The University of Western Ontario
Biohazards Subcommittee Meeting

Minutes of April 13th, 2012
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., SSB 4220

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

Regrets: Dr. S. Barr, Dr. T. deLangley, Dr. I. Welch

1.0 Introductions

None needed.

2.0 Approval of Minutes – March 16th, 2012

Motioned: Dr. S. Siu Seconded: Dr. D. Dekaban

3.0 Office Approvals

There were two office approvals.

4.0 Biological Agents Registry Forms

4.1 Laird, D.

Approved: Section 5.0 should reflect the use of HeLa cells. All personnel must provide their UWO e-mail address. Waste must either be bleached or autoclaved prior to disposal. Clarify what is meant by “ODDD patients”.

4.2 Zhang, Z. X. (Revisit, February 2012)

Approved: The SV-40 plasmid vector in Table 1.2 belongs in Section 4.3.

4.3 Kim, S. O. (Revisit, February 2012)

Tabled: Changes must be made to the form instead of e-mailed. HEK 293 use must be acknowledged in Section 4.0. The Committee is not sure

whether all the organisms listed in Section 1.2 are pathogenic to both humans and animals. The Researcher supplying the organisms must be listed for the Western sources in Table 1.2.

4.4 Min, W. (Revisit, February 2012)

Approved: In Section 4.3, the resulting change from the transduction is that the infected cells express TNF alpha.

4.5 Perinpanayagam, H. (Revisit, February 2012)

Approved: No issues.

4.6 Bhattacharya, M. (Modification)

Approved: No issues.

4.7 Hegele, R.

Approved: No issues.

4.8 Dunning, C.

Approved: The Researcher will be working with unpreserved tissue. The Committee does not have enough information on how the company is preparing the bone. Level 1 containment level will be acceptable if the Committee knows how the bone is cleansed and prepared. If the bone is chemically prepared, Level 1 is adequate.

4.9 Hill, K.

Approved: The Committee needs to know what mutagens are being used (i.e. chemical, radiation). If toxic chemicals are used the Committee would like to re-visit it.

4.10 Chambers, A. (Modification)

Approved: No issues.

4.11 Mann, M. (Revisit, February 2012)

Approved: There is a spelling error in Liyue Zhang’s name. Clarify whether there is 10 000 I.U. of each or total. It does not need to come back to the Committee.

4.12 Rogers, K.

Approved: Section 8.0 is satisfactory. Sections 15.2 and 15.3 must be completed/signed.

4.13 Turley, E. (Modification)

Approved: No issues.

4.14 Dhanvantari, S.

Approved: In Section 15.2, the form must specify Occupational Health at St. Joseph's Hospital. In Section 5.0 the question regarding the use of HTLV 1 or 2 is incomplete.

4.15 Reid, G.

Tabled: All personnel involved in this project must be listed on the form. Section 1.1 should be 'Yes'. The human source material listed in Section 3.0 has the potential of carrying many pathogens. The Committee is concerned about how the samples are transported, the kind of container they are shipped in, whether the outside of the container will be decontaminated prior to shipping, and how the samples will be unpacked in the laboratory. Universal precautions must be used whenever biological agents are handled. The Committee would like to see an SOP regarding the packaging, shipping and handling of the samples.

Workplace Health will need to develop a protocol for Western staff traveling abroad.

4.16 Rodenhiser, D. (Revisit, January 2012)

Approved: The Committee needs to know what mutagens will be used, but it does not need to come back to the Committee. What are the plasmids listed on the form used for, are they only being stored?

Last Minute Additions

4.17 Others?

None.

5. Next meeting date: May 11th? (J. Stanley)

The next meeting will be held on May 11th. Drs. Millar and Siu will be available. Dr. Koval and Dr. Dekaban will be unable to attend. ACVS will let J. Stanley know their availability.

6. Other Business (J. Millar)

6.1 Biological Agents Registry Form

During the review of Biological Agents Registry Forms, several modifications were discussed, including:

- Changes to Section 4.0
- Signature page
- Removal of “are genes from Level 1 or level 2 pathogens” from Section 5.0

7. Adjournment (J. Millar)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.