

Institution	Oklahoma State University - Center for Health Sciences
Meeting Date	Thursday, July 17 2025
Meeting Time	10:00am
Meeting Type	In-person Meeting

IBC Members Present	Name	Role	Attendance
	Dr. Gerwald Koehler	Committee Chair	Present
	Dr. I-Hsiu (George) Huang	Scientific Member	Absent
	Dr. Sue Katz Amburn	Non-affiliated Member	Present
	Dr. Crystal (Niki) Johnson	Scientific Member	Present
	William (BJ) Reddig	Lab representative	Present
	Dr. Fang (Fiona) Liu	Non-affiliated member	Present
	Dr. David Wallace	Animal Expert	Present
	Dr. Vikram Gujar	Alternate Member - Affiliated Scientist	Present, voted in place of Dr. Huang
Quorum	Quorum is met. The IBC has seven (7) voting members present, and four (4) voting members are required to conduct business.		

Others in Attendance	Name	Affiliation	Title
	Kadin Falkenstein	Oklahoma State University - Center for Health Sciences	Research Compliance Coordinator, Biosafety Officer

Call to Order	The IBC Chair called this meeting to order at 10:01am.		
Conflicts of Interest	The IBC Chair asked all members present to identify any conflicts of interest with the materials that are to be reviewed. Dr. Crystal Johnson and BJ Reddig both stated a conflict of interest in reviewing IBC-00001209, and will recuse themselves for the final deliberation and vote of this application.		
Discussion of previous minutes	No discussion was had regarding the previous minutes; Dr. Johnson made the motion to approve as written, and Dr. Wallace seconded.		
Review and Approval of	Date of previous meeting	Motion	Votes; for/against/abstain

previous meeting minutes	Thursday, June 18 2025	Approve as written	7/0/0
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Review of Prior Business	Business	Review and Discussion
	Report of pending/outstanding protocol(s)	Kadin Falkensten discussed the pending or outstanding protocols that are in need of review. As of this meeting, two potocols are pending review at the next meeting: one amendment and one new protocol.

New IBC Registrations and Amendments for Review		
Review of IBC-00001209		
PI Name(s)	Dr. Crystal Johnson	
Registration Title/Number	Cultivation of Novel Anaerobic Taxa and Assessment of their Pharmabiotic Potential	IBC-00001209

Project Overview	<p>This project focuses on the cultivation, genomic characterization, and physiological assessment of previously uncultivated anaerobic bacteria collected from environmental and zoological microbiome sources. Target organisms include novel and fastidious commensal taxa within Christensenella, Butyrivibrio, Hafnia, Holdemanella, Prevotella, Porphyromonas, Streptococcus, Sutterella, Bacteroides, and Treponema, as well as additional unclassified lineages within mammalian microbiomes. These bacteria are non-pathogenic, lack known virulence factors, and exhibit low environmental stability due to their strict anaerobic requirements. Nucleic acids used in the project are limited to native bacterial chromosomal DNA obtained directly from isolates or publicly available sequences; no viral vectors, oncogenes, toxin genes, or recombinant constructs are introduced or engineered. All work involves naturally occurring genes, including those related to metabolism or potential secondary metabolite biosynthesis, without modification, deletion, or insertion of foreign genetic material. Primary specimens, including fecal material, subgingival plaque, and mucosal swabs, are collected non-invasively in collaboration with zoological partners and processed under BSL-2 containment using sealed anaerobic systems. Cultivation is performed using roll tubes, sealed borosilicate culture vessels, and needle-based anoxic transfer techniques following strict sharps-safety SOPs. Downstream analyses include microbial enrichment, 16S rRNA gene sequencing for taxonomic identification, and physiological characterization such as metabolite profiling and antimicrobial activity testing. No genetic modification or recombinant DNA manipulation work is performed. The project also assembles defined microbial consortia to study syntrophic interactions using spectrophotometry, microscopy, and qPCR, all within BSL-2 containment. Collectively, these activities aim to expand the repertoire of cultured commensal bacteria, characterize their metabolic capabilities, and build a publicly accessible biobank to support future research on potentially beneficial pharmabiotic microbes.</p>
NIH Guidelines Section	III-E
Risk Assessment and Discussion	<p>Risk Assessment: Potential for splashes, sprays, and aerosols; use of engineered sharps</p> <p>Discussion: Working with various samples, potential for splashes, sprays, or aerosols while processing. Care should be taken to minimize the possibility of this occurring; use of engineering controls such as biosafety cabinet highly recommended. As the PI is using engineered sharps, their research team will be trained on how to safely and properly use and dispose of these items.</p>

Training	All personnel listed on this application have completed the minimum required lab safety training courses, including Lab Chemical safety, Bloodborne Pathogens training, and Laboratory Biosafety training. Additionally, all personnel have documented in-lab training for specific procedures that are carried out in each individual lab.		
Additional Training	No additional training needs were identified.		
Occupational Health Representative Review (if applicable)	No additional Occupational Health concerns were identified		
Biosafety Level Assignment	Biosafety Level:	2	
	Additional Discussion or notes:	No additional discussion or notes.	
IBC Vote	Motion:	Require Changes for Approval; Administrative Review	
		1st: Dr. Wallace	2nd: Dr. Katz Amburn
	Votes, for/against/abstain/recused:	5/0/0/2	
	Notes:	As minor changes were required, the IBC determined that administrative review of the changes would be appropriate. Dr. Johnson and BJ Reddig were recused for the duration of the motion and vote due to a conflict of interest, but quorum was maintained during their departure.	
		The following revisions were requested:	

	<p>1. In the "Microorganisms/Agents &gt; Hazardous Procedures &gt; Generation of Splashes" section, please check the "Sealed Rotor" box.</p> <p>2. In the "Microorganisms/Agents &gt; Additional Details" section, in the "Signs and Symptoms" text-box, please add additional context to the second paragraph as it current only states "vomiting."</p> <p>3. In the "Inactivation, Decontamination..." section, in the "If other, provide a Name..." text-box under the "Lab or Surface Disinfection" section, please correct the word "durination" to state "duration"</p> <p>4. In the "Personnel" section, in the "Select Activities" for Dr. Johnson, please check the "NHP Cell Lines" box</p>
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New Business	Topic	Discussion
	None	No new business was discussed at this meeting.
Additional/Other Business	Review of Public Minutes	The committee reviewed the proposed public-facing minutes for the June meeting. Additional comments were gathered, and appropriate revisions are going to be made before sending them to the Director of Regulatory Compliance for review.

Review of Incidents	No incidents were reviewed at this meeting.
Inspections/Ongoing Oversight	No ongoing inspections or oversight was discussed at this meeting.
IBC Training	No IBC training occurred at this meeting.
Public Comments	No public comments were made during this meeting.

Adjournment	<p>The IBC Chair moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:28am.</p> <p>The next IBC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 21 2025.</p>
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