Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes

La Jolla Institute FOR IMMUNOLOGY | Life Without Disease.

December 10th, 2025, meeting

A regular meeting of the Institutional Biosafety Committee of the La Jolla Institute for Immunology was held in person on Wednesday, December 10th, 2025, at 9:30 AM, with the option to join via Zoom teleconference.

The meeting started at 9:30 AM.

IBC: 12 MEMBERS AND 1 ALTERNATE
ATTENDANCE: 8 VOTING MEMBERS, 1 ALTERNATE, 7 MEMBERS REQUIRED FOR QUORUM

Regular Members	Present
Miguel Reina-Campos, Ph.D. (Chair)	☑
Mike Barajas (Alternate) CMAR, RLATG	☑
Sylvie Blondelle, Ph.D.	☑
Laurence Cagnon, Ph.D.	☑
Beth Ford, D.V.M.	☑
David Hall, CSP	☑
Peter Jones, BS, LATG	☑
Alessandro Sette, Ph.D.	☐
Stephen Schoenberger, Ph.D.	☐
Kristine Suchey, BS, RVT	☑
Renna Wolfe, Ph.D.	☐
Jeremy Young, BS, MBA	☐
Marianne Zupanc, Ph.D.	☑
Others Present: Rose Engel, Hayley Simon	

Note: Stephen Schoenberger attempted to join via zoom.

Introduction of Rose Engel who will replace Jeremy Young as voting member on the IBC. Jeremy will become an alternate member.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The October meeting minutes were unanimously approved

PROTOCOL REVIEW

NEW PROTOCOLS

PI	**Palmer**
Protocol #	**BHR01-CP**
Title	Antisense proof of concept
Experimental Procedures	
Agent	Chemically modified oligonucleotides 18 to 22 bases in length
Project summary (from form)	We want to evaluate efficacy and safety of chemically modified oligonucleotides (18 to 22 nt) targeting specific genes.
Additional details from the protocol	N/A
Manipulations planned	In vivo injections
Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids	
Source of nucleic sequences (e.g., species)	Synthetic
Nature of nucleic acid (NA) sequences (e.g., enzyme, oncogene)	Antisense (downregulators)
NA Host(s) and Vector(s)	rodents
Risk Assessment/Training	
Risk Assessment	Low
Training	Verified and on record
IBC Assessment	
Proposed Biosafety Level	ABSL-1
CA ATP-L	No
NIH Guidelines	Exempt (III-F)
Category 1 Research	No
Category 2 Research	No
IBC Approval	
Unanimously approved at the proposed biosafety levels with the discussed modifications	

PI	**Song**
Protocol #	**BHR21-KKNA**
Title	Adenoviral Vectors
Experimental Procedures	
Agent	Adenoviral vectors
Project summary (from form)	The purpose of this study is to evaluate in vivo hematopoietic stem and progenitor cell (HSPC) mobilization and transduction efficiency following administration of the investigational Adenoviral Vector. Pharmacologic mobilization is required to transiently increase circulating HSPCs, thereby enabling efficient in vivo gene delivery and downstream assessment of engraftment, hematopoietic output, and functional correction.
Additional details from the protocol	N/A
Manipulations planned	In vivo injections
Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids	
Source of nucleic sequences (e.g., species)	Adenovirus 5, Jelly fish, mouse
Nature of nucleic acid (NA) sequences (e.g., enzyme, oncogene)	Viral vector, marker, enzyme

NA Host(s) and Vector(s)	rodents
Risk Assessment/Training	
Risk Assessment	Low
Training	Verified and on record
IBC Assessment	
Proposed Biosafety Level	BSL-2 and ABSL-2
CA ATP-L	No
NIH Guidelines	III-D-1-a and III-D-4-b
Category 1 Research	No
Category 2 Research	No
IBC Approval	
Unanimously approved at the proposed biosafety levels with the discussed modifications	

RENEWALS

PI	**Benedict**
Protocol #	**BHR05-CB**
Title	Herpes Virus Simplex Virus - 1 (HSV-1)
Experimental Procedures	
Agent	HSV (wt and recombinant for GFP)
Project summary (from form)	The goal of the project is to perform the screening of different small molecules and assess their capacity to inhibit entry and spread of infection of the Herpex Simplex Virus - 1 (HSV-1) into human cell lines (in vitro). By doing this, it's possible to propose new and more effective treatments and vaccine candidates for HSV-1.
Additional details from the protocol	N/A
Manipulations planned	Tissue culture, viral production, microscopy on fixed or unfixed plates of cells (96 or 384 wells): Centrifuging, pipetting, mixing, plate washing
Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids	
Source of nucleic sequences (e.g., species)	HSV, Jelly fish
Nature of nucleic acid (NA) sequences (e.g., enzyme, oncogene)	Viral genome, marker
NA Host(s) and Vector(s)	Human cell lines
Risk Assessment/Training	
Risk Assessment	Low
Training	Verified and on record
IBC Assessment	
Approved Biosafety Level	BSL-2 with BSL-3 practices aimed at containing the aerosols
CA ATP-L	Yes
NIH Guidelines	III-D-1-a
Category 1 Research	No
Category 2 Research	No
IBC Approval	
Unanimously approved at the proposed biosafety levels with the discussed modifications	

