

INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, 07/21/2026 12:01 PM
MSBII 5A116**

Chairperson

Mingtao Zeng, PhD

Board Members

Anthony W Baird, DSc
Jeana E. Barrow, DVM
Huanyu Dou, MD
Daniel Gonzales, BA
Hector Riveroll, BS

Administrative Staff

Amanda Ortiz
Myrna Arvizo

MEMBERS PRESENT
Anthony W Baird, DSc, Jeana E. Barrow, DVM, Daniel Paul Gonzales, BMS, Hector Riveroll, B.S., Mingtao Zeng, PhD
MEMBERS ABSENT
Huanyu Dou, MD
STAFF PRESENT
Myrna Arvizo, BMS, CIP, CHRC, Amanda Diazdeleon, Mireya Kosonoy
GUESTS PRESENT
Murali Bagalur Muniraju, Ph.D.

CALL TO ORDER

Mingtao Zeng, PhD called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. Quorum is 5 members. 5 members are present at the call to order, including scientific, non-scientific and non-affiliated members. 5 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 06/16/2026 was distributed for review on 07/14/2026. 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 12:41 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

3-YEAR RENEWALS

IBC# 20003

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 06/30/2026

Sireesha Reddy, MD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Obstetrics and Gynecology-Texas Tech Medical Center

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

The PI has responded to the questions of the reviewers.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

I might be missing it, but I do not see an answer to this question to the researcher in the stipulations: please clarify whether the biological materials will be processed as part of this protocol. If processing will occur, provide a description of the processing procedures and specify the location where the processing will take place.

Comment:

Dan, that question was not answered, unless I missed it as well. One additional question/comment regarding chemical precautions.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Additional Information Required

STIPULATIONS:

1. In section 5.6 please clarify whether the biological materials will be processed as part of this protocol. If processing will occur, provide a description of the processing procedures and specify the location where the processing will take place.

2. In section 9.13, what acids that generate toxic gas will be used? Please add relevant chemicals to the chemical section, or uncheck box if not relevant to this protocol.

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Additional Information Required

IBC# 20003

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 06/30/2026

Sireesha Reddy, MD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Obstetrics and Gynecology-Texas Tech Medical Center

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

PI Request: Use of Space: CSB B226, MSBII 4B506ABiological Agents: Human Blood, Human Tissue, Human Body FluidsChemicals: No chemicals requestedControlled Substances: No controlled substances requestedBiosafety Level: BSL-2Hazardous Shipping: Not requiredOn-Campus Transport Training: Not requiredRecombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids: Not involvedTraining Compliance: PI and all key personnel are current on required LSE, COI, and Financial Disclosure trainings

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

No Safety concerns with this 3 year renewal.

Comment:

Collaborative two aim study with UTEP looking at biomarkers of women's health to promote development of

TTUHSC EP IBC Meeting Minutes - 07/21/2026

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diagnostics. Unsure how much of this study is taking place at UTEP and how much is done here. Review and discuss section 9, with particular attention to infectious disease protections.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Additional Information Required

STIPULATIONS:

1. In the Study Application section 5.6. If biohazardous materials or chemical agents will be transported from another building to MSB II, please change your response to "Yes." If the response is "Yes," please identify the individual(s) who will be responsible for transporting the materials. The required On-Campus Transport training will be assigned to the identified personnel. Additionally, please clarify whether the biological materials will be processed as part of this protocol. If processing will occur, provide a description of the processing procedures and specify the location where the processing will take place.
2. In the Study Application Sections 6.1 and 9.13 appear to be inconsistent. In Section 6.1, the application indicates that no chemical materials will be used on this protocol. However, in Section 9.13, the engineering controls identify that chemicals will be weighed under a fume hood using a shielded balance. Please review these sections and revise the application, as appropriate, to ensure the responses are consistent and accurately reflect the procedures that will be performed under this protocol.
3. In the Study Application, section 9.1, the application states that the HBV, HIV, and CMV status of patient samples is unknown to the research team because the samples do not undergo testing beyond what is clinically necessary. However, Section 9.4 states that no samples will be acquired from patients whose HBV or HIV status is unknown. Please revise one or both responses so they are consistent. Specifically, clarify whether the study includes only samples from patients with known HBV/HIV status (i.e., this is an inclusion/exclusion criterion) or whether samples may be obtained regardless of infectious disease status and appropriate biosafety precautions will be implemented accordingly.

MOTION AND VOTE: The TTUHSC EP Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) reviewed the 3-year renewal at their full board meeting and determined that additional information or modifications are required prior to approval of this protocol.

Total Members Voting: **5** [For: **5** Absent: **0** Against: **0** Conflict of Interest: **0** Not Present: **0** Abstained: **0**]

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Additional Information Required

AMENDMENTS

IBC# 26006

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 02/28/2029

Mehri Fayazi/TTUHSC El Paso - SOD - School of Dentistry

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

The PI has responded to the questions of the reviewers.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

Safety good with location now established. MSB2 room 4B406 bay "D".3. Recommendations have been included in the IBC study.

