SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Institutional Biosafety Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2025

Location: Zoom Meeting **Time:** 9:35 am

IBC Members present

Quorum established: Yes

Laurie P. Shornick, Ph.D.
Adriana M. Montano, Ph.D.
Steven Cummings, M.D.
Christopher S. Eickhoff, M.S.
Paul M. Loewenstein, B.S.
Wayne A. Wilhelm, B.S.
Corey Ragsdale, Ph.D.
Kathleen Donovan, D.V.M.
Melinda S. Darnell, M.S.
Tamara P. Blevins, M.S. (Alternate-voting)
Patricia Osmack, MLS(ASCP), M.A., RBP (Non-voting)
Renee Knoll, M.S., CHMM (Non-voting)
Frank Speck, B.S. (Non-voting)
Steve Tinge, CPIA (Non-voting)
Kasey Fowler-Finn, Ph.D. (Non-voting ad-hoc consultant)

I. Old Business

A. Approval of Minutes

1. The minutes for the August 20, 2025, SLU IBC meeting were fully approved: 9-yes/0-no/0-abstentions.

B. Closed Items (Protocols fully approved between meetings):

1. New protocols previously granted contingent approval by the full IBC where the PI responses were reviewed and approved between meetings by the BSO or designee:
   - Pandey, Krishan, Ph.D., (Molecular Microbiology & Immunology) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00034.

2. Amendments or continuing reviews with changes previously granted contingent approval by the full IBC where the PI responses were reviewed and approved by the BSO or designee:
   - Elliott, Melissa, Ph.D., (Molecular Microbiology & Immunology) eIBC Protocol: 2024-00046.
   - Touchette, Erin, M.S., (Comparative Medicine, Inotiv) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00014.
   - Tse, Long Ping Victor, Ph.D., (Molecular Microbiology & Immunology) eIBC Protocol: 2022-00030.

- Ungerleider, Nathan, Ph.D., (Molecular Microbiology & Immunology) Protocol: 2024-00043.

3. Amendments not meeting threshold of requiring full committee review based on NIH guidelines and SLU IBC Policy that were reviewed and approved by the BSO or designee:
   - Liu, Jianguo, M.D., (IM-Infectious Diseases) eIBC Protocol: 2022-00022.
   - Moutal, Aubin, Ph.D., (Pharmacology & Physiological Science) eIBC Protocol: 2022-00007.
   - Mohammed, Bassem, Ph. D., (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00025.
   - Pozzi, Nicola, Ph.D., (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) eIBC Protocol ID: 2022-00003.
   - Mohammed, Bassem, Ph. D., (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00025.
   - Ungerleider, Nathan, Ph.D., (Molecular Microbiology & Immunology) eIBC Protocol: 2024-00043.
   - Shornick, Laurie, Ph.D., (Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2020-00042.
   - Montano, Adriana, Ph.D., (Pediatrics) eIBC Protocol: 2024-00030.
   - Origanti, Sofia, Ph.D., (Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2024-00044.
   - Fisher, Jonathan, Ph.D., (Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2021-00011.
   - Hoft, Daniel, M.D., Ph.D., (IM-Infectious Diseases) eIBC Protocol: 2023-00001.
   - Syn, Wing-Kin, M.D., (IM-Gastroenterology) eIBC Protocol: 2023-00051.
   - Touchette, Erin, M.S., (Comparative Medicine, Inotiv) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00014.
   - Cifarelli, Vincenza, Ph.D., (Pharmacology & Physiological Science) eIBC Protocol:2022-00006.
   - Vankayalapati, Rama Krishna, Ph.D., (IM-Infectious Diseases) eIBC Protocol: 2024-00013.
   - Sell, Scott, Ph.D., (Biomedical Engineering) eIBC Protocol: 2024-00020.
   - Goyal, Sagun, M.D., (IM-Hematology/Oncology) SSM SLUH eIBC Protocol: 2024-00056.
   - Goyal, Sagun, M.D., (IM-Hematology/Oncology) SSM SLUH eIBC Protocol: 2025-00022.
   - Baldan, Angel, M.D., (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) eIBC Protocol ID: 2021-00025.
   - Moutal, Aubin, Ph.D., (Pharmacology & Physiological Science) eIBC Protocol: 2022-00007.
   - Rafiei, Hossein, Ph.D., (Nutrition and Dietetics) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00013.
   - Dhindsa, Sandeep, M.D., (IM-Endocrinology) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00024.
   - Dhindsa, Sandeep, M.D., (IM-Endocrinology) eIBC Protocol: 2023-00040.
   - Edwards, John, M.D., (IM-Nephrology) eIBC Protocol: 2023-00036.
   - Montano, Adriana, Ph.D., (Pediatrics) eIBC Protocol ID: 2024-00030.

