



Institutional Biosafety Committee
University of Arizona
June 18, 2025
Zoom
10:00AM – 11:00AM
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Ceasar Ramirez, Patricia Gundy, Dr. Anita Koshy, Dr. Mrinalini Kala, Lauren Melcher, Dr. Michael Riggs

Non-members' Present: None.

Members Absent: Dr. Michael Riehle, Dr. David Besselsen, Dr. Judith Brown, Rhonda Evans, Dr. Lynn Stone, Dr. Jonathan Sexton, Dr. Kathryn O'Connell, Dr. Samuel Campos, , Hien Trinh, Jennifer Uhrlaub

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM

1. Review of the previous meeting minutes: May 21, 2025
2. Biosafety Level 2 (Non-Exempt-rNucleic Acid) Application
 - a. Kevin Rhine, PhD, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Approval No. 1249
Protocol Title: Neuronal Aging and RNA Biology Lab
Agents: Human primary fibroblasts, Human induced pluripotent stem cells, Human fibroblast- and stem cell-derived neurons, Human embryonic kidney cells (HEK293T), E. coli, Lentivirus, Human brain tissue

Falls under NIH Guidelines Section III-D-1

The Committee approved your protocol with a few edits and requested information on the protocol:

- Under section G3, can you clarify if with the lentivirus/cell culture/human brain tissue, will the lab be using sealed rotors that will also be designated for this work only?
- The removal of using “face masks, and face shields while handling brain tissue,” since the work will be done inside of a biosafety cabinet, the use of those items may cause a hinderance to the lab worker(s).
- Could you provide additional information on the types of brain tissue you will be receiving, i.e. from Alzheimer's and/or Parkinson disease patients?

3. Human Subjects

- a. Sima Ehsani, MD, The University of Arizona Cancer Center

Protocol Title: A Phase 1, Multicenter Trial of Subcutaneous Trastuzumab Deruxtecan in Participants with Metastatic Solid Tumors

Product: ALT-BB4

Biosafety level: BSL-1

The Committee granted full approval.

4. Compliance Review Issues

- a. The audit report for May 19- June 13, 2025
b. Incident(s): None.

5. Old Business

- a. Hooke lab PTX instructions for needlestick(s).
- The biosafety officer explained to the Committee about Hooke's lab guidance if a needlestick occurs while using their adjuvants. The biosafety officer also stated that he is working with Risk Management Services, Occupational Health and Chemical Safety to provide user guidance for University of Arizona lab workers while working with adjuvants.

6. New Business

- a. NIH posting of minutes- Ceasar

- The biosafety officer explained to the Committee of the new policy providing transparency to the public of ensuring the IBC meeting minutes are posted and made available for the public to view.
- The biosafety officer also reiterated that the IBC Committee roster has been posted on Research Laboratory and Safety Service's website and that only the Chair, Biological Safety Officer and IBC contact (BSO in the University of Arizona's situation) contact information is made available to the public.

- b. Biosafety Level for Neisseria musculi- Ceasar

- The Committee has a discussion of whether N. musculi can be worked inside a lab and/or animal facility at BSL1 or BSL2. After looking over published information provided by PI, the Committee concluded that N. musculi can be worked at BSL1 and ABSL1 since N. musculi is non-pathogenic in mice, has not been isolated from humans and is not known to infect humans.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2025 via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 AM.

Prepared by: Ceasar Ramirez

Reviewed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CR' followed by a stylized flourish.

Cesar Ramirez, RBP
Biological Safety Officer

*Acting Institutional Biosafety Committee chair for meeting due to scheduling conflicts