



Institutional Biosafety Committee  
Serving the University of Vermont

RESEARCH PROTECTIONS OFFICE  
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[www.uvm.edu/rpo](http://www.uvm.edu/rpo)

**IBC Meeting Minutes**  
Institutional Biosafety Committee  
Hybrid – MedEd 203 and Online  
8/19/2025 1:00 PM

### MEETING TIME RECORDS

**Called to Order:** 1:01 PM  
**Meeting Adjourned:** 2:24 PM

### MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Name of Regular/Alternate Member	Status (Member or Alternate)	Substituting For
Sean Diehl	Member, Chair	
Robert Kelm	Member, Associate Chair	
Paul Held (V)	Member	
Jon Ramsey	Member	
Emily Bruce	Member	
Joshua Woolsey	Alternate	N/A
Karen Oppenheimer	Member	
Ida Washington Durkin (V)	Member	
Jason Botten	Member	
Leigh Knodler	Member	
Joyce Oetjen	Alternate	Christopher Huston
Sherri Evans	Alternate	N/A

IBC Staff Present: Linda Mei and Abbey Dattilio

(V)=Virtual Attendance

### MEMBER NOTES

Dr. Botten joined the meeting at 1:02 PM.  
Dr. Oetjen joined the meeting at 1:06 PM.  
Dr. Knodler left the meeting at 2:23 PM.

### QUORUM INFORMATION

**Number of IBC members on the roster:** 12

**Number required for quorum:** 7

### **OTHER INDIVIDUALS IN ATTENDANCE**

Karolyn Lahue (V) (OACM) joined the meeting at 1:01 PM and left the meeting at 1:59 PM.

Francis Churchill (V) (EH&S) joined the meeting at 1:34 PM.

### **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

At 1:02 PM, there was consideration of the minutes from the July 15, 2025 meeting. Apart from a minor grammatical error, there was a motion to approve by Member Kelm and Member Ramsey (9, 0, 0).

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Committee members with a conflict of interest related to the review of a specific registration or registration amendment may not be involved in the review or approval of a project in which he or she has been or expects to be engaged or has a direct financial interest.

Dr. Bruce abstained from voting during the vote of her amendment (AMEND202500077).

### **REVIEW OF PRIOR AND ONGOING IBC BUSINESS**

#### **Research Protections Office:**

BSL-2 laboratory inspections will begin this fall, and a notice of when different laboratories will be scheduled will be sent to the investigators.

#### **Environmental Health and Safety:**

Members of the biosafety team were absent from this meeting.

### **NEW IBC REGISTRATIONS AND AMENDMENTS FOR REVIEW**

#### **1. Review of REG202500008**

Title:	McCreery Lab
Investigator:	Kaitlin McCreery
Submission ID	REG202500008
Funding:	Internal Funding

#### **Committee Discussion:**

This new protocol combines computational modeling, advanced imaging, stem cell culture, and biomaterials development to understand the assembly and regeneration of tissues for regenerative medicine. The Committee required additional details to be included in the registration and SOP to reflect appropriate waste management and decontamination methods, whether UVM Core Facilities will be used, and additional details on the compression device used with the BSL-2 agents. The required

online training will need to be completed by the key personnel and the additional biosafety comments following the on-site visit will need to be incorporated and addressed. The following will be communicated to the investigator:

- Please confirm if UVM Core Facilities will be used.
- Please update the waste management to remove mention of using an autoclave and instead include the use of bleach.
- Please confirm if the boxed waste system will be used and if so, incorporate the language for waste pickup.
- Please update the SOPs with the comments from the biosafety officer.
- Please have all personnel listed in the registration take the required CITI OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens training.
- Please review the comments from the biosafety officer following the on-site biosafety risk assessment. Please incorporate the relevant clarifications in the registration and SOP.

**Motion:** Modifications required

**Biosafety Containment Level:** BSL-2

**NIH Guidelines Section:** Section III-D and Section III-D-1-a

**Training:** All personnel listed will need to take the CITI OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens training.

**Additional Safety Requirements:** A site visit by the biosafety officer has been completed. The Committee requested additional clarifications on whether UVM Core Facilities will be used and if so, how transport of materials will be handled. Ancillary reviews for the Core Facilities will also need to be assigned and completed. If the boxed waste system will be utilized, the investigator must contact EHS for waste pickup from Votey.

**Votes:**

<b>For:</b>	10
<b>Against:</b>	0
<b>Recused:</b>	0
<b>Abstained:</b>	0

**Vote Comments/Conflicts of Interest:**

Dr. Oetjen voted in place of Dr. Huston.

## 2. Review of AMEND202500077

Title:	Amendment for REG202100008
Investigator:	Emily Bruce
Submission ID	AMEND202500077
Funding:	National Institutes of Health/NIH; Natl Inst Gen Medical Sciences/NIGMS/NIH; National Institutes of Health/NIH

### **Committee Discussion:**

This amendment proposes three changes to Dr. Bruce's existing registration for work with influenza and SARS-CoV-2. The main changes include: 1) addition of a set of pseudotyped-VSV viruses incorporating a range of SARS-CoV-2 glycoproteins to assess effects on in vitro cell entry; 2) moving SARS-CoV-2 stocks and work from the BSL3 facility to her laboratory in Stafford Hall with plans to work with BSL2 practices in accordance with the recent changes in classification by NIH; and 3) addition of a newly funded NIAID R21 grant that focuses on the functional consequences of a naturally occurring G215C mutation in the viral nucleocapsid.

Following the designated reviewer's presentation of this amendment, the Committee discussed and concluded that a biosafety consultation with focused risk assessment is needed for the proposed transition of materials from a BSL-3 to a BSL-2 laboratory. The scope of this focused risk assessment and logistics consultation is to document procedural or experimental evidence to avoid cross contamination of known RG-3 agents/materials with the RG-2 agents/materials to be moved to the BSL-2 lab, to ensure adherence to appropriate transportation of the materials, and to incorporate appropriate decommissioning and handling requirements. The Committee expects this focused risk assessment be completed and submitted by the biosafety officer (BSO) within 30 days of the memo to the investigator. In the event the BSO is unable to submit this within 30 days, the investigator will be allowed to submit their own focused risk assessment to address the comments from the Committee. The following will be communicated to the investigator:

- Please contact the BSO to coordinate a risk assessment to address all the concerns discussed by the Committee.
- Please clarify if the new virus being added is C215G N delta, or if it is a wild type delta virus.

As other investigators in the BSL-3 laboratory may also need to utilize this process, the Committee discussed whether an established process has already been established by the biosafety team. It was determined that no such process exists, however it was concluded that a standard process would not be practical, as these situations are complex and multi-variate, and are best addressed on an individual situation-specific basis. The BSO shall be involved in this process directly with the investigators as needed.

**Motion:** Modifications required. Following resubmission of the amendment, it would undergo expedited designated member review by the original reviewers.

**Biosafety Containment Level:** BSL-2

**NIH Guidelines Section:** Section III-D and Section III-E-1

**Training:** All required IBC trainings have been completed by personnel.

**Additional Safety Requirements:** A focused risk assessment by the biosafety officer will be completed within 30 days of the memo to the investigator.

**Votes:**

<b>For:</b>	9
<b>Against:</b>	0
<b>Recused:</b>	0
<b>Abstained:</b>	1

**Vote Comments/Conflicts of Interest:**

Dr. Bruce abstained from voting. Dr. Oetjen voted in place of Dr. Huston.

## REVIEW OF INCIDENTS

None.

## REVIEW OF NONCOMPLIANCE

None.

## COMPLETED INSPECTIONS SINCE LAST MEETING

None.