

Minutes: NovoBiotic Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)

Date: 1/13/26

Meeting Time: 10 AM to 10:45 AM

Meeting Type: Zoom

IBC members:

Michael Merullo (local non-affiliated Community Member)

Uri Bulow, MD, PhD (local non-affiliated Community Member)

Dallas Hughes, (NovoBiotic, IBC Chair, Contact)

Losee Lucy Ling (NovoBiotic, Biosafety Officer, expertise on genetics and biology)

Aaron Peoples, M.S., MBA. (NovoBiotic IBC Scientific Member, expertise on chemistry)

Allison Beale (NovoBiotic, IBC member, Lab representative)

Quorum:

All members attended. No late arrival or early departure.

Call to order:

Losee Ling called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

Conflicts of Interest:

No conflict of interest.

Review and approval of previous meeting minutes:

Minutes for the IBC meeting held on 12/10/2024 were unanimously approved on 12/24/2024.

Review of proposed research:

Lab personnel provided an overview of the proposed research. The proposed research is the same as in the previous 2 years. Briefly, environmental microbes isolated from diffusion chambers and chips are cultured in various fermentation broths. The extracts from the fermentation broths are tested for antimicrobial activities by overlay with test bacteria strains such as *Staphylococcus aureus* NCTC 8325-4, and *Escherichia coli* K12. Extracts that showed bioactivity are further tested with a panel of other test strains such as *M. abscessus*, *S. pneumoniae*, and *C. auris*. All test strains at NovoBiotic are risk group 1 or 2, and all laboratory space designated BSL2. Biosafety measures include proper training of staff, personal protection equipment such as labcoats and gloves and biosafety cabinets. Microbes are speciated by comparison of the sequence of the 16S rDNA gene to those deposited in GenBank. No research on recombinant DNA, synthetic nucleic acid molecules, viruses or whole plants is proposed. All animal studies are contracted to academic collaborators or service providers.

Biosafety Level Assignment and Applicable Sections of the NIH guidelines:

No applicable Sections of the NIH guidelines cited because there are no proposed studies of recombinant DNA, synthetic nucleic acid molecules or whole plants. The test strains for

bioactivity detection are all risk group 1 or 2, determined by the guidelines for Biosafety Levels (BSLs) in the U.S., through the [Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories \(BMBL\)](#) document.

Training:

Personnel have completed the required training including Laboratory Safety, safe sharps handling, and Bloodborne Pathogen and are experienced working with this research system.

Points of Discussion:

There was discussion on decontamination, containment and storage of biohazard waste. Decontamination of surfaces is primarily through wiping down surfaces with 70% isopropanol. Disposal of biohazard liquid waste is through autoclaving or with bleach for 1 hour at a ratio of 1:10 (bleach: culture). Solid biohazard waste is removed by New England Med Waste.

Advice from IBC members:

There was no advice offered by the committee.

There were no new IBC registrations.

Vote on the protocol:

Unanimous approval without modification.

Meeting Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.