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: **5** [For: **5** Absent: **0** Against: **0** Conflict of Interest: **0** Not Present: **0** Abstained: **0**]

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Approved

IBC# 26006

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 02/28/2029

Mehri Fayazi/TTUHSC El Paso - SOD - School of Dentistry

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

1. The PI requested to add Dr. Atasi Chatterjee to the IBC protocol and to modify the study to include additional cadaveric anatomical dissections and measurements. The amendment also includes collection and processing of select tissue samples for histological analysis.

On campus transport training was assigned to the PI.

Safety please ensure the lab spaces are acceptable.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

Met with researcher on 7-13-2026 to ask for missing lab space on application. During our meeting, discovered she has not been assigned a bench area in MSB2 4th floor yet. Safety must have this location for her lab work prior to approval or signing of IBC license.

7-20-26: Safety concerns have been addressed in this protocol. Exact lab space, including fume hood use, to be determined in next day or two. IBC coordinator will be advised of lab space to list on protocol.

Comment:

The following are items that must be addressed by the PI:

1. 5.5/5.6 do not clearly address the transport of samples on campus several times, and the transport off campus to UMC lab for blocking and staining.
2. 6.0 should include embalming fluids/formalin
3. 9.4 should address embalming fluids and or formalin as a chemical exposure.
4. 9.4 should also address using a hood for embalming fluids/formalin fume removal
5. 9.14 states BSL-1 and location should be clearly identified as a room with a hood.

RECOMMENDATION: Additional Information Required

STIPULATIONS:

1. In the Study Application, section 5.3 add MSBII 4B406D.
2. In the Study Application Sections 5.5 and 5.6, please review and clarify the responses regarding the transportation of biological materials. The current responses do not clearly reflect the full scope of biological material transport associated with this protocol, including on-campus transport and transport to the UMC laboratory for processing procedures. Please revise the applicable sections to ensure the transportation information is accurate and complete, including any required updates to Section 5.6 and associated training requirements.
3. In the Study Application Sections 6.1 and 9.4 regarding the use of chemical materials and associated safety precautions. The current responses indicate that no chemicals are involved; however, the use of fully embalmed cadaver specimens may involve exposure to chemical fixatives/preservatives, including formalin or embalming fluids. Please revise the applicable sections to ensure the information accurately reflects any chemical materials present, their use, and the precautions implemented to protect personnel.
4. In the Study Application section 9.14 states BSL-1 however location should be clearly identified as a room with a hood.

MOTION AND VOTE: The TTUHSC EP Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) reviewed this protocol Amendment at their full board meeting and determined that additional information or modifications are required prior to approval.

Total Members Voting: **5**

[For: **5** Absent: **0** Against: **0** Conflict of Interest: **0** Not Present: **0** Abstained: **0**]

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Additional Information Required

IBC# 26005

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 01/31/2029

Raja Veerapandian/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Molecular and Translational Medicine

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

1. The PI is requesting to incorporate MTA requirements for Candida albicans strain libraries, update human saliva collection, processing, and storage procedures, and add new cloning vectors, E. coli strains, and cell lines to support ongoing research activities.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

The PI has adequately justified the addition and amendment of this protocol. Appropriate biosafety precaution has been described. I recommend for approval.

Comment:

All safety concerns have been addressed in this amendment. No concerns from Safety Services or Biological Safety Officer.

Comment:

No comments or concerns regarding additions to protocol.

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: **5** [For: **5** Absent: **0** Against: **0** Conflict of Interest: **0** Not Present: **0** Abstained: **0**]

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Approved

INITIAL REVIEWS

N/A

EXPEDITED REVIEW

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE-ANNUAL STATUS REPORTS

IBC# 25006

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 07/31/2028

Narges Khanjani, PhD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Medical Education

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

This is an Annual Status Report. COI training is pending for the PI; a notice was sent on 5/22. This training was also completed on 5/22/2026. FD and LSE training are current for the PI and listed personnel. The study involves both on-campus transport and off-campus shipping; required shipper and on-campus transport training has been completed for personnel listed in Sections 5.5 and 5.6. The appropriate biosafety level is BSL-2. This protocol does not involve recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

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:

This is an Annual Status Report. This study does include recombinant DNA. Ms. Chen is current on hazardous shipper and on campus training. Staff listed is current on all required trainings.

