

**Institutional Biosafety Committee**  
**April 27, 2006**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Drs. J. Wetmur, S. Daefler, R. Miller, J. Moline, and R. Wieder;  
Mr. P. Hauck; Mss F. Erlitz, S. Strauss, and K. Sadock

**Also Present:** Dr. Michael Linden, Ms. Vinita Kumar

- 1) **Approval of Minutes** – Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the January 19, 2006 meeting were approved as corrected and amended to include projects approved at the January meeting
- 2) **Committee membership**
  - a. Dr. Simon Daefler, new member ex-officio, was introduced
  - b. Vinita Kumar, Biosafety specialist at Cornell-Weill Medical College will attend as proxy with voting privileges for Ms. Erlitz when Ms. Erlitz is unavailable
  - c. Dr. Michael Linden, Associate Professor of Gene and Cell Medicine, will be appointed to the IBC as a voting member
- 3) **Info-Ed update**
  - a. The NIH has set back the Info-Ed linkage for R01 grant submissions by six months to February, 2007
  - b. Mount Sinai will continue to implement inclusion of biosafety information into the internal grant submission process
- 4) **Emerging Pathogens Facility** -- Standard Operating Procedures Manual
  - a. The Committee discussed the SOP Manual (distributed before the meeting)
  - b. Appropriate suggestions submitted to the Biosafety Officer had been incorporated
  - c. Current training and drill procedures were circulated to the Committee for review
  - d. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the SOP Manual was unanimously approved as amended
- 5) **Review of protocols**
  - a. **GCO#05-0049 (F. tularemia)**
    - i. This select-agent project is a transfer from The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. The committee reviewed the MSSM IBC Certificate of Registration for research using recombinant DNA, the CDC approval notice of this work, and the PI's justification for select agent clearance.
    - ii. Detailed discussion included justification of this model, using Kanamycin, and why Kanamycin use as a resistance marker is not problematic (not a first-line antibiotic for treatment)

- iii. Occupational and health and safety issues were addressed to the satisfaction of the Committee
- iv. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the project was approved at BSL-3

**b. GCO#03-0058 (1918 Influenza)**

- i. Discussion of this project was tabled until the July 20, 2006 meeting; further information is required the parts of the project to be conducted at Mount Sinai

**6) Safety of lentiviral vectors**

- a. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) requested the IBC to provide guidelines on the safety of lentiviral vectors for in vivo research. Dr. Michael Linden explained that vectors now being used are self-inactivating, long terminal repeats that cannot be rescued. Any recombination would be ineffective and cannot increase pathogenicity in vivo.
- b. Discussion actively covered safety of lentiviral vectors with oncogenes or cancer-causing viruses.
- c. Currently MSSM recommends culturing and handling these agents at BSL 2; Dr. Linden assured the IBC that BSL 1 is sufficient for the in vivo phase and agreed to present a rationale to this Committee to be shared with the IACUC

7) **Publication of Minutes** -- The Committee reaffirmed its policy of providing public access to the minutes via the MSSM IBC web site

8) **Adjournment** – the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.