INSTITUTE BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE
Chairperson: Chunling Dai

Minutes

Institution: New York State Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities (IBR)

Meeting Date: 11.19.2025

Meeting Time: 1:00 PM

Meeting Type: Virtual

IBC Members Present:

1. Chunling Dai (*IBC Chair*)
2. Karen Amble (*IBC Member/IBR Deputy Director*)
3. Augusta D'Amico (*IBC Member/Director of Clinical Services*)
4. Lorena Legisi-Sejdaras (*Biological Safety Officer/Director, Office of Laboratory Safety and Training*)
5. Dorota Ziemnicka (Lab Rep.)
6. Fang Du (Lab Rep./Animal Expert)
7. Sonal Goswami (Lab Rep.)
8. Ashfaq Sheikh (Lab Rep.)
9. Wen Hu (Lab Rep./Animal Expert)
10. Michael Eisenbraun (Local Non-affiliated Member)

IBC Members Absent:

11. Christopher Corbo (Local Non-affiliated Member)
12. Xue-Ying He (Lab Rep.)

Quorum: Present

Other Individuals in Attendance: None

Call to Order: 1:03 PM

Conflicts of Interest:

The Chair reminded all members present to identify any conflicts of interest as each registration is reviewed.

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

A member moved to approve the October 15, 2025, minutes, as written. Another member seconded the motion.
The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Review of Prior Business:

- Inspections of Safety Showers in the main building are in progress.

2025 Annual Review:

A member moved to approve the annual updates. Another seconded the motion.
The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

IBC Number	NAME	PROJECT TITLE	STATUS
2008-008	M. Junaid	Molecular Biological Defects in Autism	No Change
2008-008E	M. Junaid	The Role of Excess Dietary Folic Acid Intake on Aberrant DNA Methylation in New Born Brains and Its Relationship in Neuropsychiatric Disorders. AKA Gestational DNA Methylation an Etiological Factor in Neuropsychiatric Disorders [NIH]	No Change
2008-008A	M. Junaid	Maternally Inherited Autism Genes	No Change
2019-001	M. Junaid	Molecular Biological aspects of Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinoses (Batten disease)	No Change
2018-001	G. Lyon	Genomic and Metabolic Identification of Previously un-known mutation for intellectual developmental disabilities	No Change
2009-028	F. Liu	Involvement of the PI3K Pathway and Tau Exon 10 Splicing in Autistic Disorders	No change
2009-028A	F. Liu	Role of Dyrk1A in Alzheimer's Pathology in Down Syndrome	No Change
2020-004	F. Liu	Molecular mechanisms involved in tau pathogenesis in Alzheimer's disease, Down syndrome and related neurodegenerative disorders	No change

New Applications:

A) IBC Protocol IBC 2024-001-Mechanisms of early intervention after traumatic brain injury in rodent models of posttraumatic epilepsy -Dr. Goswami

Project Overview:

Reviewer 1

In this project, the Principal Investigator (PI) will be using commercially available viruses that fall under Risk Group 1. These viruses are not known to cause disease in healthy adults. The PI clarified that these viruses are produced using helper plasmids rather than helper viruses. I recommend approving this project.

Reviewer 2
The Principal Investigator (PI) will be injecting helper plasmids into the brains of the animals. The PI clarified that there are no chemicals of interest involved in this project. Additionally, she shared her previous experience with similar work. I recommend approving this project.

Biological Safety Officer

a) NIH Guidelines Section:
• Section II and Appendix B, and Section III-D: AAV vectors are classified as Risk Group I agents. The principal investigator (PI) has indicated that the nature of the inserted DNA sequence are viruses utilizing a helper plasmid.

b) Risk Assessment and Discussion:
• This project involves agents with recombinant and synthetic AAV constructs, which are Risk Group I agents, which are not associated with diseases in healthy adults.

c) Chemicals of Interest: There are no hazardous chemicals involved in this project. All disposal methods and safety precautions are detailed in the project documentation. The laboratory is equipped with a chemical fume hood and a biosafety cabinet, which will be used as necessary. The investigator will utilize all required personal protective equipment for a BSL-2 protocol.

d) Training:
• The principal investigator has fulfilled all training requirements.

e) Biosafety Level Assignment:
• The biosafety containment level for this project is BSL-2.

IBC Votes:
A member made a motion to approve the project, which was seconded by another member. The Committee voted unanimously to approve this project.

New Business:

- None

Review of Incidents:

(The NIH Guidelines require that significant incidents, violations, and research-related accidents and illnesses be reported to NIH OSP.)

- Nothing to report at this time.

Inspections/ Ongoing:

(Section IV-B-2-b-(5) of the NIH Guidelines requires IBCs to periodically review to ensure compliance with the NIH)

- Annual inspections of IBR's main building are currently ongoing.

Public Comments:

- There were no public comments.

Adjournment:

A member moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:16 PM. Another member seconded the motion.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2025, via WebEx.