PI	**Cheroutre**
Protocol #	**BHR07-HC**
Title	Inducing OVA specific T cell responses in the small intestine. (Salmonella)
Experimental Procedures	
Agent	Salmonella enterica serovar typhimurium (STM) strains include 1) a wild-type, Nalidixic Acid resistant derivative of ATCC 14028 (referred to as Salmonella-IR715) and 2) a strain that expresses chicken egg albumin (OVA) (referred to as Salmonella-OVA)
Project summary (from form)	We want to test if food antigens are important in protecting against intestinal infection.
Additional details from the protocol	N/A
Manipulations planned	Bacteria growth, in vivo infections
Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids	
Source of nucleic sequences (e.g., species)	HSV, Jelly fish
Nature of nucleic acid (NA) sequences (e.g., enzyme, oncogene)	Viral genome, marker
NA Host(s) and Vector(s)	Rodents
Risk Assessment/Training	
Risk Assessment	Low
Training	Verified and on record
IBC Assessment	
Approved Biosafety Level	BSL-2 and ABSL-2
CA ATP-L	No
NIH Guidelines	III-D-1-a and III-D-4-b
Category 1 Research	No
Category 2 Research	No
IBC Approval	
Unanimously approved at the proposed biosafety levels with the discussed modifications	

PI	**Shresta**
Protocol #	**RDR08-SS**
Title	DNA vaccine for flavivirus vaccination
Experimental Procedures	
Agent	DNA plasmids expressing viral proteins
Project summary (from form)	The goal of this project is to develop and investigate the efficacy and mechanisms of DNA plasmid vaccines against flavivirus infection including Zika and Dengue. In vivo immunization with DNA plasmids expressing structural (C, prM, E) or nonstructural proteins (NS1, NS2A, NS2B, NS3, NS4A, NS4B, NS5) from Zika or Dengue genome will be conducted. The DNA plasmid vaccines could express viral proteins alone or in combination. The induction of virus-specific immune responses and viral challenges will be investigated to assess the vaccine-mediated protection.
Additional details from the protocol	N/A
Manipulations planned	In vivo injections
Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids	
Source of nucleic sequences (e.g., species)	Bacterial, flavivirus proteins

Nature of nucleic acid (NA) sequences (e.g., enzyme, oncogene)	Expression plasmid, structural or non-structural viral proteins
NA Host(s) and Vector(s)	Rodents
Risk Assessment/Training	
Risk Assessment	Low
Training	Verified and on record
IBC Assessment	
Approved Biosafety Level	ABSL-1
CA ATP-L	No
NIH Guidelines	III-D-2-a and III-D-4-a
Category 1 Research	No
Category 2 Research	No
IBC Approval	
Unanimously approved at the proposed biosafety levels	

AMENDMENT FOR IBC REVIEW

PI	**Saphire**
Protocol #	**BHR17-ES**
Title	Mumps Virus
Experimental Procedures	
Agent	WT or Recombinant Mumps virus encoding GFP
Amendment summary (from form)	Updating agent: Adding a recombinant mumps virus that encodes a GFP or mCherry reporter
Additional details from the protocol	Biosafety Note: The new experiments will not change the biosafety level or the assessed risk, but the project is now subject to NIH guidelines.
Manipulations planned	Same as on the original protocol.
Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids	
Source of nucleic sequences (e.g., species)	Mumps virus, jelly fish or sea anemone
Nature of nucleic acid (NA) sequences (e.g., enzyme, oncogene)	Genome and marker
NA Host(s) and Vector(s)	Human cell lines
Risk Assessment/Training	
Risk Assessment	Medium
Training	Verified and on record
IBC Assessment	
Approved Biosafety Level	BSL-2 with BSL-3 practices aimed at containing the aerosols
CA ATP-L	Yes
NIH Guidelines	III-D-1-a and III-D-3-a
Category 1 Research	No
Category 2 Research	No
IBC Approval	
Unanimously approved at the proposed biosafety levels with the discussed modifications	

AMENDMENTS APPROVED BY BIOSAFETY

11 protocols amendments were submitted and approved by the Biosafety Office (BHR03-SC, BHR01-AG, BHR06-BP, BHR03-BP, BHR01-ES, BHR14-ES, RDR13-ES, BHR01-SS, BHR01-MRC, RDR01-MRC, BHR05-MRC)

These protocol amendments were submitted between October 9 and December 9, 2025. No significant changes were made to the protocols, except for changes related to personnel, funding source, IRB number, IACUC protocol number, or addition of genes, strains or experimental procedures not affecting biosafety level. These minor changes will be approved administratively by the EH&S office.

ANNUAL MONITORING

19 protocols due for annual monitoring (15 received, 2 closed, 2 due).

These protocols are due for annual monitoring between November 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025. No significant changes were made to the protocols, except for changes related to personnel, funding source, IRB number, IACUC protocol number, or addition of genes, strains or experimental procedures not affecting biosafety level. These minor changes will be approved administratively by the EH&S office.

CLOSED PROTOCOLS

2 protocols due for annual monitoring were closed (BHR20-KKNA and RDR05-KKNA).

STORAGE MEMO

None

GENERAL BUSINESS

TPS UPDATES
Requested comments on the new RDR tab on the BHR form

BSL-3 INCIDENTS
None

NIH REPORTABLE INCIDENTS
None

DURC
None

Meeting adjourned at 10:12 am