



**The University of Western Ontario
Biohazards Subcommittee Meeting**

Minutes of January 21st 2011
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., SSB 5104

Present: Dr. J. Millar (Chair), Dr. S. Barr, Dr. G. Dekaban, Dr. T. deLangley, Dr. S. Siu, J. Stanley, E. Gray (OH&S Intern)

Regrets: Dr. S. Koval

1.0 Introductions

None needed. The date on the agenda for this meeting should be January 21st (not the 14th).

2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.1 Biohazard Subcommittee Meeting - December 10, 2010

Approved with changes: Dr. Barr was not the seconder, Dr. Siu was.

2.2 Vaccinia Meeting – November 26, 2010

Approved: No issues.

3.0 Biological Agents Registry Forms

3.1 Foster, P. (Modification only)

Approved: A modification to her Animal Use Subcommittee Protocol will need to be done before the in vivo work is done (level 2+).

3.2 Singh, B.

(Re-visit)

Tabled: Form should read “bone marrow” instead of “boon marrow”. It should be recommended that the Staphylococcal enterotoxin B be stored in different locations as they plan to store an amount much greater than one lethal dose. It should be purchased in smaller amounts. If it cannot, an administrative procedure should be put in to place so that a weekly log check occurs to ensure no toxin is missing. There is no indication of what the synovial tissue is going to be used for.

3.3 Madrenas, J.

(Modification only)

Approved: No issues.

3.4 Percival-Smith, A.

Tabled: The form is missing a significant amount of information from sections 7, 8, 10 and 11. The Committee requires information on the gene(s) transfected and their function(s) in table 4.2. The Committee would like clarification on the insect containment.

3.5 Dekoter, R.

(Modification only)

Approved: No issues.

3.6 Shepherd, T.

Tabled: Three of these genes are oncogenes or proto-oncogenes. Section 4.4 needs to be updated to reflect E1A. The form does not indicate what the Myxoma virus is being used for.

3.7 Dick, F.

(Re-visit)

Approved: Section 4.4 should reflect the fact that he is using HeLa cells.

3.8 Deroo, B.

(Re-visit)

Tabled: Table 3.2 does not indicate that human organs are level 2. Section 8 of the Biological Agents Registry Form template should be edited to include hormones. She should include the hormones in section 8.

3.9 Peng, T.

(Re-visit)

Approved: RelA and Sirt-1 are proto-oncogenes. Section 4.7 should indicate that his containment level will be increasing. This work should be done at level 2+. J. Stanley will inform G. Ryder on this requirement.

3.10 Bassi, A. and Dennis, B. (Re-visit)

Approved: The Biological Agents Registry Form template should have a place to indicate the student lab course code. Section 13 should indicate that the containment level is level 1.

3.11 Sims, S. (Re-visit)

Approved: Pending what the T-antigen is being used for. Section 4.4 should indicate the use of T-antigen.

3.12 Khan, Z.

Tabled: The form is missing a significant amount of information.

3.13 Torchia, J. (Re-visit)

Tabled: It is unclear what the animals are being used for. He is working with adenovirus so questions 4.5 - 4.8 should be updated accordingly. Question 4.4 needs to reflect their use of HeLa cells/ E1A.

3.14 Rugar, T.

Approved: The Committee would like to see a connection to the Biological Agents Registry Form number that he refers to.

3.15 Margaritis, A.

Tabled: The form does not contain a research summary. Table 1.2 should be completed properly. The form should be sent back and he should be asked to fill it out properly.

3.16 Reid, G. (Re-visit)

Tabled: For review by Dr. S. Koval. Notes per e-mail from Dr. S. Koval, January 25, 2011: Section 1.2 needs revising. E.coli dH5alpha should be listed in Table 1.2. A list of all Lactobacillus species is required. ATCC information should be provided for Atopobium, Enterococcus and Gardnerella.

3.17 Hammond, J. (Re-visit)

Approved: Section 4.4 needs to acknowledge the use of HEK cells and E1A oncogene.

3.18 Hamilton, D. W. (Re-visit)

Tabled: The Committee did not have access to the form as it was not posted on the webpage.

3.19 Lee, T.L. and Hoffman, L.

Tabled: Section 1.2 is not complete. Section 4.4 should acknowledge the use of HEK and E1A oncogene. Section 4.6 should say 'yes'. It remains unclear what agent they are using in animals (section 6.0).

3.20 Li, S. (Re-visit)

Approved: The Committee had a difficult time reading the MSDS'. Section 4.4 should reflect the use of HEK cells.

3.21 Semenikhin, O.

Tabled: The form is missing a significant amount of information. Section 1.2 is incomplete. The form does not indicate that work is being done with plasmids and vectors although it states he is transfecting. It is unclear whether he is approved for level 2 containment. P53 needs to be acknowledged as an oncogene.

