

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

Date: 9/29/2025 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	Present
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
K. Hullahalli	Resubmission (Full Committee review)
A. Abston	New Submission (Full Committee review)

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Previous Meeting Date: 8/26/25

Determination: Approve

Comments: Gallagher made a motion to approve the minutes. Kroken 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) HULLAHALLI, K. Title: Suppression of host inflammasome activation by ocular pathogens

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Purpose: This project aims to understand how bacterial pathogens cause disease and how the immune system interacts with invading microbes. Biohazardous agents will be used to model and modulate the host-pathogen interface.

Committee Comments: Application much improved but submitter will need to provide a more descriptive abstract; describe how the work will be completed; provide the purpose of the research; describe the bacterial studies. Please stress no gain of function research is involved.

Status: Full Committee Review for 9/30/25 meeting (Vote 7-0-0)

2) ABSTON, A. Title: Stem cell derived models of viral infection

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Purpose: This project aims to understand how viruses interact with human cells, what genes are involved in the process, and how cells respond to infection.

Committee Comments: Application well written. Minor corrections needed, expand on personnel duties and experience. Please stress no gain of function research is involved.

Status: Designated Member Review (Vote 7-0-0)

II. Old Business- Discussion

No Items

III. New Business- Discussion

No items

IV. Next IBC Meeting

010/30/2025

V. Meeting adjourned at 12:22 PM