

**Institutional Biosafety
Committee Minutes
March 19, 2026
Zoom Meeting 1:30 pm**

Members Present

Bertram Jacobs
Giorgio Scarpellini
Drew Solomon
Hugh Mason
Chris Plaisier
Matthew Scotch
Mitch Magee
Valerie Stout
Yixin Shi
Kathleen Kennedy
Al Jensen

Affiliated Participants

Sarah Hurd
Karen Stevenson
Suzanne Kennedy
Anne Nelson

Visitors Present

Qiang Chen
Delaram Tamjid
Hamed Arami

Supporting Participants

Bree Prinzhorn
Kristy Macdonald

Institutional Official

Deb Murphy

Note: This meeting was conducted via Zoom. Meeting Format: Open meeting

Call to Order: The IBC Chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm and a quorum was confirmed. Introductions were made.

Minutes

The meeting minutes from February 12, 2026, were reviewed by the committee. A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded.

Total Vote: 11 Approved: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Recused: 0

Conflicts of Interest

The IBC Chair called for conflicts. No conflicts were reported.

Disclosures for Committee Review:

Chen, Qiang SPROTO2026-14 (BSL2 Renewal)

Chen Antibody

Primary Reviewer: Mitch Magee

The PI provided an overview of the disclosure and responded to questions posed by the committee members. The lab is conducting research on potential therapeutics for human vaccines. The following changes were administratively made to the disclosure:

- Deleted one sentence in the summary section on the Basic Information page.
- Changed one material to BSL 2.

The committee requested the following items be completed to secure approval of the disclosure:

- Coordinate with EHS to complete a lab inspection.

Discussion confirmed that Biosafety Level 2 precautions, training, and personal protective equipment are appropriate as proposed. Based on committee discussion, the NIH Guidelines classification for this disclosure was determined to be sections III-D, III-D-2, III-D-2-a, III-D-3, III-D-3-a, III-D-5, III-E, III-E-2, III-E-2-a, III-F-1, and III-F-8, Appendices C-I and C-II. A motion was made to appoint a Designated Reviewer to ensure the changes requested by the committee are made. The motion was seconded.

Total Vote: 11 Approved: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Recused: 0

Arami SPROTO2026-16 (BSL2 Renewal)

Agents for Brain Research

Primary Reviewer: Matthew Scotch

The PI provided an overview of the disclosure and responded to questions posed by the committee members. The lab is conducting research on patient-derived brain tumor cell lines. The following changes were administratively made to the disclosure:

- Added E. coli to Question 8 on the Recombinant Work Description page.

The committee requested the following items be completed to secure approval of the disclosure:

- Coordinate with EHS to complete a lab inspection.

Discussion confirmed that Biosafety Level 2 precautions, training, and personal protective equipment are appropriate as proposed. Based on committee discussion, the NIH Guidelines classification for this disclosure was determined to be sections III-D, III-D-4, III-D-4-a, III-D-4-b, III-F-1, and III-F-8, Appendices C-I, C-II, and C-VII. A motion was made to appoint a Designated Reviewer to ensure the changes requested by the committee are made. The motion was seconded.

Total Vote: 11 Approved: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Recused: 0

Additional Business:

Consent Agenda

The committee reviewed and acknowledged the consent agenda.

1. Biosafety Officer's Report

The Biosafety Officer informed the committee of updates that are currently being made to EHS policies. The committee can review all policies on the EHS website.

2. Vaccine Discussion

The committee was informed of a lab member who was administered a routine vaccine that is required for their lab work. The lab member suffered from an allergic reaction to the vaccine. The PI and lab member have agreed to test the lab member for neutralizing antibodies in two years to see if immunity still exists. Further discussions will be held at a later date.

3. Education Item: NIH pivots away from agency-directed science

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm. The next IBC Meeting will be held on April 9, 2026 at 1:30 pm.