

**Institutional Biosafety Committee**

**May 1, 2026**

**12:00PM – 1:00PM**

**Teleconference**

**Minutes**

**Voting Members Present:** Brian Taylor, Marianne Cloeren, Karen Scanlon, Alan Schmaljohn, Ron McNeil, Elizabeth Bramhall, J. Kristie Johnson, John O'Neill, Matthew Frieman, Sherry Bohn, Robert Ernst, Matthew Fischer

**Voting Members Absent:** Ami A. Patel, Melissa Morland, Anthony Kim, Irina Luzina, Janna Barcelo, Joseph Gillespie, Ciaran Skerry, Jessie Duggan, Alfredo Garzino-Demo

**Other Person(s) Present:** No other persons were present at the meeting

**Staff Present:** Matthew Fischer, John O'Neill, Holda Ramos

**1 Vote on Last Meeting's Minutes**

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Institutional Biosafety Committee meeting on 4/10/2026

Votes to approve minutes: 12, Disapprove: 0, Abstain: 0

**2 New Business**

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This meeting of the IBC is open to the public pursuant to the NIH Guidelines, Section IV-B-2-a-(6).

- A replacement US Government policy for Dual Use Research of Concern (or "Dangerous Gain of Function") is expected any day.
- Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Member issues
  - Article of interest - "A.I. Bots Told Scientists How to Make Biological Weapons"
  - ChABSA has a virtual meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> entitled "So Your Training Plan Failed. Now What?"
  - Registration is open for the ChABSA symposium on June 10<sup>th</sup> at Universities at Shady Grove.

**3 Reportable Incidents**

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- No reportable incidents occurred this month.

**4 New IBC Submission**

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Short Title: Bone marrow transplant based leukemia models

Investigator: Aaron Stonestrom

ID: IBC-00008815

Analyst: Holda Ramos

VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This protocol involves the use of lentiviral constructs in murine cells which will be engrafted in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-1-a using BSL-2/ABSL-2 facilities and practices with sharps precautions. The following modifications are required to secure approval: 1) Update personnel information, 2) Add information on fluorescent molecules, 3) Update sharps safety precautions, and 4) Revise the bloodborne pathogens section.  
Motion: RMSA  
Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

## **5 Previously Deferred**

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Short Title: Rational targeting of protein translation for cancer treatments  
Investigator: France Carrier  
ID: IBC-00002549  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of previously transduced porcine cells in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using BSL-1/ABSL-1 facilities and practices.  
Motion: Approve the Modification  
Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

## **6 Modification Discussions**

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Short Title: Lineage tracing of optic nerve stem cells  
Investigator: Steven Bernstein  
ID: IBC-00002939  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of AAV in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using ABSL-1 facilities and practices.  
Motion: Approve the Modification  
Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: The roles of BASP1 and autophagy in cocaine abuse  
Investigator: Maged Harraz  
ID: IBC-00007153  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No

Discussion: This modification involves the use of plasmids *in vitro* and AAV *in vitro* and *in vivo*. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using BSL-1/ABSL-1 facilities and practices.

Motion: Approve the Modification

Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: Molecular and Functional Studies of Depression and Addiction on Brain

Investigator: Mary Kay Lobo

ID: IBC-00001687

Analyst: John O'Neill

VA-Related: No

Discussion: This modification involves the use of AAV in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using ABSL-1 facilities and practices.

Motion: Approve the Modification

Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: Intraperitoneal Photodynamic Therapy and Chemotherapy for Peritoneal Carcinomatosis

Investigator: Benjamin Powers

ID: IBC-00008230

Analyst: Holda Ramos

VA-Related: No

Discussion: This protocol involves the use of previously transduced human and murine cell lines in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules as III-D-4-a and is approved using BSL-2/ABSL-2 for work with human cells and BSL-1/ABSL-1 facilities and practices for work with murine cells.

Motion: Approve the Modification

Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: Engineering adenoviral vectors as vaccines for infectious disease

Investigator: Lynda Coughlan

ID: IBC-00005922

Analyst: John O'Neill

VA-Related: No

Discussion: This modification involves the use of Influenza PR8 reassortants in mammalian and avian cells and embryonated chicken eggs. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-7 and is approved using BSL-2 facilities and practices.

Motion: Approve the Modification

Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: The functional role of Akt on dopamine release  
Investigator: Joseph Cheer  
ID: IBC-00000335  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of AAV constructs in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using BSL-1/ABSL-1 facilities and practices.  
Motion: Approve the Modification  
Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: Viral vectors for brain circuits of reward and aversion  
Investigator: Thomas Jhou  
ID: IBC-00007284  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of AAV in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using ABSL-1 facilities and practices.  
Motion: Approve the Modification  
Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: Elucidating ultrastructure of PrPSc  
Investigator: Ilia Baskakov  
ID: IBC-00000465  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of AAV in murine cells and animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using BSL-1/ABSL-1 facilities and practices.  
Motion: Approve the Modification  
Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: Role of Cacna1c in mood disorder related behaviors in the mouse using AAV Cre to delete Cacna1c in Floxed Cacna1c mice.  
Investigator: Todd Gould  
ID: IBC-00002171  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of new AAV constructs in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules as III-D-4-a and is approved using ABSL-1 facilities and practices.

