



The University of Western Ontario
Biohazards Subcommittee Meeting

Minutes of December 9th, 2011
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., SSB 4220

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

Regrets: Dr. I. Welch

1.0 Introductions

None needed.

2.0 Approval of Minutes – October 14th, 2011

Motioned: Dr. S. Barr

Seconded: Dr. S. Koval

3.0 Biological Agents Registry Forms

3.1 Barr, S. (Level 2+) (Modification)

Approved: The Committee is unsure how anaerobes will be grown as there is no facility for growing anaerobic bacteria. The anaerobes listed may be grown by the Reid lab.

3.2 Barr, S. (Level 3) (Modification)

Approved: The Committee is unsure how anaerobes will be grown as there is no facility for growing anaerobic bacteria. The anaerobes listed may be grown by the Reid lab.

3.3 Koropatnick, J. (Re-visit, September 2011)

Approved: The point of Section 4.4 is to acknowledge the use of HeLa and Hek 293 cells which have E1A and SV40 Large T antigen.

3.4 Karmazyn, M. (Modification)

Tabled: There is no specification on which genes will be used in the GMO section. On page 2 there is no containment level listed for the added biohazard. The form does not provide enough information to understand what will be done. The form is difficult to read and should be resubmitted electronically instead.

3.5 Rogan, P. (Modification)

Approved: No issues.

3.6 Zhang, Z. X.

Tabled: There are spelling mistakes throughout the form. Sections 1, 4, 9 and 15 need to be revisited. The description of the use and disposal of biological agents needs to be more detailed.

3.7 Zheng, X.

Tabled: The summary is very brief. In Section 15.2 it should say that in the event of an exposure the incident should be reported to Occupational Health rather than the Biosafety Committee. The form contains many spelling mistakes such as “breach” instead of “bleach” and “damp” instead of “dump”.

3.8 Kang, C. Y.

Tabled: Section 4.3 needs to be filled out to reflect the use of adenovirus. For Section 5.0, clarify that Gag, Pol and Env are not all used at once. The Committee is unclear on whether the adenovirus is being grown in the lab or purchased. If grown, HEK 293 cells should be listed. More information is needed on this Level 2 strain of VSV. Personnel must complete Biosafety training

3.9 DiMattia, G. (Revisit, September 2011)

Approved: No issues.

3.10 Mehta, S.

(Revisit, November 2011)

Tabled: The laboratory in which the work will be performed may have a fumehood that could be equivalent to a biological safety cabinet but if the fumehood is not certified as a BSC the work cannot be conducted in that location. In addition, exposed mice must be held in microisolators in a proper animal facility rather than the laboratory, Dr. deLangley will be dealing with this issue.

3.11 Jevnikar, A.

Approved: Personnel must complete Biosafety training.

3.12 Edgell, D.

(Modification)

Approved: No issues.

3.13 Lajoie, C.

(Modification)

Tabled: A modification should be submitted by the Postovit lab.

3.14 Savory, E.

(Revisit, October 2011)

Tabled: Dr. Siu abstained. The containment level for the Influenza virus in Table 1.2 should be marked as Level 2. Details such as how the virus content will be analyzed are missing. This project will require ethics review.

3.15 Possmayer, F.

(Revisit, September 2011)

Approved: In the summary the researcher says he will “infect”. The terminology used needs to be clarified, to confirm that he is not making virus in the laboratory. The form is missing signatures in section 12.0 and 14.3. No permit is likely required for siRNA.

Last Minute Additions

3.16 Hess, D.

(Modification)

Approved: No issues.

3.17 Foster, P.

Tabled: Dr. Dekaban abstained. The Committee needs to see the SOP for the use of the Pertussis toxin. The intentions with EBV need to be clarified. Level 2 should be mentioned in the summary and Ron

Noseworthy will need to do an inspection. There are spelling error(s) in the names of the personnel.

3.18 Sinclair, B.

Tabled: Clarification needed from the Dean of Science regarding who is in charge of the Biotron.

3.19 Others?

None.

4. Sheep Unit Update (ACVS, J. Stanley)

The sheep unit recertification should be done by Christmas. A fan failure test and emergency generator test is being scheduled with Facilities Management.

5. Tamoxifen SOP (ACVS, J. Millar)

The Tamoxifen SOP is now posted on the OH&S website and linked to it from AUS. The Tamoxifen SOP should explicitly state that animals should be held in microisolators after treatment. In addition, the wording on page 2 should be changed to “should be incinerated” and that “metabolites will be excreted continuously for 2 days post-administration”.

5.1 Posting of SOPs (J. Stanley)

The medical surveillance program for personnel working with lentiviruses will be posted on the Workplace Health website as well as the Occupation Health and Safety website. SOPs relating to animals (such as sheep SOPs) will not be posted.

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

Drs. Millar, Barr, Dekaban and Koval will be present. Dr. S. Siu is unable to attend. ACVS will let J. Stanley know their availability.

8. 2012 Meeting Schedule (J. Stanley)

The Committee will continue to meet on Friday mornings in 2012. The schedule is posted on the Committee website.

9. Other Business (J. Millar)

None.

10. Adjournment

(J. Millar)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.