4. Continuing reviews not meeting threshold of requiring full committee review based on NIH guidelines and SLU IBC Policy that were reviewed and approved by the BSO or designee:
   - Ling, Guoyo, M.D., (IM-Endocrinology) eIBC Protocol: 2023-00018.
   - Liu, Jianguo, M.D., Ph.D., (IM-Infectious Diseases) eIBC Protocol: 2022-00032.
   - Mikhalkova, Deana, M.D., (IM-Cardiology) eIBC Protocol: 2022-00039.

- Cifarelli, Vincenza, Ph.D., (Pharmacology & Physiological Science) eIBC Protocol: 2022-00006.
- Adolph, Madison, Ph. D., (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2024-00045.
- Janowiak Mulligan, Blythe, Ph.D., (Biology) eIBC Protocol: 2023-00026.
- Jagger, Brett, M.D., (IM-Infectious Diseases) eIBC Protocol: 2024-00040.
- Goyal, Sagun, M.D., (IM-Hematology/Oncology) SSM SLUH eIBC Protocol: 2024-00027.

5. Protocols Closed (at the request of the PI):
   - Tavis, John, Ph.D., (Molecular Microbiology & Immunology) eIBC Protocol ID: 2020-00037.
   - Lentine, Krista, M.D., (IM-Nephrology) SSM SLUH eIBC Protocol: 2024-00059.
   - Hamilton, Zachary, M.D., (Surg-Urology) SSM SLUH eIBC Protocol: 2024-00036.

6. Draft Protocols Withdrawn:
   - Oikonomopoulou, Zacharoula, M.D., (Pediatrics) eIBC Protocol: 2022-00034.
   - Dhindsa, Sandeep, M.D., (IM-Endocrinology) eIBC Protocol: 2025-00020.

C. Open Items (Protocols reviewed by the IBC but not fully approved)

1. New protocols previously granted contingent approval by the full IBC where the PI responses have not yet been approved:
   - Anzell, Anthony, Ph.D., (Pediatrics) eIBC Protocol ID: 2025-00029.

II. New Business

A. New Protocols

1.

Principle Investigator	Ling, Guoyu, M.D.
Department	IM-Endocrinology
Protocol #	2025-00035
Title	Genetic variants and hyperaldosteronism in African Americans
Protocol Description	To identify genetic risk factors that predispose African Americans to hyperaldosteronism using human biospecimens and extracted DNA.
Types of manipulation	Laboratory
Agents	Human biospecimens
Containment level	BSL-2
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	N/A (no rsNA agents)
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC did not have any comments or concerns.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided full approval of the protocol (9-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: None.

B. Five Year Renewals of eIBC Protocols:

1.

Principle Investigator	Salvemini, Daniela, Ph.D.
Department	Pharmacology & Physiological Science
Protocol #	2025-00037
Title	Compound screening for small molecules targeting G protein-coupled receptor signaling.
Protocol Description	The PI will be using cell culture-based functional assays to provide bioactive screening of small molecule agonists and antagonists, characterize their signaling pathways and determine potential interference with chemotherapeutic functions to identify novel small molecule agonists and antagonists for G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) for the treatment of pain (trauma and chemotherapy-induced), neurodegenerative diseases and tumor cell toxicity.
Types of manipulation	Laboratory
Agents	Recombinant cell lines and toxins
Containment level	BSL-2
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	III-F
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC requested consistency in the description of BSCs, definitions of acronyms and clarification of decontamination and transport methods. The IBC also requested updates to the biological agents and toxins pages, simplification of language regarding maximum volumes and clarification on recombinant genes present in some of the proposed cells lines.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided contingent approval of the protocol (9-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: designated review by the BSO or designee.

