

**Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Institutional Biosafety Committee
April 17, 2008**

Minutes

Present: Drs. Wetmur, Miller, Moline, Simon, Wieder; Mr. Hauck, Mss. Erlitz, and Sadock.

Also Present: Dr. Pullium

- 1) Approval of minutes – upon motion duly made and seconded the minutes of the January 17, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved as written.
- 2) Dr. Miller introduced Jennifer Pullium, DVM, Associate Professor of Genetics and Genomic Sciences and Associate Professor in the Center for Comparative Medicine and Surgery, who will serve as his representative when he is unable to attend IBC meetings.
- 3) Mr. Hauck reported that the CDC was notified of needlestick case presented at the January meeting and that there have been no sequelae.
- 4) H5N1. The Committee discussed the MSSM H5N1 risk assessment forwarded to the CDC.
 - a. This agent does not easily infect humans, though when it does, the death rate is high.
 - b. MSSM recreates this virus in the EPF from plasmids (reverse genetics). Thus, no virus enters or leaves the EPF. .
- 5) Mr. Hauck agreed to provide the Committee with clear information on viruses for consistency in designation of Biosafety level handling.
- 6) BSL-3 Protocol Reviews