Motion: Approve the Modification  
Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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## **7 RMSA Follow-Up**

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Short Title: Efficacy of AdV.C3.tat-HIV-BoxA to protect in a murine model of CCI-injury  
Investigator: Prajwal Ciryam  
ID: IBC-00008725  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This protocol involves the use of adenovirus vectors in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules as III-D-1 and is approved using ABSL-2 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Removed non-applicable information from the protocol, 2) Rewrote abstract, 3) Uploaded applicable IACUC documents, 4) Clarified origin of genes, and 5) Clarified safety precautions.  
Status: Approved

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Short Title: Viral Transduction of Striated Muscle  
Investigator: Robert Bloch  
ID: IBC-00000936  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of AAV in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using ABSL-1 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Identified new funding sources; 2) Updated animal-use protocol information; and 3) Updated language in the risk assessment for lentivirus (previously approved).  
Status: Approved

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Short Title: Viral vectors for brain circuits of reward and aversion  
Investigator: Thomas Jhou  
ID: IBC-00007284  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of AAV in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using ABSL-1 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Removed the word "typically" from the scientific abstract and 2) Updated the animal-use protocol information.  
Status: Approved

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Short Title: Fetal Gene Delivery Using Low-Intensity Focused Ultrasound  
Investigator: Whitney Parker  
ID: IBC-00007792  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This protocol involves the addition of AVV and new sgRNA and plasmids used in cells and animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a using BSL-1 and ABSL-1 facilities and practices. It also involves the work with recombinant human cells in vitro. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-F-8 and is approved using BSL-1 and ABSL-1 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Updated biosafety level, 2) Added AAV to the risk assessment pages, and 3) Updated decontamination methods.  
Status: Approved

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Short Title: Screening of BSL2 viruses with anti-viral compounds  
Investigator: Matthew Frieman  
ID: IBC-00002948  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of adenovirus in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-1-a and is approved using BSL-2/ABSL-2 facilities and practices. The following modification was made to secure approval: Added adenovirus to the Risk Assessment Questions 1 page.  
Status: Approved

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Short Title: Neuroblastoma tumor Imaging by Molecular Imaging  
Investigator: Vikas Kundra  
ID: IBC-00006585  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of previously transduced cells in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules as III-D-4-a and is approved using BSL-1 and ABSL-1 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Updated title to be more informative, 2) Corrected listed risk group, 3) Clarified source of rDNA, and 4) Added new prophylaxis recommendations.  
Status: Approved

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Short Title: The functional role of Akt on dopamine release  
Investigator: Joseph Cheer

ID: IBC-00000335  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the addition of new AAV constructs in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-4-a and is approved using BSL-1 and ABSL-1 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Updated personnel and 2) Removed unnecessary language from the protocol.  
Status: Approved

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Short Title: Cancer and Angiogenesis in Mice  
Investigator: Toni Antalis  
ID: IBC-00002240  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of adenovirus in human and murine cells which will be engrafted in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids as III-D-1-a and is approved using BSL-2/ABSL-2 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Added adenovirus to the risk assessment pages and 2) Acknowledged that animal work will occur in a biosafety cabinet.  
Status: Approved

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Short Title: Xenotransplantation of genetically engineered porcine kidneys in baboons  
Investigator: Raphael Meier  
ID: IBC-00007225  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification involves the use of lentiviral constructs to transduce cells which are then used in animals. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules as III-D-1-a and is approved using BSL-2 and A-BSL-2 facilities and practices. The following modifications were made to secure approval: 1) Added personnel, 2) Added source of genes, 3) Updated biosafety level.  
Status: Approved

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## **8 Standard Operating Procedures and Plans**

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Short Title: Biological Agent Incident Response Plan (BAIRP)  
Discussion: This plan was on the agenda for annual committee review. No significant changes were made.  
Motion: Approve  
Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: HSFII-Specific SOP  
Discussion: This plan was on the agenda for annual committee review. No significant changes were made.  
Motion: Approve  
Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: Barry-Specific SOP  
Discussion: This plan was on the agenda for annual committee review. No significant changes were made.  
Motion: Approve  
Vote: For: 12, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 0

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Short Title: Ernst-Specific SOP  
Discussion: This plan was on the agenda for annual committee review. No significant changes were made.  
Motion: Approve  
Vote: For: 11, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 1 (Robert Ernst)

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Short Title: Frieman-Specific SOP  
Discussion: This plan was on the agenda for annual committee review. No significant changes were made.  
Motion: Approve  
Vote: For: 11, Against: 0, Abstained: 0, Recused: 1 (Matthew Frieman)

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## **9 Periodic Reviews of Protocols with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Moledules**

Short Title: Lentivirus transduction into cells for virus trafficking experiments and CRISPR-CAS9 gene targeting  
Investigator: Matthew Frieman  
ID: IBC-00002935  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Lipid A modification of BSL-3 Gram-negative bacteria  
Investigator: Robert Ernst  
ID: IBC-00000133  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: In vitro gene silencing using siRNA