C. Amendments & Continuing Reviews of Approved eIBC Protocols:

1.

Principle Investigator	Zustiak, Silviya, Ph.D.
Department	Biomedical Engineering
Protocol #	2024-00025
Title	Synthetic Hydrogels as Drug Screening Platforms and Drug Delivery Devices (Five year renewal of 2016-24552)
Protocol Description	The PI is adding new cell lines
Types of manipulation	Amendment: Laboratory
Agents	Amendment: Human cell lines
Containment level	Amendment: BSL-2
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	Amendment: N/A (no rsNA agents added)
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment based on the changes made in relation to the approved protocol to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC requested the ATCC product sheet for the new cell line and training updates. The IBC also suggested the removal of redundant sections.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided contingent approval of the protocol (9-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: designated review by the BSO or designee.

2.

Principle Investigator	George, Sarah, M.D.
Department	IM-Infectious Diseases
Protocol #	VA 2023-00010
Title	Work with RG2 and RG3 agents including flaviviruses, arboviruses, paramyxoviruses, retroviruses, rhabdoviruses, coronaviruses, orthomyxoviruses and others for studying biology, host pathogen interactions, immune responses.
Protocol Description	The PI is adding new RG2 viral isolates
Types of manipulation	Amendment: Laboratory
Agents	Amendment: Human viral isolates
Containment level	Amendment: BSL-2
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	Amendment: N/A (no rsNA agents added)
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment based on the changes made in relation to the approved protocol to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC did not have any comments or concerns.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided full approval of the protocol (9-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: none.

3.

Principle Investigator	Touchette, Erin, M.S.
Department	Comparative Medicine, Inotiv
Protocol #	2025-00014
Title	Characterization and evaluation of cell and gene therapy compounds in rodent models.
Protocol Description	Amendment: The PI is adding new gene targets and work involving potential Gene Drive Modified Organisms (GDMO).
Types of manipulation	Amendment: Laboratory & animal
Agents	Amendment: Recombinant viral vectors
Containment level	Amendment: BSL1/ABSL1, and ABSL-2
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	Amendment: III-D-4 and III-D-8
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment based on the changes made in relation to the approved protocol to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes). Because the work is potentially defined as GDMO, the IBC performed a risk assessment as directed in Section II-A-3 of the NIH Guidelines. The IBC conducted a discussion with an animal expert and ad hoc consultant with relevant expertise prior to voting.
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC requested definitions of acronyms and the inclusion of language about the addition and review of human and mouse genes. The IBC, also requested minor updates to the attached GDMO questionnaire.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided contingent approval of the protocol (9-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: designated review by the BSO or designee.

4.

Principle Investigator	Salvemini, Daniela, Ph.D.
Department	Pharmacology & Physiological Science
Protocol #	2025-00019
Title	Pathways involved in Acute and Chronic Pain, Cancer and Cancer Induced Bone Pain. (5yr renewal of 2018-00029)
Protocol Description	Amendment: The PI is adding work with plasmids in rodents.
Types of manipulation	Amendment: Laboratory & animal
Agents	Amendment: Update to plasmid use.
Containment level	Amendment: BSL-1 and ABSL-1
Applicable section of NIH Guidelines	Amendment: III-D-4
IBC Review	The committee performed a risk assessment based on the changes made in relation to the approved protocol to determine the biocontainment levels, and reviewed training, facilities (locations and inspections), procedures and practices, agent characteristics, and if used, rsNA details (gene sources, nature, hosts and vectors, and attempts of expression and function of any transgenes).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC requested correction of some spelling errors, an updated floor diagram, and reconciliation of personnel.
IBC Decision	The IBC provided contingent approval of the protocol (9-yes 0-no/0-abstention). Follow-up action: none.

D. Protocols in Pre-Review:

1. New protocols: 3
2. Amendments: 2
3. Annual continuing reviews: 1

E. Other Business:

1. Discussed recruitment of new IBC members.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:16 am.

Respectfully Submitted:

Signed by:
Patricia Osmack
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Patricia A. Osmack, MLS(ASCP), M.A., RBP(ABSA)
Institutional Biosafety Committee Manager

Reviewed:

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