

 TTUHSC EL PASO
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso
**CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF
MEDICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, 09/16/2025 12:07 PM
MSBII 5A116**

Chairperson

Mingtao Zeng, PhD

Board Members

Anthony W Baird, DSc
Jeana E. Barrow, DVM
Huanyu Dou, MD
Pallavi Dubey, PhD
Ivan E Flores, BS
Daniel Gonzales, BA
Sehrish Javaid, PhD

Administrative Staff

Amanda Ortiz
Myrna Arvizo

MEMBERS PRESENT
Anthony W Baird, DSc, Jeana E. Barrow, DVM, Huanyu Dou, MD, Pallavi Dubey, PhD, Daniel Paul Gonzales, BMS, Mingtao Zeng, PhD
MEMBERS ABSENT
Ivan E Flores, BS, Sehrish Javaid, BDS, MS, PhD
STAFF PRESENT
Barbara S Castellanos, M.S., Amanda Ortiz
GUESTS PRESENT
N/A

CALL TO ORDER

Mingtao Zeng, PhD called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. Quorum is 5 members. 6 members are present at the call to order, including scientific, non-scientific and non-affiliated members. 6 members present at conclusion.

All proceedings and discussion in the upcoming meeting are confidential and should not be discussed outside of the meeting. Additionally, any member who has a conflict of interest that would preclude making an objective determination about a study should recuse him/herself from voting on the study.

A draft of the meeting minutes from 08/19/2025 was distributed for review on 08/25/2025. There were no controversial entries or objections. A motion to approve the meeting minutes as written was made by AB and

seconded by JB. The committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

N/A

3-YEAR RENEWALS

IBC# 23001

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 09/30/2028

Nils P Nickel, MD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Internal Medicine-Texas Tech Medical Center

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

Protocol Type: Three Year Renewal

PI Request: Use of

Space: MSB II 4B506D&E

Biological Agents: Human Blood, Body Fluids

Chemicals: N/A

Controlled Substances: N/A

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Hazardous Shipping & On-Campus Transport Training: Required

Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids: Not involved

Training Compliance: PI and all key personnel are current on required LSE, COI, and Financial Disclosure trainings

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

This protocol is a three-year renewal requested by the Principal Investigator (PI) for continued use of MSB II 4B506D&E laboratory space. The work involves the use of human blood and body fluids as biological agents, with no chemicals, controlled substances, or recombinant/synthetic nucleic acids involved.

The research will be conducted under BSL-2 containment practices.

The PI and all key personnel are fully compliant with Laboratory Safety Education (LSE), Conflict of Interest (COI), and Financial Disclosure trainings, with all training records updated and in good standing.

All necessary hazardous shipping and on-campus transport training requirements have not been met by everyone listed on the protocol. The hazardous shipping and on-campus transport training should be completed by all personnel listed on the protocol.

Comment:

Safety Services made contact with the lab manager (one of the research personnel) to address the shipping and transport training. She advised that 7 of the 9 on the license have the correct training and the two that do not have the training will not be handling any materials for shipment or transport.

Safety and BSO have no concerns with this three year renewal.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Approve

MOTION AND VOTE: The TTUHSC EP Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) reviewed this protocol at their full board meeting and granted unrestricted approval.

Total Members Voting: **6** [For: **6** Absent: **0** Against: **0** Conflict of Interest: **0** Not Present: **0** Abstained: **0**]

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Approved

IBC# 22008

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 09/30/2028

Subodh Kumar, PhD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - MTM-CoE in Infectious Diseases

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

The PI responded to the concerns of the reviewers.

1. In section 5.5, Daniela Rodarte is listed as a lab member handling shipping of substances; she is not listed in section 3; please revise either section for consistency.

2. In section 9.15, how long after injection of lentiviral vectors are animals estimated to be shedding the agent? Should a cage change hold be placed on these animals during this time period to protect staff?

Safety, please enter notes regarding the lab inspection required for BSL2.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

No further comments aside from the BSL2 containment practices in the proposed lab space.

Comment:

This lab has done a great job identifying the location (room) to be used as a BSL2. Signage is now correct, clean PPE for entry is identified, waste bin on the way out for dirty PPE is in place and BSC is current for keeping BSL2 materials contained.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Approve

MOTION AND VOTE: The TTUHSC EP Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) reviewed this protocol at their full board meeting and granted unrestricted approval.

