

Institutional Biosafety Committee – March 24, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Pantelis Tsoulfas, M.D.*
Rumela Chakrabarti, PhD**
Ellen Kapsalis, Ph.D.
Micheline McCarthy, M.D., Ph.D
Kevin Sanders, D.V.M.
Mercina Drake¹
Lizzeth Meza ***
Ela Koncza

Members Absent

Sophia George, Ph.D.
Kevin Folta, Ph.D (ad hoc member)
Minh Tran, Ph.D
Dan Rothen, D.V.M
Shane Gillooly
Susanne Doblecki-Lewis, MD
Julia Zaias, D.V.M, Ph.D
Kevin Mullen¹
Jennifer Laine, PhD***

* Denotes Chair

** Denotes Vice-Chair

*** Denotes BSO Alternate

¹ Denotes Community Representatives

1. Call to Order and Announcements:

The IBC meeting was held on March 24th via Zoom. Dr. Tsoulfas chaired the meeting. After determining that there was a quorum, Dr. Tsoulfas called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

- Minutes from February 24th meeting – approved by vote 7-0
 - Minutes will be uploaded to the website

2. Discussion:

- I. Researcher working IBC 25-063 Lombard IIID bitten by a naïve mouse
- II. IBC amendment forms updated/revised – will be sent to members for review and suggestions
 - Amendment form
 - IIIC renewal/closure form
 - Exemption form
- III. Guidance documents for researchers on how to approach writing an IBC protocol was shared with members, please provide feedback before we post on IBC website.

Old Business

25-121 – CREB–LIF Signaling in Pancreatic Cancer

PI: Nagaraj Nagathihalli, MD

Training: PI and staff appropriately trained.

NIH Guidelines: Section III-D-3 and III-D-4.

Containment: BSL-2 / ABSL-2.

Summary: Lentiviral and CRISPR-modified tumor cells used in mouse models to study pancreatic cancer signaling.

Recommendation: Conditional approval; unanimously approved (7-0).

New Business

26-019 – AAV2-GDNF Gene Therapy for Parkinson's Disease

PI: Corneliu Luca, MD

Training: Verified.

NIH Guidelines: Section III-D-5.

Containment: BSL-1 (no local vector handling).

Summary: Human follow-up study involving AAV2-GDNF gene therapy administered off-site.

Recommendation: Conditional approval; unanimously approved (7-0).

26-020 – Immunotherapy for Hematological Malignancies

PI: Damian Green, MD

Training: Verified.

NIH Guidelines: Section III-D-3 and III-D-4.

Containment: BSL-2 / ABSL-2.

Summary: Lentiviral and retroviral CAR T-cell engineering and in vivo evaluation.

Recommendation: Conditional approval; unanimously approved (7-0).

26-021 – Ketone Body-Induced Protein Modifications in Prostate Cancer

PI: Zhipeng Wang, PhD

Training: Verified.

NIH Guidelines: Section III-D-3.

Containment: BSL-2.

Summary: CRISPR and lentiviral manipulation of prostate cancer cell lines to study metabolic effects.

Recommendation: Conditional approval; unanimously approved (7-0).