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:

This is an Annual Status Report. COI, FD, and LSE are complete for the PI and staff. This study does not require shipper or on campus training. The approved biosafety lever is BSL-2. This protocol does not involve recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 18014

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 07/31/2027

Benjamin Carcamo, MD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Pediatrics-Texas Tech Medical Center

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

This is an Annual Status Report. COI, FD, and LSE are complete for the PI and staff. This study does not require shipper or on campus training. The approved biosafety lever is BSL-2. This protocol does not involve recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules. The PI has also completed question 10 in regards to the Texas Genomic Act.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

ADMINISTRATIVE-AMENDMENTS

IBC# 18014

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 07/31/2027

Benjamin Carcamo, MD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Pediatrics-Texas Tech Medical Center

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

Personnel change to remove Christina Bracamontes who's role ended on 8/31/2025 and remove Leann Rodriguez who is no longer with the Institution.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged
SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 25001
Sheldon Rao/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Internal Medicine
Biosafety Level: BSL 2

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 12/31/2027

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

The PI has updated the 130 Texas Genomic Act question. This submission does not require a new license.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged
SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 18014
Benjamin Carcamo, MD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Pediatrics-Texas Tech Medical Center
Biosafety Level: BSL 2

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 07/31/2027

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

This is an personnel change to add Karla Salazar and Paola Rojas. COI, FD, and LSE are complete for the PI and staff. Paulina Castillo and Diluma Kariyawasam were removed from the study. Christina and Leann were removed from sections 5.5 and 5.6 of the study application. This protocol does not involve recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules. The PI has also completed question 10 in regards to the Texas Genomic Act.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged
SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 24005
Dale W Quest, Ph.D., RN(NP)/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Medical Education
Biosafety Level: BSL 2

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 04/30/2027

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

This is a personnel change to add Rebecca Campos to the study. COI, Financial Disclosure (FD), and Laboratory Safety Education (LSE) requirements are complete for the PI and all study staff. Jamilla and Blake are being removed from the study, and the study summary has been updated to remove David and Blake, as they are no longer participating. This study does not require shipper or on-campus training. The approved biosafety level is BSL-2. This protocol does not involve recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules. The PI has also completed Question 10 regarding compliance with the Texas Genomic Act.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged
SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 22009

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 08/31/2028

Jeana E. Barrow, DVM/TTUHSC El Paso - OR - LARC

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

Personnel change to remove Valeria Garcia who is no longer associated with the institution. This protocol does not involve recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules. The PI has also completed question 10 in regards to the Texas Genomic Act.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 20003

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 06/30/2026

Sireesha Reddy, MD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Obstetrics and Gynecology-Texas Tech Medical Center

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

The PI is requesting to add Erin Portillo and remove Kate Olivas-Cardiel and Pallavi Dubey from the protocol. Protocol 26008 has been terminated, and all previously approved biological materials have been consolidated into this protocol. No new biological materials or procedures are being introduced as part of this amendment.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 25006

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 07/31/2028

Narges Khanjani, PhD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Medical Education

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

Personnel change to add Faith Holliman. COI, FD, and LSE are complete. Pedro Martinez is being removed from the protocol. This protocol does not involve recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 20003

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 06/30/2026

Sireesha Reddy, MD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Obstetrics and Gynecology-Texas Tech Medical Center

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

The PI previously submitted a personnel change with an amendment and the personnel change was not reflected in application version 1.8. This submission does not require a revised license.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

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 is requesting the addition of Jesus Guerrero, D'Anise Amaya Chavez, and Jose Emilio Lafon. COI, FD, and LSE are complete. The PI is also requesting the removal of Alexandra Marquez, Griselda Sainz, Karen Vega, and Paul Tony. Dr. Singh transferred the saliva samples from IBC study to study 22008. The two studies were listed as collaborators, and each study included the other as a collaborating study.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

TERMINATIONS

IBC#

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 08/31/2028

Shilpa Singh, DDS BDS MS/TTUHSC El Paso - SOD - School of Dentistry

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

The PI left the institution. Samples were transferred to Dr. Kumar's IBC protocol since he is also listed on this one. Protocol is being inactivated.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 26008

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 03/31/2029

Sireesha Reddy, MD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Obstetrics and Gynecology-Texas Tech Medical Center

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

This protocol 26008 is being consolidated with protocol 20003 which also belongs to Dr. Reddy.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Acknowledged

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Administratively Acknowledged

IBC# 22007

Full Renewal Expiration Date: 07/31/2028

Pallavi Dubey, PhD/TTUHSC El Paso - SOM - Obstetrics and Gynecology-Texas Tech Medical Center

Biosafety Level: BSL 2

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT:

Comment:

On 6/11/2026, the PI notified the IBC Chair via email that the last day with the Institution will be 6/15/2026. The protocol is being terminated. Safety has been assigned to conduct an inspection of the laboratory space.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Comment:

This lab space in MSB2 is clean with minimal equipment on bench. While inspecting, asked if it was going to be used by another researcher, but this information is unknown at this time. No biologicals or chemicals left in this lab. Lab left in clean organized manner with not hazards left behind. Safety and BSO have no concerns with now vacant lab.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Approve

SUBMISSION OUTCOME: Approved

BSO REPORT

There were no major deficiencies presented during the Biosafety Report.