Total Members Voting: **6** [For: **6** Absent: **0** Against: **0** Conflict of Interest: **0** Not Present: **0** Abstained: **0**]

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Approved

AMENDMENTS

N/A

INITIAL REVIEWS

IBC# 25008

Full Renewal Expiration Date:

Darby Carmelle Ghislaine Mayer/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Medical Education

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

The PI has responded to the stipulations.

1. In section 5.1 - please describe what is being done and how during this study, in order to get a full picture of potential human exposure.

2. In section 5.1 clarify how Coccidioides will be handled. Specifically, that the agent will not be concentrated at any stage of the work and that it will only be used as described in the submitted summary. This information is important to confirm that the research poses no additional risk beyond the intended procedures.

3. In section 6.1 - the protocol states no chemicals will be used, however in section 9.13, there are two boxes checked related to the usage and storage of chemicals. Please revise for consistency.

4. In section 7.1 please add the location of where the soil will be collected.

5. In section 9.2 please describe your disposal plan for Coccidioides, including how all waste will be decontaminated and discarded in the BSL2 lab.

6. In section 9.11 - depending on the way the soil samples are collected (pending elaboration and detailing after revision to section 5.1), this activity may also generate dust and aerosols. Consider checking these boxes as well.

7. In CITI, please complete the Researchers and Research Staff course. This must be completed by you and your staff. The training also provides extra safety guidance for working with hazardous materials that require BSL-2 containment.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

Thank you for the detailed response!

RECOMMENDATIONS: Additional Information Required

STIPULATIONS: Stipulations are correct but need to be added to the application.

MOTION AND VOTE: The TTUHSC EP Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) reviewed the initial application at their full board meeting and determined that additional information or modifications are required.

Total Members Voting: **6** [For: **6** Absent: **0** Against: **0** Conflict of Interest: **0** Not Present: **0** Abstained: **0**]

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Additional Information Required

IBC# 26002

Full Renewal Expiration Date:

Mei-Zhen Cui, PhD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - MTM-CoE in Diabetes and Metabolism

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

Protocol Type: Initial Application

PI Request: Use of Space: MSBI 4205

Biological Agents: Cell Lines

Chemicals: Ethidium Bromide, Acrylamide

Controlled Substances: N/A

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Hazardous Shipping & On-Campus Transport Training: Not required

Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids: Yes

Training Compliance: PI and all key personnel are current on required LSE, COI, and Financial Disclosure trainings

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

In section 9.13, please elaborate on the containment practices that will be used with the chemical and biologicals on this protocol. Thank you!3.

Comment:

1. Section 8.3 Please add adenoviruses

2. Sections 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6, 9.7 Please add adenoviruses

3. Section 9.8 Multiple human cell lines will be used. HepB vaccination should be provided to researchers by university occupational health office.

4. Section 9.13 BSC should be selected, at least.

5. Section 9.17 Both Small Spill and Large Spill should be selected.

Comment:

Upon inspection of this lab, it appears to not be ready for use. BSL1 bays for 4205 are A through J. None have PI's name on them. Which bays are assigned to PI? For BSL2 work, room 4207 would be used.

Currently there is no signage stating BSL2. PPE would need to be placed close to entrance with PPE disposal on the inside of room for exiting. Additionally, the door to 4207 locks automatically, so PI not having a key is causing them to prop it open all the time. This will need to be corrected prior to being used as a BSL2.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Additional Information Required

STIPULATIONS: 1. 2. Section 8.3 Please add adenoviruses
2. 3. Sections 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6, 9.7 Please add adenoviruses
3. 4. Section 9.8 Multiple human cell lines will be used. HepB vaccination should be provided to researchers by university occupational health office.
4. 1. In section 9.13, please elaborate on the containment practices that will be used with the chemical and biologicals on this protocol.
5. 5. Section 9.13 BSC should be selected, at least.
6. 6. Section 9.17 Both Small Spill and Large Spill should be selected.
7. 7. Contact Safety Services Daniel.P.Gonzales@ttuhsc.edu for proper BSL2 signage and lab inspection.
SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Additional Information Required

IBC# 26001

Full Renewal Expiration Date:

Xuemin Xu, PhD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - MTM-CoE in Neurosciences
Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

Protocol Type: Initial Application

PI Request: Use of Space: MSBI 4015

Biological Agents: Cell Lines

Chemicals: Recombinant/Synthetic Nucleic Acids, Ethidium Bromide, Acrylamide

Controlled Substances: N/A

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Hazardous Shipping & On-Campus Transport Training: Not required

Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids: Yes

Training Compliance: PI and all key personnel are current on required LSE, COI, and Financial Disclosure trainings

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

Should Recombinant/Synthetic Nucleic Acids be listed under biologicals instead of chemicals?

