



The University of Western Ontario
Biohazards Subcommittee Meeting

Minutes of March 16th, 2012
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., SSB 4220

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

Regrets: Dr. I. Welch

1.0 Introductions

None needed.

2.0 Approval of Minutes – February 10th, 2012

Motioned: Dr. S. Koval

Seconded: Dr. T. deLangley

Amendment: The minutes should say Nur Rahman not “Rehman”. The Valvano protocol needs a table with the list of plasmids.

3.0 Biological Agents Registry Forms

3.1 Seguin, C.

Approved: The Researcher says she is working with mouse intervertebral discs but Section 7.0 is marked “No”. Section 7.0 should be completed. Waste should be bleached or autoclaved.

3.2 Wang, A.

Approved: The form should go to Agriculture Canada for review. The two viruses used should be spelled out. The form gives the impression that the researcher is making libraries but there are no bacteria or plasmids listed anywhere in the form. The description is too brief and there are spelling and grammar mistakes throughout the form. The part of the storage description that says the bacteria “may be stored at -80°C” should be changed.

3.3 Sandig, M.

Approved: There is no funding listed on the protocol so this needs to be clarified. Section 7.0 should be clarified and AUP numbers should be listed if necessary.

3.4 Bernards, M. (Revisit, November 2011)

Approved: Will be reviewed by Dr. S. Koval after the meeting.

E-mail from Dr. Koval (March 19, 2012): The revised version is well-written and clearly explains what the lab intends to do/does with bacteria and fungi.

3.5 Zhang, J. (Revisit, August 2011)

Approved: The form should specify the disinfectant used for contaminated items.

3.6 Kidder, G.

Tabled: Section 4.3.1 should say "Yes". Question 4.3.3 should say "No". Section 5.0 should say "Yes" for oncogenes such as E1A. The additional comment in Section 5.0 is incorrect as the virus is replication defective.

3.7 Lagugne- Labarthe, F.

Approved: No issues.

3.8 Hill, D.

Approved: No issues.

3.9 Prado, V.

Approved: The e-mail addresses of personnel should be UWO ones. In Section 1.2 the full scientific name must be listed for *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. Section 4.2 should say "See attached" to avoid confusion.

3.10 Prado, M.

Approved: The e-mail addresses of personnel must be UWO ones. In Section 1.2 the full scientific name must be listed for *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. Section 4.2 should say "See attached" to avoid confusion.

3.11 Rogan, P.

Approved: In Section 5.0 E1A oncogene and SV 40 Large T Antigen should be marked “Yes”.

3.12 Dekoter, R.

Approved: All personnel e-mail addresses must be UWO e-mail addresses. The Researcher should provide the containment level for the cell lines in the form. Oncogenes need to be listed in Section 5.0. The form is approved under the restriction that only ecotropic viruses will be used. If there will be any change in the tropism of the retroviral vector the work will need higher containment (i.e. Level 3) per the Public Health Agency of Canada regulations.

3.13 Laird, D. (Modification)

Approved: Level 1 is adequate for the new plasmid.

3.14 Schild-Poulter, C. (Modification)

Approved: No issues.

3.15 Rupar, C. (Modification)

Approved: No issues.

3.16 Fenton, B. (Revisit, November 2011)

Approved: Several locations are included on the Animal Use Protocol, including Ontario. Fit-tested N95 masks and glasses need to be worn in the field. Appropriate gloves must be worn when handling guano. Dr. S. Siu will make sure all staff is vaccinated.

Last Minute Additions

3.17 Others?

None.

4. Letter for Dr. Torchia (J. Millar, J. Stanley)

In January, Dr. S. Barr sent an e-mail to Dr. Torchia outlining the changes that the Researcher needs to make on his form. There is no update as of yet.

5. Biological Agents Registry Form (J. Stanley)

The name of the University should be changed on the form. Capitals should be used to distinguish revisits. Forms must only be submitted

electronically and this should be highlighted on the form. In the personnel section specify "UWO e-mail address only". The order of some of the sections has been changed. Containment levels are added to Section 8.0. Amphibians were added to Section 9.0. Health Canada was changed to PHAC in Section 14.1. The instructions asking the Researchers to please proceed to the next section must be changed to reflect the changes in the numbering of the sections.

6. Sheep Unit Supply of Virobac (T. deLangley)

For the past 5 years ACVS had used a disinfectant called Virobac for the Sheep Unit. This disinfectant was approved by PHAC. ACVS is unable to secure any Virobac in Canada anymore, so they are looking at other alternatives. Envirochem is very similar to Virobac and is a possible replacement. There is a journal article verifying that the disinfectant is effective against *Coxiella burnetii*. We are awaiting PHAC to approve Envirochem for use in the Sheep Unit.

7. Next meeting date: April 13th? (J. Stanley)

The next meeting will be held on April 13th. Drs. Millar, Barr, Dekaban, DeLangley, Koval and Siu will be available.

8. Other Business (J. Millar)

8.1 MRSA Positive Bodies

Dr. S. Siu spoke to Hayley Linklater regarding the University's policy of rejecting MRSA positive bodies. Dr. S. Siu explained that there is no need to reject these bodies.

8.2 Biosafety Committee Membership Changes

After a meeting between Dr. J. Millar, Jane O'Brien and J. Stanley, it was concluded that the membership of the Biosafety Committee needs to be updated.

9. Adjournment (J. Millar)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.