Investigator: Thomas Clemens  
ID: IBC-00006883  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: In vitro and In vivo analysis of the SARS Coronavirus  
Investigator: Matthew Frieman  
ID: IBC-00000711  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Chemical genetic study of endoplasmic reticulum (ER)-associated degradation  
Investigator: Shengyun Fang  
ID: IBC-00003961  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Role of SUR1-TRPM4 in neuronal hyperexcitability underlying seizures  
Investigator: Vladimir V. Gerzanich  
ID: IBC-00007723  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: IBC: 2259GCCC: Axicabtagene Ciloleucel vs SOC Therapy in Participants with R/R Follicular Lymphoma  
Investigator: Jean Yared  
ID: IBC-00007027  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: SURGICAL STUDIES ON MUCOSAL HOMEOSTASIS  
Investigator: Jian-Ying Wang  
ID: IBC-00000971  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: Yes  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: SURGICAL STUDIES ON MUCOSAL HOMEOSTASIS  
Investigator: Jian-Ying Wang  
ID: IBC-00000971  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: Yes  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: IBC: 2091GCCC: GMCI plus Standard of Care Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor for Stage III/IV NSCLC Patients (HP-00094281)  
Investigator: Ranee Mehra  
ID: IBC-00006005  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Cyclic nucleotide signaling in memory and social behaviors  
Investigator: Michy Kelly  
ID: IBC-00005947  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: IBC Submission: DMID 23-0015; Lassa Fever CVD 1000  
Investigator: Justin Ortiz  
ID: IBC-00007865  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Apoptotic Mechanism of Maternal diabetes-induced Neural tube defects  
Investigator: Peixin Yang  
ID: IBC-00001322  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Cell Biology of Picornavirus Infection  
Investigator: William Jackson  
ID: IBC-00003319  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Expression of Viral Proteins in Yeast for Function Identification and Drug Screens  
Investigator: Matthew Frieman  
ID: IBC-00003326  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: IL-1(beta) regulation of perinatal brain injury  
Investigator: Irina Burd  
ID: IBC-00007015  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: IBC: Understanding the mechanism of neurosensory disorders  
Investigator: Zubair Ahmed  
ID: IBC-00003271  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Target Validation and Screening (CBT) and Therapeutic Working Group (TWG)  
Investigator: David Weber  
ID: IBC-00004265  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Immunopathogenesis and novel approaches for treatment of experimental multiple sclerosis, lupus and diabetes  
Investigator: Kamal Moudgil  
ID: IBC-00002366  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Interferon stimulated gene screening for inhibition of Coronavirus replication  
Investigator: Matthew Frieman  
ID: IBC-00002073  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No

Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Engineering Plasmodium parasites to study malaria biology and host responses  
Investigator: Hardik Patel  
ID: IBC-00008704  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for clarification of Risk Groups of *Plasmodium spp.*

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Short Title: Development and preclinical evaluation of novel therapeutic delivery strategies  
Investigator: Jung Soo Suk  
ID: IBC-00007510  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved to update laboratory locations.

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Short Title: Development of mRNA delivery platform using endogenous gag-like proteins  
Investigator: Tim Luetkens  
ID: IBC-00006713  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for changes in personnel and biosafety cabinets certification dates.

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Short Title: Generation of Caveolin-1 knock out cell line by CRISPR  
Investigator: Hem Shukla  
ID: IBC-00004300  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: There have been no substantive changes to this protocol submission.

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Short Title: Lipid A modification of Gram-negative bacteria  
Investigator: Robert Ernst  
ID: IBC-00000053  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for work with *Haemophilus influenza*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Neisseria meningitidis*, and *Neisseria spp* using BSL-2 facilities and practices.

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Short Title: A novel metformin-nanomineral scaffold as enhancer of craniofacial bone regeneration and angiogenesis via dental pulp stem cells  
Investigator: Michael Weir  
ID: IBC-00005835  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for a change of PI.

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Short Title: Testing the role of neuromodulation in stress-related disorders  
Investigator: Tanner Francis  
ID: IBC-00008544  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved to clarify genes of interest previously reviewed by the committee.

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Short Title: *F. tularensis* LVS pathogenesis  
Investigator: Eileen M. Barry  
ID: IBC-00001075  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification is administratively approved for the update of experimental design and biosafety cabinet certification date.

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Short Title: Lipid A modification of Gram-negative bacteria  
Investigator: Robert Ernst  
ID: IBC-00000053  
Analyst: Holda Ramos  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for changes in personnel edit rights.

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Short Title: Breeding of Genetically Deficient Mice  
Investigator: Toni Antalis  
ID: IBC-00001180  
Analyst: John O'Neill  
VA-Related: No  
Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for updating the biosafety cabinet certification date.

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Short Title: Investigation of host immune response to *Clostridioides difficile* infection and development of immunotherapies

Investigator: Hanping Feng

ID: IBC-00001771

Analyst: John O'Neill

VA-Related: No

Discussion: This modification has been administratively approved for the use of plasmids in mammalian cells. This work is classified by the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules as III-F-8 Appendix C-1 and is approved using BSL-2 facilities and practices.