

**INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE (IBC)
MEETING MINUTES - DUARTE**

Monday, 07/20/2026

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Marcin Kortylewski, Scientist, Chair
Srividya Swaminathan, Scientist, Vice-Chair
Ashraf Amshaqn, Biosafety Officer
Renate Starr, Scientist/Lab Personnel
Rebecca Lally, Community Member
Manali Doshi, Community Member
Vinod Pullarkat, Scientist/Physician

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Richard Ermel, Veterinarian
Rowelle Enriquez, Laboratory Protections Director
Suke Patel, Radiation Safety Officer
Mike Chen, Scientist/Physician

ALTERNATE MEMBERS PRESENT: James Finlay, Veterinarian (Alternate for Vet)
Jay Benson, Biosafety Specialist (Alternate for BSO)
Joshua Tompkins, Scientist (Alternate for Scientist)

STAFF PRESENT: Linna Makmura, Jennifer Kim

GUEST PRESENT: Adrienne Lindsay, M.B.A, MS; Julianna Pavlenko (Student)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was conducted remotely. The chair called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

a. Confidentiality Notice

1. Attendees are reminded that all items brought before the committee are confidential and may contain privileged information intended solely for the use of the named participants.
2. Meeting attendance must occur in a secure, private location where the audio/video cannot be overheard or seen by unauthorized individuals.

b. Conflict of Interest Declaration

Attendees were reminded that they declare if there is a known conflict of interest with any submissions being discussed. Conflicts of interest include:

1. Where an immediate family member of the member is involved in the design, conduct, and reporting of the research.
2. Where the member holds a financial interest related to the research being reviewed.
3. When the member is named on the protocol.
4. Any other situation where the member believes that another interest conflicts with his/her ability to deliberate objectively on a protocol.

c. Public Posting

Public meeting notice was posted with no comments/questions from the public received.

2. OLD BUSINESS

a. Review of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 06/15/2026 were reviewed. No issues were raised, and a motion was made to approve the minutes as written. The approved minutes will be posted for public access at www.cityofhope.org.

DECISION: The Minutes of the Meeting Held on 06/15/2026 Approved
Voting: Total=8, For=7, Against=0, Abstain=1

b. **Deferred**

None

3. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **Safety Office Report**

Please see the report attached to the agenda in iRIS.

b. **IBC Membership Update**

None

c. **Review of Policies and Guidelines**

None

d. **Initial Review**

IBC 26033 (III-C)	Ref # 306323	BSL2
Expanded Access Protocol (EAP) for Patients to Receive Additional TAG72-targeting Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR)-T cell Infusion Doses to Treat TAG-72+ Advanced Epithelial Ovarian Cancer (EOC)		
PI: Rodriguez, Lorna, M.D., Ph.D.		
This expanded access protocol allows eligible patients with TAG-72-positive advanced epithelial ovarian cancer who previously received treatment under COH IRB Protocol No. 20034 to receive additional doses of their remaining investigational cell therapy product. The product consists of the patient's own immune T cells that were genetically modified to recognize TAG-72 on tumor cells and include a CD19t marker for tracking. No new cell collection or manufacturing is planned; only previously manufactured excess TAG72-CAR T cell product will be used, with continued monitoring and required study-related analyses under the expanded access protocol.		
The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review. The training of personnel and proposed work/containment level for listed facilities were reviewed and verified. The committee went through the comments made by the pre-reviewers. No other issues were raised during the discussion.		
DECISION: Protocol Approved with Comment(s) That Must Be Addressed		
REQUIRED MODIFICATIONS:		
1. Please edit to provide a lay summary without technical jargon and abbreviations.		
2. Please clarify whether patients who previously had stable disease on TAG72 directed CART therapy are the only ones who will receive additional product.		

IBC 26035 (III-D)	Ref # 306955	BSL2/ABSL2
Oxidative stress in beta-cells in Diabetes		
PI: Alterzon, Sharon, Ph.D.		
This study examines how oxidative stress affects insulin-producing pancreatic beta cells and how NRF2, a key regulator of cellular stress responses, may help protect these cells. The work will use mouse and human pancreatic islets, rodent beta cell lines, and a human beta cell line to study beta cell survival, growth, and function. The study also evaluates how estradiol may influence NRF2 activity in beta cells.		

The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review. The training of personnel and proposed work/containment level for listed facilities were reviewed and verified. The committee went through the comments made by the pre-reviewers. No other issues were raised during the discussion.

DECISION: Protocol Approved with Comment(s) That Must Be Addressed

Total Members Voting: 8

[For: 8 Absent: 0 Against: 0 Conflict of Interest: 0 Not Present: 0 Abstained: 0]

COMMENTS THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED:

Section 3: Study Summary:

- Additional clarification requested regarding the purpose of experimental procedures.
- Additional clarification requested regarding experimental procedures.
- Additional clarification requested regarding In Vivo work.

Section 8: Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules

- Biosafety containment level for recombinant material updated.
- Additional details requested for recombinant materials.
- Additional details requested for lentiviral handling and research.

Section 10: Non-Recombinant Biological Materials

- Biosafety containment level for non-recombinant material updated.
- Additional details requested for non-recombinant materials.

