Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Institutional Biosafety Committee

December 18, 2009

Members Present: Drs. Wetmur, Calfee, Daefler, Tenoever; Ms. Erlitz (by teleconference), Mr. Hauck, Ms. Meseck.

Also Present: Mr. Maglione, Ms. Schneier.

Following discussion of the spill accident in BSL3 involving the 1918 influenza virus, the Committee concluded that:

- The homogenizer should have been operated under a biological safety cabinet to avoid any aerosol being released as stated in the SOP.

- The decontamination procedures were correctly followed, which helped avoid further spreading of the leaking fluids from the homogenizer.

- Additional training for 1918 influenza teams will be accelerated to reiterate the operating protocol in the SOP.

- PI’s will have special training session with Mr. Hauck.

- Operator error or product failure will be investigated by Mr. Hauck.

- The incident should be presented to the BSL3 Oversight Committee.