: OES to follow up (see checklist).
 - b. Goodrich BSL2 lab: OES to follow up (see checklist).
 - c. Wilde BSL2+ lab: OES to follow up (see checklist).

New Business:

1. Lab educational visits:
 - 3 Laboratories were visited May 7th with Dr. McGray joining the team.
 - a. Abel BSL 2+ lab: OES to follow up (see checklist).
 - b. Shafirstein BSL2 lab: OES to follow up (see checklist).
 - c. Wang, H BSL2 lab: No follow up required.The next inspection date will be Thursday June 11th with Dr. Ionov joining the team.
2. The administrative staff reported that the Annual NIH Biosafety report has been submitted.

Protocol review:

14 Biosafety applications were reviewed, 3 were continuing reviews.

1 Protocol referenced Virus

Application for 1703M/Flag Bio Based: Approved pending.

Reviewed by Dr. McGray

The Initial application 25-12-1715 entitled: "Investigating metabolic mechanisms of tumor growth and anti-tumor immunity." PI: Gudkov, Andrei was approved pending designated member review process of a revised application.

The purpose of this protocol is to test mRNA vaccines that target cancer cells.

Biosafety agents include: lentivirus, influenza virus

1 Protocol referenced Gene editing

Application for Lab Based: Approved pending.

Reviewed by Dr. Ding

The amendment for lab based application, 24-03-1578 entitled: "Combination small molecule inhibitor and T cell immunotherapy approaches in ALL." PI: Repasky, Elizabeth was approved designated member review of a revised application.

The purpose of this protocol is to study the effect of β 2-adrenergic stress on tumor development, progression, immune response, and therapeutic outcomes.

Biosafety agents include: various compounds, adenovirus vector plasmids.

Exempt from full committee review: none

Amendments:

Application for Lab: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to Lab based 24-12-1641 entitled: "Molecular Mechanisms of Resistance and Sensitivity to Targeted Therapies" PI: Kandel, Eugene was approved on 4/20/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: Purchased patient PDX and new compound.

Application for Lab: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to Lab based 24-02-1563 entitled: "Characterizing the host immune response to flagellin-based agonists" PI: Brackett, Craig was approved 4/21/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: new compounds.

Application for Lab/1143M: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to Lab based/1143M 24-05-1595 entitled: "Studying the Biology of Interactions between Tumor Cells and Immune Cells within the Tumor Microenvironment" PI: Mohammadpour, Hemn was approved 4/22/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: retrovirus to generate CAR T cells.

Application for Lab: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to Lab based/1545M 24-04-1587 entitled: "Biosafety Protocol for the Betts Lab" PI: Betts, Brian was approved 5/5/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: new cell line.

Application for Lab: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to Lab based/1683M 24-08-1619 entitled: "Evaluation of Cell Therapies for Cancer and Immune Related Disorders" PI: Davila, Marco was approved 5/5/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: modified murine cell lines.

Application for Lab: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to Lab based/1461M 25-07-1681 entitled: "Genetic Targeting of T Lymphocytes to Cancer Antigens for Use in Adoptive Cell Therapy" PI: Brentjens, Renier was approved 5/5/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: adding lentivirus and modified cell lines.

Application for Lab: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to Lab based/1697M 25-11-1698 entitled: "Investigating Mitophagy Pathways and Mitochondrial Health as a Novel Therapeutic Target in Mitochondrially Dysfunctional Renal Cell Carcinoma" PI: Webster, Bradley was approved 5/6/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: new human cell lines.

Application for Lab: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to Lab based/1384M 25-01-1646 entitled: "Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis and Novel Avenues for Therapeutic Intervention" PI: Knudsen, Erik was approved 5/7/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: new cell line.

Application for Lab: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to Lab based/1477M 25-05-1670 entitled: "Activating Anti-MDS Immunity through Restoration of the Immune Microenvironment" PI: Nemeth, Michael was approved 5/13/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: new compound.

See attached for complete list.

Respectfully Submitted,



Irwin Gelman, PhD
Institute Biosafety Committee Chair
Director of Research Integration; Professor of
Oncology