

To: University of Washington Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)
From: Dr. David W. Emery, Chair
Subject: IBC Meeting Agenda (ad hoc)
Date: Monday, March 10, 2008
Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Location: Health Sciences Building, Room T269

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Dr. Kevin Urdahl's research protocol entitled, "Animal Models of Tuberculosis."

3. ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR

FINAL
University of Washington
Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)
Ad-hoc Meeting

Date: Monday, March 10, 2008
Time: 12:00-1:00pm
Location: Health Sciences Building, Room T269

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Paul Swenson, Community Member, Seattle-King Co. Dept of Public Health
David Emery, Medical Genetics / IBC chair
Mary Lampe, Laboratory Medicine
Stephen Libby, Laboratory Medicine
Eric Stefansson, Environmental Health & Safety
Thea Brabb, Comparative Medicine
Pamela Morris, Comparative Medicine

Members Absent: William Atkins, Medicinal Chemistry
Rose Ann Cattolico, Biology
Kimball Jones, Community Member
Carol Sibley, Genome Sciences
Estella Whimbey, Healthcare Epidemiology and Infection Control
Michael Agy, Washington National Primate Center
Sara Mackenzie, Employee Health
Scott Meschke, Environmental Health
Valerie Yerkes, Community Member

Guests: JoAnn Kauffman, Research & Biological Safety
Kevin Urdahl, Pediatrics

1. CALL TO ORDER

David Emery, called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm

2. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION:

Dr. Kevin Urdahl's research protocol entitled, "Animal Models of Tuberculosis."

Prior approval was given for this work at BSL3/ABSL3. The 5th edition of "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories" (BMBL) does state that animal studies involving mice may be conducted at ABSL2 with BSL3 practices. The purpose of this ad hoc committee is to determine which activities in this project may be performed at BSL2/ABSL2 with BSL3 practices and which require BSL3/ABSL3 containment and procedures.

An additional topic was the continuation of experimental activities in room F-049. This room has been approved for experiments involving the agent *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* at BSL3/ABSL3. Under normal operating conditions, the room meets BSL3/ABSL3 containment criteria as stated in the BMBL. However, during an exhaust fan failure test, the room does not meet the requirements. The anteroom was found to be negative to both the BSL3 lab and the corridor. The exhaust from the anteroom is shared and does not pass through a terminal HEPA filter. It is not a BMBL requirement for exhaust to pass through a terminal HEPA filter (bag in / bag out unit), but is a University of Washington facilities requirement.

3. ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR:

- Concerns were raised about safety of aerosol chamber being used outside of BSL3 containment in the event of a malfunction.
- Discussion about safety of animals after exposure to agent in aerosol chamber. This includes hazards associated with animal bedding and the fur of the animal.

Dr. Urdahl addressed these concerns as follows:

- Animals are placed into a clean cage after exposure.
- Organism is not culturable from fur of animal within one day after aerosol exposure.
- Agent does not appear to be shed in urine or feces.
- Rodents do not spread this agent via aerosols from respiratory infections (ie. coughing)

Final proposal from Dave Emery, IBC chair:

Dr. Urdahl will be allowed to conclude current research in room F-049, but no new mice infections will be allowed until issues with the HVAC system have been resolved and approved by RBS office. Standard operating procedures will be amended to address response to an HVAC failure and drills will be conducted to assure that personnel are trained to respond appropriately. Current work should be concluded by the end of April 2008.

After the HVAC system has been modified to meet BSL3 containment requirements, the following activities involving Dr. Urdahl's research with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* may be conducted at BSL2/ABSL2 with BSL3 practices:

- Housing of infected mice.
- Sacrificing of infected mice.
- Organ collection from infected mice.
- Administration of agents other than *M. tuberculosis* to infected mice.

The following activities must be conducted under strict BSL3/ABSL3 conditions and practices:

- Aerosol infection of mice with *M. tuberculosis*.
- Processing of organs collected from infected mice.

Final approval for the proposal passes unanimously by the committee.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:20pm.

Meeting Minutes by ES