Institutional Biosafety Committee
Icahn School of Medicine Mount Sinai

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TIME RECORDS	
Meeting date:	11/5/2025 2:30 PM
Meeting time	2:30-3:30 PM
Meeting type	Videoconference
Call to order	2:32PM
Adjournment	3:35PM
Conflicts of interest	The IBC Chair reminded all members present to identify any conflicts of interest as each registration is reviewed.

ATTENDANCE	
Name	**Present**
V. SIMON (IBC Chair; Scientist)	YES
B. LEE (IBC vice-Chair; Scientist)	NO
R. ALBRECHT (Biological Safety Officer)	NO
T. BANIA (IBC member; Human Gene Therapy)	YES
R. BRODY (IBC member; Scientist)	YES
L. CHAUHAN (Biological Safety Officer)	YES
J. COHEN (IBC member, Attending Veterinarian)	YES
H. DONG (IBC member; Human Gene Therapy)	NO
D. D'SOUZA (IBC member; Employee Health)	NO
C. NAPIER (IBC member; Employee Health)	YES
J. OCHANDO (IBC member; Scientist)	NO
C. SHOR (Local Non-affiliated)	YES
S. STRAUSS (Legal Counsel)	NO
N. TZAVARAS (IBC member; Scientist)	YES
S. ROSA (Administrative)	YES

QUORUM
The IBC has 12 voting members. 7 members are required to conduct business. Quorum was met.

OTHER INDIVIDUALS IN ATTENDANCE	
Name	**Affiliation / Title**
H. Friedman	New Community Member

REVIEW OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES	
Date of meeting minutes	September 18, 2025
Motion	To approve the minutes as written
Votes	(7) For (0) Against (0) Abstain
Result	Approved

COMMITTEE REVIEW SUBMISSIONS

1. Review of SPROTO202500000091

Title:	Alphavirus
Investigator:	GUSTAVO PALACIOS
Submission ID:	SPROTO202500000091
Submission Type:	De Novo Review
Project Overview	These experiments will provide essential data on determinants of replication and tropism while supporting the development of translational models of virus–host interactions. In parallel, we will continue advancing the Eilat virus (EILV)-based vaccine platform, designed to generate multivalent candidates targeting WEEV, VEEV, Sindbis, and chikungunya viruses. Comparative studies will be performed against a benchmark alphavirus vaccine (e.g., TC-83), integrating single-cell omics and ex vivo tissue models to dissect the quality and durability of the immune response. There will be animal use component for viruses TC-83 and CHIKV.
Highest Risk Group:	RG-3
Highest Biosafety Level:	BSL-3
Highest Animal Containment Safety Level:	ABSL-3
NIH Guidelines Section	• III-D, III-D-1-a • III-D-2 • III-D-3, III-D-3-a
Biosafety Level Assignment	BL-3
Risk Assessment and Discussion	Concerns from previous committee review were resolved
Training	Research team current on required basic science trainings.
Occupational Health Representative review	Not assigned for review
IBC Vote	Motion: Approve. Research team required to provide updates for completed constructs during annual review. Votes: • (7) For • (0) Against • (0) Abstain Conflict(s) of Interest: None.

2. Review of SPROTO202500000097

Title:	Influenza Vaccination in Mice
Investigator:	PETER PALESE
Submission ID:	SPROTO202500000097
Submission Type:	De Novo Review
Project Overview:	Influenza A and B viruses cause significant morbidity and mortality worldwide on an annual basis. The influenza virus HA is the primary target of antibodies induced by vaccination or infection. This project seeks to generate and test influenza viruses with influenza A/B chimeric hemagglutinin (HA) or mosaic (HA) proteins that when administered as a series can boost cross-reactive antibody production. Such a vaccine could abolish the need for annual reformulation and administration of the influenza vaccines.
Highest Risk Group:	RG-2
Highest Biosafety Level:	BSL-2
Highest Animal Containment Safety Level:	ABSL-2
NIH Guidelines Section:	• III-D, III-D-7 • III-F-1
Biosafety Level Assignment	BL-2
Risk Assessment discussion	No CCMS concerns for this long-term research. No Biosafety concerns.
Training	No deficiencies were noted in staff training records.
Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable):	Research staff must complete OHSQ
IBC Vote	Approval after completion of OHSQ Votes: 8 For (0) Against (0) Abstain Conflict(s) of Interest: none