Section 19: Personnel

- Personnel must fulfill additional training requirements.

IBC 25009 (III-D)

Ref # 295483

BSL2

Neil2 remodeling the cancer-associated immuno-responding via internal oncogenic pathways in pancreatic cancer

PI: Raoof, Mustafa, M.D.

This study will create inducible pancreatic cancer cell lines in which the Neil2 gene can be reduced to study its role in cancer cell behavior and immune-related signaling. The work will use genetically modified pancreatic cancer cell lines to examine how Neil2 affects interferon-related immune pathways and nearby immune cells. The goal is to determine whether Neil2 may be a useful target for future immune-based cancer treatments.

The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review. The training of personnel and proposed work/containment level for listed facilities were reviewed and verified. The committee went through the comments made by the pre-reviewers. No other issues were raised during the discussion.

DECISION: Protocol Approved with Comment(s) That Must Be Addressed

Total Members Voting: 8

[For: 8 Absent: 0 Against: 0 Conflict of Interest: 0 Not Present: 0 Abstained: 0]

COMMENTS THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED:

Section 8: Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules

- Additional details requested for recombinant materials.

Section 18: Location(s)

- Clarification on locations for specific experiments and research requested.

Section 19: Personnel

- Personnel must fulfill additional training requirements.

e. Third-Year Renewal(s)

IBC 11024 (III-D)	Ref # 305663	BSL2/ABSL1+
EPIGENETIC MODULATION OF TUMORIGENESIS: ROLE OF POLYCOMB-GROUP PROTEIN DYSREGULATION		
PI: Chen, Mike, M.D.		
This study examines how changes in Polycomb-group genes, including EZH2, Bmi1, and related chromobox genes, may contribute to brain tumors and other cancers. Researchers will use tumor tissue samples and established or primary cancer cell lines to compare gene activity and test whether increasing or reducing selected Polycomb-group genes affects cancer cell growth, movement, invasion, survival, and other tumor-related behaviors. The work includes gene-silencing or gene-overexpression approaches, such as short hairpin RNA or CRISPR-based constructs, in cancer and control cell lines, with follow-up testing in cell-based studies and mouse models.		
The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review. The training of personnel and proposed work/containment level for listed facilities were reviewed and verified. The committee went through the comments made by the pre-reviewers. No other issues were raised during the discussion.		
DECISION: Protocol Approved with Comment(s) That Must Be Addressed		
Total Members Voting: 8 [For: 8 Absent: 0 Against: 0 Conflict of Interest: 0 Not Present: 0 Abstained: 0]		
COMMENTS THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED:		
1. Please define CBX (Chromobox) genes in the first instance in the application.		

IBC 20056 (III-D)	Ref # 308015	BSL2/ABSL2+
Radiosensitisation of tumors by perfluorocarbon nanoparticles in cells and mouse models		
PI: Feldman, Lisa, M.D.		
This study will test whether perfluorocarbon nanoparticles can improve the effectiveness of radiation or chemotherapy by increasing oxygen levels in solid tumors. Researchers will use human and mouse tumor cell lines, including cells modified to express a luciferase marker gene so tumor growth can be tracked, along with tumor-bearing mouse models. The study will evaluate tumor response, oxygen levels, and survival after treatment with perfluorocarbon nanoparticles, radiation, chemotherapy, or combinations of these treatments.		
The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review. The training of personnel and proposed work/containment level for listed facilities were reviewed and verified. The committee went through the comments made by the pre-reviewers. No other issues were raised		

during the discussion.

DECISION: Protocol Approved with Comment(s) That Must Be Addressed

Total Members Voting: **8**

[For: **8** Absent: **0** Against: **0** Conflict of Interest: **0** Not Present: **0** Abstained: **0**]

COMMENTS THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED:

Section 3: Study Summary:

- Additional clarification requested regarding the purpose of experimental procedures.
- Additional clarification requested regarding experimental procedures.

Section 18: Location(s)

- Clarification on locations for specific experiments and research requested.

IBC 03001 (III-D)	Ref # 306092	BSL2/ABSL2+
MOLECULAR REGULATION IN NEURAL STEM/PROGENITOR CELLS		
PI: Lu, Qiang, Ph.D.		
This study examines how selected signaling pathways and genes, including the ERKS axis and the transcription factor Zeb1, help regulate whether neural stem or progenitor cells continue growing or mature into specialized cells. Researchers will use mouse neural progenitor or stem cells, isolated human neural stem cell lines, patient-derived tumor cell lines, and other neural cell lines to compare these mechanisms across different neural cell types.		
The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the Primary Review. The training of personnel and proposed work/containment level for listed facilities were reviewed and verified. The committee went through the comments made by the pre-reviewers. No other issues were raised during the discussion.		
DECISION: Protocol Approved		
Total Members Voting: 8		
[For: 8 Absent: 0 Against: 0 Conflict of Interest: 0 Not Present: 0 Abstained: 0]		

4. ADJOURNMENT

List of Protocols not meeting the criteria for full committee review (not discussed in the meeting) was displayed in the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:29 PM.