

Macon and Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at Old Dominion University
EASTERN VIRGINIA MEDICAL SCHOOL
Institutional Biosafety Committee
Minutes of June 9, 2025, Meeting

Members Present:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aurora Kerscher, Ph.D., <i>Co-Chair</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Courtney Kerr, <i>Environmental Health & Safety</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elena Galkina, Ph.D., <i>Co-Chair</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chanda Hill, <i>Director, Research Compliance</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bruce Finlay, BSO, <i>Environmental Health & Safety</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Singleton, M.S., <i>Ad Hoc, Occupational Health</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neelima Chandra, Ph.D., <i>Scientist</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RaShae Y. O. Cook, M.S., <i>RLATG, CMAR Animal Expert</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kan Wang, Ph.D., <i>Scientist</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Daniel Sullivan, Ph.D., <i>Ad Hoc, IRB</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julius Nyalwidhe, Ph.D., <i>Scientist</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Mu, PhD. <i>Institutional Rep</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ming-Lei Guo, Ph.D., <i>Scientist</i> | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nancy Welch, M.D. <i>Consultant</i> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yan Sanders, M.D., <i>Scientist</i> | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adrienne R. Britton, Ph.D., <i>Community Representative</i> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jamie S. Heisig-Mitchell M.S., <i>Community Representative</i> | |

Office of Research Staff Present:

- Kimberly Powell, MS, IBC Administrator**

The Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) was held via Zoom on June 9, 2025. The IBC has 11 voting members and 7 of these are required to conduct formal business. A quorum was reached at 12:03 PM and the meeting was called to order by Dr. Kerscher.

I. Administrative Actions

- A.** The minutes from the meeting on April 14, 2025, were reviewed by the IBC, led by Dr. Kerscher. Dr. Galkina moved to approve the minutes, and Bruce Finlay seconded. No motion against approval as written. The minutes were approved unanimously.

II. Registrations for Review:

A. Initial Reviews and 5-year Renewals

(None)

B. Re-Review of Initial Reviews and 5-year Renewals

(None)

C. Annual Reviews with Significant Changes

- 1. Brown Lab – PI Dr. Milton Brown.** The IBC conducted an Annual Review for **(2025)**. Projects #10437 and #10464 were reviewed. The bio-registration was **approved pending** submission of the following *revisions* for final electronic approval:

i. Project: Identifier #10437

- (a) The lab is studying BRCA1, a tumor suppressing protein. Mutation of this tumor suppressor protein are linked to higher risk of developing breast cancer by the age of 70. The lab seeks a way to restore/ reactivate the tumor suppressor activity downstream.

1. The researchers will use proprietary structures to synthesize BRCA1 binding site agonists. This will be carried out in the lab with reactions taking place within the Chemical ventilation hoods. Once molecules are identified, a specific breast cancer stem cell peptide sequence targeting DCLK1 will be added to the molecule(s). The lab will purchase commercially prepared stable cell lines expressing ERE reporter system via transfection. No chemical or biological hazards are expected at this stage.
2. The lab methods include tissue culture, organoid culture, PCR, surface plasmon resonance (SPR), viability Western blot, ELISA. protein quantification assay. MTT assays of cell
3. The cells being used are commercially available immortalized human breast cell lines:
 - i. HCC1937
 - ii. LCC9
 - iii. MCF-7
 - iv. MDA-MB-231
 - v. MDA-MB-436
4. This work will be conducted at BSL2 conditions.

- (b) **NIH Guidelines** – This work does not appear to have any applicable sections.
- (c) **Risk assessment and discussion** – The lab needs to provide details for the risk mitigation, PPE and disposal of any biological materials
- (d) **Document Training** – Primary lab members are listed, but lab must add the students and summer interns and document their training.

ii. **Project: Identifier # 10464**

- (a) The lab aims to develop an oral & subcutaneous dose for a radiation mitigator (YK-4-250). They will then determine the drug dynamics and kinetics to determine an optimum dose for screening in vivo. Researchers will evaluate the efficacy of these formulations. Additionally, they will evaluate AT1R knockout vs. WT models for a variety of parameters.

1. The lab methods include tissue culture, organoid culture, irradiation, qRT-PCR, ELISA, Western Blot, IHC, histology, RNAseq, confocal microscopy, siRNA, chemiluminescence, protein assays, FACS, etc.
2. The tissues/organisms/cells being used are:
 - i. Mouse intestinal epithelial cells
 - ii. C57BL/6 WT -Jackson Lab
 - iii. C57BL/6 - AT1AR KO -Jackson Lab
 - iv. C57BL/6J - KOCMP-70008-Ace2 - Cyagen, Inc

v. C57BL/6J – WT - Cyagen, Inc

3. This work will be conducted at BSL1 conditions.

- (b) **NIH Guidelines** – This work does not appear to have any applicable sections.
- (c) **Risk assessment and discussion** – The lab needs to provide details for the risk mitigation, PPE and disposal of any biological materials
- (d) **Document Training** – Primary lab members are listed, but lab must add the students and summer interns and document their training.

iii. **IBC Vote** – a motion was made to Approve pending modifications or clarifications. The PI must provide sources for all cells lines used, the affiliations for external collaborators, PPE required, and disposal information for both projects. They must also add all lab members, both temporary and permanent. If research involving regulated biological subjects is to be conducted on campus, this must be clearly indicated, with an approved IACUC protocol submitted and an appropriate ABSL level assigned. If such research is conducted off-campus, this must be clearly noted in the bio-registration.

- (a) Votes For (7)/ against (0)/ abstain (1)
- (b) Conflicts of interest (Dr. Wang - abstained)

D. Re-Review Annual Reviews with Significant Changes

(None)

E. Amendments to Registrations

(None)

F. Completed/Terminated Registrations

(None)

G. Final Approvals Granted

1. Taylor-Fishwick Lab – approved 4/22/25
2. Sanders Lab – approved 5/8/25
3. Kerscher Lab – approved 5/14/25
4. Galkina Lab – approved 6/3/25
5. Sanford Lab – approved 6/3/25

III. Old Business:

A.

IV. New Business:

- A.** The NIH has officially posted IBC rosters on their website. They have also put out a template for meeting minutes which demonstrates the necessary elements. Bruce discussed details of the roster posting and expectation of public minutes. The committee was notified that a letter from Kim Powell had gone out to all PIs informing them that this was going to occur. Kim Powell stated that SciSure gives each project unique identifier numbers which we can use to refer to each project. Kim Powell will look into providing IBC members with the project numbers for reference. Courtney Kerr discussed methods of handling biosafety reviews and discussions when it comes to minutes.

Dr. Kerscher adjourned the meeting at 12:30 PM.