3. Review of SPROTO202500000095

Title:	Signaling and infection in epithelia
Investigator:	SARAH MILLAR
Submission ID:	SPROTO202500000095
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Project Overview:	Lab will investigate the mechanisms underlying loss of taste and smell following SARS-Cov-2 infection using mice with a conditional knockin of the human ACE2 receptor into the mouse Ace2 locus. Mice are not normally susceptible to SARS-Cov-2 infection, because their ACE2 protein does not bind wild-type SARS-Cov-2. The use of conditional hACE2 knockin mice will allow us to determine the tissue-specific requirements for ACE2 in SARS-Cov-2-mediated loss of taste and smell. These experiments will allow us to design new preventative approaches and therapies for taste and smell defects associated with COVID-19 disease. The proposed experiments will involve genetic engineering or use of recombinant or synthetic nucleic to make new transgenic lines. Genetically modified mice will also be obtained from Jackson labs.
Highest Risk Group:	RG-2
Highest Biosafety Level:	BSL-3
Highest Animal Containment Safety Level:	ABSL-3
NIH Guidelines Section:	Section III-E , Section III-E-3
Biosafety Level Assignment	BL-2, BL2-N
Risk Assessment discussion	No CCMS concerns. No Biosafety concerns.
Training	Corrective actions were identified to address minor deficiencies.
Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable):	Not applicable
IBC Vote	Approval after minor modification Votes: (7) For (0) Against (0) Abstain Conflict(s) of Interest: none

4. Review of SPROTO202500000108

Title:	Testing neuromodulators in vitro and in vivo
Investigator:	PAUL SLESINGER
Submission ID:	SPROTO202500000108
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Project Overview:	Lab is developing novel modulators of ion channels for testing in vitro and in vivo. Common AAV is used to infect mouse or human neuronal cultures, and injected in vivo for cDNA expression in mice. Lentiviruses are used for transduction of mouse and human neurons in vitro
Highest Risk Group:	RG-2
Highest Biosafety Level:	BSL-2
Highest Animal Containment Safety Level:	ABSL-2
NIH Guidelines Section:	Section III-E, Section III-E-1
Biosafety Level Assignment	BL-2
Risk Assessment discussion	No CCMS concerns. No Biosafety concerns
Training	No deficiencies were noted in staff training records.
Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable):	Not applicable
IBC Vote	Approve after minor modifications Votes: (7) For (0) Against (0) Abstain Conflict(s) of Interest: none

5. Review of SPROTO202500000116

Title:	Phase 1/2 Multiple Myeloma Study - mRNA-2808-P101 (Moderna)
Investigator:	CESAR RODRIGUEZ VALDES (Rodriguez)
Submission ID:	SPROTO202500000116
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Project Overview:	mRNA-2808 is an LNP dispersion containing mRNA that encodes for 3 T-cell engagers (TCEs). This mRNA-encoded secreted immune cell engager approach is an innovative approach that may address the limitations associated with recombinant protein production and simplify the delivery of 3 TCEs into a single drug product. By concurrently targeting 3 Multiple Myeloma-associated antigens with potent TCEs, mRNA-2808 aims to enhance efficacy compared to single-target approaches by overcoming tumor heterogeneity and bypassing target-mediated resistance mechanisms
Highest Risk Group:	RG-1
Highest Biosafety Level:	BSL-2
Highest Animal Containment Safety Level:	Not applicable
NIH Guidelines Section:	Section III-C, Section III-C-1
Biosafety Level Assignment	BL-2
Risk Assessment discussion	No clinical concerns. No biosafety concerns.
Training	No deficiencies were noted in staff training records.
Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable):	Not applicable
IBC Vote	Approve after minor modifications Votes: (7) For (0) Against (0) Abstain Conflict(s) of Interest: none

6. Review of SPROTO202500000102

Title:	The role of food colorants in colitis
Investigator:	SERGIO LIRA
Submission ID:	SPROTO202500000102
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Project Overview:	One of the great challenges of modern medicine is to understand how environmental factors, such as diet, contribute to the increasing incidence of inflammatory and autoimmune diseases. The lab studies how one environmental factor (the food colorant Red 40) interacts with IL-23, intestinal bacteria, and immune cells to cause inflammation. will introduce IL-23 minicircle DNA into mice
Highest Risk Group:	RG-2
Highest Biosafety Level:	BSL-2
Highest Animal Containment Safety Level:	ABSL-2
NIH Guidelines Section:	Section III-F-1
Biosafety Level Assignment	BL-2
Risk Assessment discussion	No CCMS concerns. No Biosafety concerns
Training	No deficiencies were noted in staff training records.
Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable):	No occupational health concerns were noted. OR Research staff must contact Employee Health Services (EHS) for consultation. OR Not applicable
IBC Vote	Approve after minor modifications. Votes: (0) For (0) Against (0) Abstain Conflict(s) of Interest: Committee: none

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

7. Annual NIH Registration

Description	The annual registration filed on 10-3-25. Registration due date is 11-5-25. 10-28-25: IBC-RMS website unavailable. Membership to be updated when website is accessible.

8. Review of Summary_NIH Listening Forum:

Description:	Executive Summary from the 9-30-2025 NIH Regional Listening Forum: Initiative to Modernize and Strengthen Biosafety Oversight

Review of Incidents
Nothing to report

Inspections / Ongoing Oversight
Nothing to report

IBC Training
Nothing to report

Public Comments
There were no public comments