The UAB Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
Research Involving Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules
July 14, 2025 12:30 pm

Members	Present (Y/N)	Vote (Y/N)
1. Suzanne M. Michalek, PhD, Chair, Lab Rep [SMM]	Y	Y
2. Theresa Strong, PhD, Co-Chair, Lab Rep	Y	Y
3. Donna Williamson, MS, RSS [DSW]	Y	Y
4. Amanda F. Smith, BS, RSS, Voting Contact [AFS]	Y	N
6. Cameron Crosby, MD, OM [JCC]	N	N
7. Julie Allen, DNP, OM [JSA]	Y	Y
8. Lillie Flood, RN-BSN, JCDH [LF]	N	N
9. Qiang (John) Ding, PhD, VA [QJD]	N	N
10. Andrea Osborne, DVM, ARP [AJO]	Y	Y
11. Justin Roth, PhD, BSO-EHS [JCR]	Y	Y
12. Brian Lagory, BS, BSO-EHS [BEL]	N	N
13. Vineel Reddy, PhD, EHS [VPR]	Y	Y
14. Julie Gray, BS, EHS [JDG]	N	N
15. Tyler Uzzell, MA, IRB [TWU]	Y	Y
16. Amanda J. Watts, MS, IACUC [AJW]	Y	Y
17. Chad Dunaway, IACUC [CD]	N	N
18. Tyler T. Wright, PhD, Lab Rep [TTW]	Y	Y
19. Masakazu Kamata, PhD, Lab Rep [MK]	Y	Y
20. Joel N. Glasgow, PhD, Lab Rep [JNG]	N	N
21. Kevin Harrod, PhD, Lab Rep [KH]	N	N
22. Christine M. Wright, PhD, Lab Rep [CMW]	Y	Y
23. Larisa Pereboeva, PhD, Lab Rep [LP]	Y	Y
24. Megan Kiedrowski, PhD, Lab Rep [MRK]	N	N
25. Zdenek Hel, PhD, Lab Rep [ZH]	Y	Y
26. Adam McKlintock, MBA, HSR [AM]	N	N
27. Wesley Willeford, MD, JCDH [WW]	Y	Y
Total	**16**	**15**

Guests		
1. Laura Caltrider, EHS [LPC]	Y	N
2. Earle Durboraw, ARP [EBD]	Y	N
3. Joseph Palmer, SEBLAB [JP]	Y	N
4. Douglas Fox, SEBLAB [DMF]	Y	N
5. Luselyz Ortiz Torres, EHS [LOT]	Y	N
6. Stephen Giesler, JD [SG]	Y	N
7. Rebecca Johnstone, RSS, Recording Secretary [RMJ]	Y	N

The July 14, 2025, Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) meeting for Research Involving Recombinant of Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules was called to order at 12:34 pm via the web-based video conferencing tool, Zoom, by the Co-Chair. A quorum was present.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

The Co-Chair welcomed all in attendance.

Approval of the June 09, 2025, Minutes

The June 09, 2025 meeting minutes were distributed in the Committee member packet via email and/or secure cloud storage prior to the meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded. The minutes were approved. There were two abstentions.

Standing Reports

- In the News/Regulatory Visits – RSS will post approved IBC minutes for IBC on the IBC website per new NIH guidelines. BSO will continue to monitor DURC-PEPP research and Executive Order 14292, "Improving the Safety and Security of Biological Research," which mandates enhanced oversight of biological research that may involve dangerous gain-of-function (GOF) activities, the UAB Biosafety Program conducted an internal review of biological research activities on campus. Currently no studies at UAB qualify under these criteria.
- Faculty Senate – There were no updates.
- Veterans Administration – There were no updates
- Employee Health – There were no updates.
- JCDH – There were no updates.
- IRAP and EHSA – EHSA BioForm is continuing the edits to streamline content to reduce lag.
- Research Safety Updates
    - PI Arrivals/Departures/UAB Lab Relocations – Arrivals: O. Gramlich, R. Van Scriver. Departures: No updates.
    - Safety Visits – The most frequent findings are the chemical inventories not being maintained and reconciled and chemical segregation errors.

New/Old Business

Project Review - The review and discussion of the following projects included: agent characteristics; types of manipulations planned; verification that the PI and laboratory staff performing the research have been appropriately trained in the safe conduct of the research; and containment control measures to be implemented (biosafety level and any special provisions). Please refer to the attached summary of the Committee review outcome for each project.

Transgenic Projects – No transgenic projects were discussed at this meeting.

Adjournment

The Chair asked if there were any further questions or comments. Being none, the meeting was adjourned at 1:13 pm. The next meeting date is August 10, 2025.

Respectfully submitted by:

Rebecca Johnstone, Recording Secretary
Research Safety Committees

Project registration documents submitted by the PI indicate UAB Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) review and approval is required for the following research activities involving recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid (r/sNA) molecules and/or biohazardous agents. If the nature of the work changes or the listed conditions cannot be met, it is the PI's responsibility to consult with the IBC for additional guidance. It is the PI's responsibility to ensure all individuals listed on the project are enrolled in and compliant with the requirements of UAB Employee Health prior to and for the duration of the work:

Approve	Disapprove	Abstain or Recuse	RSC #	Evaluation
rs/NA				**Block 1** **III.D.4.b**
15	--	--	19-173	**Saigusa, Takamitsu: Kidney Specific Drug Delivery Using Nanoparticles in Pkd1 Mice** Reason for IBC review: • Administration of siRNA, encoding genes related to autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease, to animals. The University of Alabama at Birmingham's IBC reviewed the proposed work listed above and has approved the work under the following containment conditions: • BSL2 practices and procedures, including a biosafety cabinet, will be used for work with NP-siRNA. • ABSL1 practices and procedures, will be used for administration of nanoparticle-siRNA
rs/NA				**Block 2** **III.D.4.a; III.D.4.b**
15	--	--	25-125	**Tang, Yinghua: Gene Therapy Studies in Transgenic Ferret Models** Reason for IBC review: • Administration of Adeno-associated viral vectors and mRNA, encoding genes related to the treatment of CF to animals. • Breeding, possession, and experiments with transgenic animals not in Order Rodentia The University of Alabama at Birmingham's IBC reviewed the proposed work listed above and has approved the work under the following containment conditions: • BSL2 waste disposal for will be used for rAAV and LNP-mRNA. • An annually certified BSC will be used for administrations of rAAV and LNP-mRNA with the potential to create aerosols. • An AUSI will be posted on the animal room door until 96 hours after final AAV administrations. • An N-95 or equivalent respiratory protection will be used for entry into the animal room for the duration of the AUSI posting.
rs/NA				**Block 3** **III.D.4.a; III.E.1**
15	--	--	22-121	**Carstens, Julienne: Impact of Pancreatic Cancer Subtypes on Primary and Metastatic Disease** Reason for IBC review: • Use of lentiviral vectors encoding Cas9 nuclease and sgRNA against genes related to pancreatic cancer to modify animal cell lines. • Administration of modified animal cell lines to animals. The University of Alabama at Birmingham's IBC reviewed the proposed work listed above and has approved the work under the following containment conditions: • BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, will be used for all in vitro work with human cells and lentivirus. • ABSL1 practices and procedures will be used for the administration of modified animal cells. • The UAB HIV/Lentivirus Exposure Response Plan will be made available and reviewed by all working with lentiviral vectors.