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

Study Application:

(1) Section 8.3. Please list adenovirus and lentivirus vectors and describe them

(2) Section 8.5 Please specify what gene fragments will be cloned into the vectors.

(3) Section 8.6 Please specify what proteins will be expressed.

(4) Section 9.2, 9.5, 9.6, 9.7. Please add: Recombinant adenovirus and lentivirus vectors, list precaution BSL2

(5) Section 9.8 Multiple human cell lines will be used in the research. HepB vaccine is recommended for all staff involved in the research. HepB vaccine is available and provided by the University Occupational Health office. 4.

Comment:

Bays 4015 look great for use. Clean and well organized.

Please update the "approved storage/use laboratory room" section on license 5.3

Bays in 4015 are K, I and J

BSL2 will be room 4007

Fridge and freezers are in 4011

For BSL2 work, room 4007 would be used. Currently there is no signage stating BSL2. PPE would need to be

placed close to entrance with PPE disposal on the inside of room for exiting. Additionally, the door to 4007 locks automatically, so PI not having a key is causing them to prop it open all the time. This will need to be corrected prior to using as a BSL2.

STIPULATIONS: 1. Section 6.2 and 6.3 remove Recombinant/Synthetic Nucleic Acids and add to sections 8.1-8.9.

2. Section 8.3: Please list adenovirus and lentivirus vectors and describe them

3. Section 8.5: Please specify what gene fragments will be cloned into the vectors.

4. Section 8.6: Please specify what proteins will be expressed.

5. Section 9.2, 9.5, 9.6, 9.7: Please add: Recombinant adenovirus and lentivirus vectors, list precaution BSL2

6. Section 9.8: Multiple human cell lines will be used in the research. HepB vaccine is recommended for all staff involved in the research. HepB vaccine is available and provided by the University Occupational Health office.

MOTION AND VOTE: The TTUHSC EP Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) reviewed the initial application at their full board meeting and determined that additional information or modifications are required.

Total Members Voting: **6** [For: **6** Absent: **0** Against: **0** Conflict of Interest: **0** Not Present: **0** Abstained: **0**]

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Additional Information Required

EXPEDITED REVIEW

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE-ANNUAL STATUS REPORTS

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE-AMENDMENTS

IBC# 10010

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 07/31/2028

Mingtao Zeng, PhD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - MTM-CoE in Infectious Diseases

Biosafety Level: BSL 2+

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

Personnel change to remove Karen G. Vega and Jeanette Orbegoza Ramirez

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 24008

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 08/24/2027

Cynthia Perry, PhD /TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Medical Education

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

Personnel change to add Rene Rangel and Dr. Mayer. COI, FD, and LSE have been completed. This protocol does not involve recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules. The license will be issued under ASR to avoid confusion for the PI.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 23001

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 09/30/2025

Nils P Nickel, MD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Internal Medicine-Texas Tech Medical Center

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

In the Study Application (version 1.3)3.2 Updated roles to have two staff assigned the role of Study Coordinators (Christina Bracamontes and Daniel De Leon), and have the rest of the staff be Laboratory Personnel

Removed America Delgado since the research protocol she was supporting ended

Added Hector Ruiz since he will be assisting the PI with a research protocol (training is complete)

5.1 Expanded the lay summary to cover the broader range of research activities requiring the handling of human biospecimens, instead of describing a specific research protocol.

5.5 Updated list of personnel able to ship materials. (training is complete for personnel shipping and transporting)

5.6 Updated list of personnel able to transport materials. (training is complete for personnel shipping and transporting)

9.5 Updated quantity of material used (the quantities mirror what was in other sections on the previous application version)

9.6 Expanded amount of material expected to be stored in the laboratory (the quantities mirror what was in other sections on the previous application version)

9.7 Updated frequency of material handling (the quantities mirror what was in other sections on the previous application version)

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 25005

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 07/31/2028

Julianna Santos/TTUHSC El Paso - SOD - School of Dentistry

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

Personnel change to add Ayse Holt, Liam Conner, Mehri Fayazi, Keyla Salas, Denisse Flores, and Yas Seifaddini COI, FD, and LSE are complete. This protocol does not involve recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

TERMINATIONS

N/A

BSO REPORT

N/A