Last Minute Additions

Tabled: The Committee did not have time to review items 3.22 – 3.26.

3.22 Possmayer, F.

3.23 Rogan, P. (Modification only)

3.24 O’Gorman, D. and Gan, B.S.

3.25 Grbic, M.

3.26 Others?

4.0 Vaccinia Project Update

4.1 Standard Operating Procedures (SDRI Room 233)

The Committee is fine with graduate students working on this study. J. Stanley reviewed the SOP and has identified spelling errors. The SOP also says “biological containment unit cages” but they will be using microisolator cages. All projects are scheduled to take less than 2 weeks. The cages can go for two weeks without being changed. If animal care is required, Melissa Pickering or Dr. deLangley will provide it. Dr. Dekaban also offered to help in an emergency situation. Dr. Haeryfar or his staff will be responsible for taking the animals out of the biological safety cabinet, they will bag the cage, and they will take it to the autoclave. Minor details about dirty cage transfers and labeling will need to be worked out between ACSV and the lab.

In the case of an exposure, Dr. Siu would like a copy of the incident/accident reports sent to workplace health as well. Accident/ incident reports should be immediately sent to Kristine Brown. The Haeryfar lab should also be encouraged to use safe needles wherever possible.

**4.2 Level 3 Access: Dr. S.M. Mansour Haeryfar
Delfinia Mazzura Siroen
Martha Harding**

Approved: Pending approval by Campus Police and Workplace Health.

4.3 Medical Surveillance

Dr. Siu indicated that two individuals will be receiving the vaccine.

5.0 Biotron Level 3

**5.1 Biotron Level 3 Access: Dr. Stephen Barr
Jenna Kelly
Li (Sherry) Xu
Matthew Woods
Clayton Hattlmann
Steven Bartlett (Biotron)
Carrie Hay (Biotron)**

Approved: Dr. Stephen Barr, Jenna Kelly, Li (Sherry) Xu, Matthew Woods, Clayton Hattlmann. The Committee had no issues with transferring the Level 3 approvals from the DSB to the Biotron Level 3 units.

The Committee believes that Carrie Hay and Steve Bartlett do not have sufficient training to be granted access to the entire level 3 facility. They will not be approved unless they go through a hands-on training program. They can be approved to have access to the common areas but are restricted from entering the actual labs until they have experience and/or have taken Level 3 training from the Public Health Agency of Canada.

5.2 Update to Level 3 Access Form

Approved: No issues.

5.3 Biotron Medical Procedures

Dr. Siu will review and let J. Stanley know of any changes by e-mail.

5.4 Other Issues?

The Committee discussed the idea of doing animal work in the Biotron. Dr. T. deLangley indicated that it would require an inspection from multiple agencies including OMAFRA and the CCAC. It would cost \$250 for registration.

6.0 Medical Surveillance Update for Level 3

The final draft of the needle stick injury protocol has been completed and sent to Dr. Michael John from Infection Control at University Hospital for peer review. Dr. Siu will have the document ready for the Committee by the next Biohazards Subcommittee meeting. It is required for the Level 3 shutdown training in March.

7.0 Update on Dr. H-B Kraatz Project (Stiller Centre)

This Committee has no jurisdiction over the Stiller Centre. It is not within the Committees mandate to review this project. Dr. Millar sent a letter to Dr. Kraatz to address this.

8.0 Update on Dr. R. Menon Project

The Committee will include a statement in Dr. Menon's Biological Agents Registry Form saying that there are no additional biohazards involved in this project other than the fact that the non-human primates he is using are level 2 and have zoonotic potential. Dr. T deLangley and Dr. G. Debakan will complete the form. Filling this information in for him is something the Committee severely objects to but they recognize that it is the only way to resolve the issue at this point in time. Dr. Millar will write a letter to Dr. Ted Hewitt, the Dean (Dr. Strong) and the Acting Chair of Medical Biophysics (Dr. Bartha) stating that the issue has been solved under great protest.

Because of this issue, Dr. T. deLangley will modify the Animal Use Subcommittee Protocol. If a PI signs an AUP saying they are only working with live non-human primates and no other biohazards, the AUP they sign will be used to create a biosafety approval number.

9.0 Update on Dr. P. Krishna Project

J. Stanley has sent the form back and asked for more information. This project is tabled until the Committee sees the complete Biological Agents Registry Form. Since the Committee does not feel conformable addressing this form, Dr. Cam Donly from Agriculture Canada can be contacted to review it by e-mail or attend the next committee meeting.

10. Other Business

10.1 Incomplete Forms

Biological Agents Registry Forms missing a significant amount of information should be sent back to the researcher before coming to the Committee for review.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.