

Minutes of the Institute Biosafety Committee Meeting

September 9, 2026

Convened at: 1:00 pm and Adjourned at 2:26 pm

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

Absent: Mr. Atwal, Ms. Keough, Dr. McGray

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

Guests: None

Meeting Place: Virtual meeting/Teams.

Minutes of August 12, 2026 were approved.

Vote: Unanimous.

Adverse Event/Accident/Incident Report

Employee Health Service report; August; no incidents.

ORSP - No reports.

Old Business

1. Safety Story; this months story highlighted the use of PPE.
2. Laboratory inspections; June checklists were approved, and July checklists pending.
Laboratories were visited July 2nd with Dr McGray joining the team.
 - a. Bakin BSL2+ Lab: OES to follow up (see checklist).
 - b. Tang BSL2+ Lab: OES to follow up (see checklist).

New Business:

1. Lab educational visits:
The next inspection dates will be Thursday, September 10th and October 1st with Dr. Ding joining the team.
2. Use of ultracentrifuge in tissue culture rooms. Dr. Gerber pointed out that a line in the 2+ SOP appears to allow for viral centrifugation in an open lab space. The SOP will be reviewed and clarified to state this work should only be done in an ultracentrifuge in a tissue culture room designated as 2+.
3. Incidents; the committee was informed of a recent incident.
COSR staff reported to the IBC, a PI that had administered tamoxifen to his mice and had not properly labeled the cages, potentially exposing animal care takers to the hazard. COSR staff contacted the PI staff upon discovery and cages were then properly labeled. After discussion, the IBC will send the PI a memo requesting details of what occurred and steps they will put in place to avoid this from happening in the future. **Update 9/9:** PI provided response detailing staff education and compliance. The IBC found the response appropriate.
4. NIH update; the NIH is proposing some updates. A highlighted version of the proposed changes was distributed and reviewed by the committee. Comment period for the proposed changes is open until October 19th.
5. Policy and Procedure Sub Committee was selected to begin work on updating the IBC Policy and Procedures. The administrative staff will arrange a meeting time to begin the work.

Protocol review:

13 Biosafety applications were reviewed. 5 were continuing reviews.

3 Protocols referenced Virus

Application for Lab Based: Approved pending.

Reviewed by Dr. Fang

The lab based application, 25-02-1659 entitled: "Research, Development, Production and Analysis of Lentiviruses and Retroviruses for Clinical Trials" PI: Choi, Yeong was approved pending designated member review of a revised application.

The purpose of this protocol is to use the Vector Development & Production Facility (VDPF) within the Translational Immuno-Oncology Shared Resource and the Division of Translational Immuno-Oncology to produce clinical grade retroviral and lentiviral vectors.

Biosafety agents include: retrovirus, lentivirus

Application for 1524M/Lab Based: Approved pending.

Reviewed by Dr. Ionov

The 1524M/Lab Based application, 26-06-1747 entitled: "Head and Neck Cancer Translational Laboratory Investigations." PI: Kuriakose, Moni was approved pending designated member review of a revised application.

The purpose of this protocol is to counteract head & neck tumor resistance to chemotherapy; to identify targets that will enhance response to immunotherapy; to investigate the biology and susceptibility of cancer progenitor cells.

Biosafety agents include: retrovirus, lentivirus

Application for 1461M/Lab Based: Approved pending.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment application for full committee review 25-07-1681 entitled: "Genetic Targeting of T Lymphocytes to Cancer Antigens for Use in Adoptive Cell Therapy." PI: Brentjens, Renier was approved pending designated member review of revised application.

The purpose of this protocol is to test the use of various CAR-T therapies in in vitro and in vivo systems in mice.

Biosafety agents include: retrovirus, lentivirus, adenovirus, cyclophosphamide, azacytidine, venetoclax, decitabine, prednisolone, cetuximab, AP1903.

1 Application referenced Bacteria

Application for 1251M/1413M/Lab Based: Approved pending.

Reviewed by Dr. Thanavala

The amendment application for full committee review 24-02-1563 entitled: "Characterizing the Host Immune Response to Flagellin-Based Agonists." PI: Brackett, Craig was approved pending designated member review of revised application.

The purpose of this protocol is to test the role of flagellin to enhance immune-mediated anticancer therapies.

Biosafety agents include: oncolytic vaccinia virus, live attenuated Salmonella Typhoid vaccine (Vivotif).

1 Application referenced virus and fungus.

Application for 1486M/Lab Based: Approved pending.

Reviewed by Dr. Ding

The 1486M/Lab Based application, 26-06-1750 entitled: "Utilize Mouse Models to Study Mechanism and Treatment of Pancreas, Colon, and Lung Cancer." PI: Dey, Prasennjit was approved pending designated member review of a revised application.

The purpose of this protocol is to study the role of IL33, Adrb2, and EXOC6B in pancreatic and colon cancer progression.

Biosafety agents include: Azomethane, bleomycin, celecoxib, 4-OHT, propranolol, tamoxifen, Malassezia fungus, Alternaria fungus, adenovirus, lentivirus.

Exempt from full committee review:

Application for Lab Based: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The application, 26-07-1756 entitled: "Antibody Discovery by Phage and Yeast Display Against Cancer Targets." PI: Duan, Zhijian was approved as Exempt from full committee review 8/27/2026.

Biosafety agents include: yeast.

Amendments:

Application for 1338M/Lab Based: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to 1338M/Lab based 24-07-1606 entitled: "Extracellular and Intracellular Molecular Signaling Mechanisms of Mammalian Normal and Tumor Cells." PI: Hait, Nitai was approved on 8/28/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: a new compound.

Application for 1372M/Lab Based: Approved.

Reviewed by Dr. Gelman

The amendment to 1372M/Lab based 25-07-1680 entitled: "Stablewski Lab Biosafety." PI: Stablewski, Aimee was approved on 9/9/2026.

Biosafety agents used include: a new compound.

See attached for complete list.

Respectfully Submitted,



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