



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

Minutes of December 10, 2010
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., SSB 5189

Present: Dr. J. Millar (Chair), Dr. S. Koval, Dr. S. Siu, R. Noseworthy (for Dr. G. Dekaban), J. Stanley, E. Gray (OH&S Intern)

Regrets: Dr. S. Barr, Dr. G. Dekaban, Dr. T. deLangley

1.0 Introductions

None needed.

2.0 Approval of Minutes – November 12, 2010

Approved: Item 3.1 should read ‘not a current list of personnel for the Fall of 2010’. Item 3.6 should include a note about the use of bleach instead of autoclaving. Item 5.0 should say ‘HIV blood test’ instead of ‘HIV negative’. The last paragraph of item 5.0 on waste should specify that the waste to be incinerated is from the in vivo experiments. Also, item 5.0 should say ‘Michelle from Dr. Colby’s office’ instead of from Dr. Sui’s office.

Motion: Dr. Koval

Seconded: Dr. Siu

3.0 Biohazardous Agents Registry Forms

3.1 Peng, T. (Re-visit)

Tabled: E.coli in section 1.2 should not be listed as pathogenic. Section 4.3 is still missing a description of the changes. Section 4.4 should be modified as RelA is also an oncogene and SIRT1 also has oncogenic potential per the Viral Vector Policy. The containment level should be level 2+. Section 2.2 suggests that they will be using rodent hearts but section 6.1 does not reflect this. The committee wondered whether the lab already has the viruses and if it was brought in without an import permit.

3.2 Luke, P.

Approved: The name of the animal (mouse) being used should accompany the strain names in section 6.2. The immunoprophylaxis program should be removed from section 14.3. Section 2.4 should be Level 1.

3.3 Leask, A. (Modification only)

Approved: Include a statement saying they are not making lentivirus.

3.4 Kiernan, J.A.

Approved: No issues.

3.5 Kraatz, H-B.

Tabled: It is unclear who the Biosafety Officer is for the Stiller Centre and whether or not the University has oversight for this location. This is to be clarified with Dr. Ted Hewitt.

3.6 O’Gorman, D. and Gan, B.S (Re-visit)

Tabled: Section 4.2. should say E.coli DH5alpha. Lentivirus under section 1.2 should be marked as 2+. The form states that they are using lentivirus but it is unclear what cells he is propagating the virus in.

3.7 Li, S. (Re-visit)

Tabled: Section 4.2 or 4.3 needs to be completed. NALK is a known oncogene. It is unclear whether they are using viruses or plasmids.

3.8 Krishna, P.

Tabled: Section 1.2 is incomplete. The response to section 11 suggests that she is in violation of federal law. The committee needs to send a letter to the Chair of the Biology department (Mark Bernards) to express this as a serious issue.

3.9 Semenikhin, O.

Tabled: siRNA should not be listed as a biological agent in section 1.2. The research summary does not give a good indication of what is being done with the siRNA. Section 4.2 is incorrect as siRNA is not a plasmid.

3.10 Gros, R. (Modification only)

Approved: No issues.

3.11 MacDonald, J. (Modification only)

Approved: No issues.

3.12 Santyr, G

Approved: No issues.

3.13 Deroo, B.

Tabled: E.coli DH5alpha listed in section 1.2 should not be listed as a human pathogen, animal pathogen or zoonotic agent. The changes that will result from transfection or transformation are not listed in table 4.1.

3.14 Chakrabarti, S. (Re-visit)

Approved: All work with adenovirus and MEK5 constructs are to be done at level 2+. The committee decided that all oncogene virus work will be dealt with at a minimum containment level of 2+. Dr. Dekaban will amend the Viral Vector Policy to reflect this change.

3.15 Ling, H. (Re-visit)

Approved: Information about transformation on description page should be stated in section 4.2.

3.16 Belliveau, D.

Tabled: Information for adenovirus in section 1.2 is incorrect. Section 4.2 should say E.coli. Unclear what cells will be used to produce viral stocks. No MSDS' were included for adenovirus or retroviral vectors. It is unclear the exact retrovirus he is using. Page two should say luria broth not lauria broth and E. coli bacteria not E. colii.

3.17 Karmazyn, M.

Approved: Containment level 1 should be checked in section 2.4.

3.18 Hamilton, D.

Tabled: Unclear whether the samples in table 3.2 are fixed or fresh frozen. It should be recommended that cycloheximide be stored in two separate locations because the storage amount is more than one lethal dose. Several minor mistakes should be changed: cells are not expanded in the use of ampicillin, they are grown; centigrade should be listed after stating a temperature. It is unclear what change results from the transfection of the gene.

3.19 Creuzenet, C

Approved: No issues.

3.20 Huff, M

Approved: No issues.

3.21 Feng, Q.

Tabled: Adenovirus should be listed as level 2 not level 1. The form does not give enough information on the lentivirus being used. No information on import permit(s) was included in section 11 although it states he has materials from the US. It is unclear what genes are going into the adenovirus. The form is not signed.

3.22 Hammond, J.

Tabled: The form does not contain a project description.

Last Minute Additions

3.23 Others?

None.

4.0 Medical Surveillance Updates

4.1 Vaccinia Medical Surveillance

Dr. Haeryfar now has the form that needs to be completed and forwarded to Dr. Colby. Dr. Colby will send the completed form to the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). Once this happens PHAC will release the vaccine. An information session is being held on December 14th from 9 am -11 am. ACVS, the Haeryfar lab and Health and Safety personnel are invited to attend this session.

4.2 Level 3 Medical Surveillance

Dr. Siu handed out a flow chart. He told the committee he would like this to be implemented by the new year. If someone has an exposure between the hours of 8 am – 5 pm a treatment dose will be on hand. This program is for staff only. The program is still to be reviewed by Michael Johnson. Dr. Siu will update the Committee at the next meeting.

5.0 Other Business

(J. Millar)

5.1 Incomplete Forms

J. Stanley would like help from Dr. Millar to ensure all forms that need to be renewed are completed because of the Tricouncil Audit coming up in February.

6.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 11:19 am.