

The UAB Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
Research Involving Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules
May 14, 2026 9:00 am

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

Guests Present

Laura Caltrider, MS, EHS [LPC]	Riley Cooper, MS, EHS [RC]
I'Aisha Hampton, EHS [IH]	Douglas Fox, SEBLAB [DMF]
Joseph Palmer, PhD, SEBLAB [JP]	Earle Durboraw, MS, ARP [ED]
Ian Doty, EHS [ID]	Philip Richter, DVM, ARP [PR]
Caitlyn Sebastian, Bio-Med, [CS]	

The May 14, 2026, Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) meeting for research involving recombinant of synthetic nucleic acid molecules was called to order at 9:03 am via web-based video conferencing tool by the Chair. A quorum was present.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

The Chair welcomed all in attendance.

Approval of the April 09, 2026, Minutes

The April 2026, 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. There were no abstentions. The minutes were approved.

Standing Reports

- In the News/Regulatory Visits – There were no updates.
- Faculty Senate – There were no updates.
- Veterans Administration – There were no updates.
- Employee Health – There were no updates.
- ARP/Facilities Operations – There are two tunnel washers that had on-going maintenance with more scheduled, and one autoclave is now functional.
- JCDH – Hantavirus being watched and monitored closely with outbreak risk being relatively low.
- IRAP and EHSA – There was a report that the reporting feature for the creation of AUSIs was being explored.
- Research Safety Updates:
 - PI Departures – JDG reported that Gregory Payne was leaving the university and John Chatham was leaving UAB.
 - Safety Visits – The main corrective actions that were addressed in lab audits were enrollment with Employee Health, reconciliation of chemical inventories, peroxide-former dating and testing, mislabeling/expiration dates, and biosafety cabinet certifications.

Old Business

- The NIH Membership report was submitted and approved for 2026.

Project Review - The review and discussion of 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 09:34 am. The next meeting date is Thursday June 11, 2026, 9:00 am.

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	Not Approve	Abstain or Recuse	RSC #	Evaluation
17	--	--	26-048	(III.C.1) Ronnie Gravett: RESTORE: A Phase ½ Study of nula-cel in Autologus CD34+ Hematopoietic Stem Cells to Convert HbS to HbA for Treating Severe Sickel Cell Disease A Nonrandomized Phase 1 Clinical Trial to Evaluate the Safety and Tolerability of DV700P-RNA and DV701B1.1-RNA Immunization in Combination with Antiretroviral Analytical Treatment Interruption (ATI) in People Living with HIV for Elicitation of V3-glycan Antibodies Reason for IBC: - Administration of gene-modified cells to humans. Containment Requirements: - BSL-2 practices and procedures, including the use of annually certified BSC must be used for all work with study agent.
17	--	--	26-059	(III.C.1) Julie Kanter: RESTORE: A Phase ½ Study of nula-cel in Autologus CD34+ Hematopoietic Stem Cells to Convert HbS to HbA for Treating Severe Sickel Cell Disease Reason for IBC: - Administration of mRNA-lipid nanoparticles (LNP) priming immunogen encoding an altered CH848 gp150 Env Trimer, followed by the administration of a mRNA-LNP boost vaccine that encodes the wildtype CH848 gp150 Env trimer with the addition of stabilizing mutations to one or more human subjects. Containment Requirements: - Universal precautions will be used for storage, preparation, and administration of the investigational product, unless alternative instructions are provided by the sponsor. - Any unused IP and any potentially contaminated materials will be disposed as medical waste or per the sponsor's instructions.
16	--	1	25-055	(III.D.2, III.D.4) Qiang Ding: The response of biological system to environment change Reason for IBC: - Construction of adenoviral (Ad) and lentiviral (LV) vectors encoding genes related to regulate inflammatory response of migration, shRNA knockdown of genes of interest, or fluorescent markers. - Administration of Ad and LV to animals

				Containment Requirements: BSL-2 practices and procedures must be used for all work with human cells, Ad, and LV
	--	--		(III.D.3) Sunnie Thompson: <i>Identification of Picornaviridae Host Factors</i> Reason for IBC: - Infection of cells with host factors knocked down using siRNA with BSL2 agents. Containment Requirements: - BSL-2 enhanced practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified BSC, must be used for work with Poliovirus (follow risk assessment provided to NAC). - SEBLAB training must be current. - All work with Poliovirus must be complete by June 25th to allow for destruction and confirmation of all viral stocks prior to June 30th. - All removals of inactivated Poliovirus including plates for FFA and/or plaque assays from SEBLAB must be approved by Biosafety and the SEBLAB manager, and inactivations must be performed by an approved/validated method.
17	--	--	26-063	(III.D.3) Jianmei Leavenworth: <i>Transforming Glioblastoma Therapy Through Oncolytic T-cell Rewiring</i> Reason for IBC: - Administration of g34.5 deleted oncolytic Herpes Simplex Virus (oHSV – M002/M032) to animals. Containment Requirements: - BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, will be used for all in vitro work with oHSV. - ABSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, will be used for all in vitro work with oHSV. - The Animal Resources Program will be notified, via the posting of an AUSI, of oHSV in animals. - A Herpes Simplex Virus Exposure Response plan will be made available and reviewed by all working with HSV.
17	--	--	26-041	(III.D.3, III.D.4) Qing Lu: <i>Molecular Mechanisms of Glial Development and Brain Cancer Formation</i> Reason for IBC: - Creation of lentiviral (LV), murine retroviral (RV), and adeno-associated viral (AAV) vectors encoding for tumor suppressors or the knockdown of oncogenes. - Administration of LV, RV, and AAV to animals Containment Requirements: - BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, will be used for all in vitro work with LV and/or human cells. - ABSL2 practices and procedures, including the posting of an AUSI, will be used for 14 days post-administration of LV, RV, and AAV vectors, then ABSL1 will be used.
17	--	--	26-060	(III.D.4) DoYeon Cho: <i>Evaluating Extracellular Matrix-Based Regeneration for Airway Repair Using CFTR Targeted Tools in CF</i>

				Reason for IBC: - Construction of lentiviral (LV) vectors to modify rabbit airway basal cells to express CFTR. - Administration of modified rabbit airway basal cells to a transgenic rabbit model. Containment Requirements: - BSL2 practices and procedures, including the use of an annually certified biosafety cabinet, will be used for all in vitro work with LV, human cells, and rabbit cells. - ABSL1 practices and procedures may be used for the administration of genetically modified animal cells. - The UAB HIV/Lentivirus Exposure Response Plan will be made available and reviewed by all working with HIV, lentiviral vectors, or retroviral vectors.
17	--	--	26-058	(III.D.4) Jianli Zhao: Epicardial Adipose Tissue-Derived Extracellular Vesicles as Mediators and Therapeutic Targets in HFpEF Reason for IBC: - Administration of adeno-associated viral (AAV) vectors to animals. Containment Requirements: - ABSL2 practices and procedures, including the posting of an AUSI, will be used for 14 days post-administration of AAV, then ABSL1 will suffice.
17	--	--	22-145	(III.D.4) Yuchen Wang: <i>Trans-Synaptic Mechanism of Retinal Synapse Formation and Function</i> Reason for IBC: - Administration of non-viral CRISPR/Cas-9 plasmids to animals. Containment Requirements: - ABSL2 practices and procedures will be used for 14 days after the final AAV administration, the ABSL1 will suffice. - The Animal Resources Program will be notified, via the posting of an AUSI of AAV vectors in animals.