

Loyola University Chicago Health Sciences Campus (LUCHSC) Institutional Biosafety Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: 7/29/2025 11:30 AM

Called to Order: 11:30 AM

Location: 2160 S. 1st Ave Bldg 115 Maywood, IL 60153

IBC Members

Please see the NIH Office of Science Policy Registration Management System for official Committee Members' roles.

Name	Committee Role	Attendance
Tom Gallagher	Chair	Present
Matthew Hejna	Director	Present
Maurizio Bocchetta	Member	Excused
Abby Kroken	Member	Present
Dave Barefield	Member	Present
James Migliorisi	Member	Present
Mike Nishimura	Present	Present
Cynthia Tom	Member	Present
Farshid Azarafrooz	Member	Excused
Stuart Johnson	Member	Excused

Registrations for Protocol Review

Principal Investigator	Submission Type
Karen Visick	New Protocol (Full Committee Review)
Abby Kroken	Amendment
Susan Baker	New Protocol (Designated Member review)

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Previous Meeting Date: 4/29/25

Determination: Approve

Comments: Nishimura made a motion to approve the minutes. Barefield seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously supported the motion.

I. New Category III-D

Lab Documentation and Training: All labs are required to have and maintain a current Laboratory Safety Plan, of which the Schedule G is a part, describing their lab space and any hazardous materials therein, and personnel must complete assigned safety trainings prior to conducting research described in the Schedule G. PIs are responsible for specific biosafety training procedures that are applicable to their grants and experiments.

1) VISICK, K. Title: Impacts of rising ocean temperatures on Vibrio abundance and biofilm formation

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Purpose: The proposed work will evaluate biofilm formation (a multi-cellular community of

bacteria) by four bacteria species: They will assess a variety of isolates sampled from marine environments and/or obtained from human or coral infections. For a subset of strains, we will perform genetic manipulations to knock-down or knock-out genes suspected to be important for biofilm formation.

Committee Comments: Protocol was assigned to Designated Member Review. Submitter will need to provide more information on antibiotic resistance as well as address use of plastic instead of glass for culturing safety.

Status: Designated member review for August Meeting (Vote 4-0-0)

2) KROKEN, A. Title: Suppression of host inflammasome activation by ocular pathogens

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Purpose: The research proposed aims to address mechanisms by which bacterial pathogens cause vision-threatening infections to the eye's cornea. Outcomes of this research will identify pathogenic mechanisms that can be targeted as therapies and yield discoveries on how the eye defends itself from infection.

Committee Comments: New strain added, personnel updated, all procedures remain constant from previously approved protocol

Status: Amendment Approved 7/29/25 (Vote 5-0-0)

3)BAKER, S. IBC for Investigating Interferon Antagonists in Delaying Innate Immune Responses to SARS-CoV2

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Purpose: This revised IBC application requests permission to study the replication of attenuated CoV-2 in cultured cells. This application is associated with our active NIH grant

Committee Comments: All comments from April Meeting review have been addressed

Status: Protocol Approved 4/30/25 (Vote 5-0-0)

II. Old Business- Discussion

No Items

III. New Business- Discussion

- 1. NIH-OBA has mandated that IBC meeting minutes must be posted for public access starting June 1, 2025.**

IV. Next IBC Meeting

08/26/2025

V. Meeting adjourned at 12:22 PM