Institution	Oklahoma State University - Center for Health Sciences
Meeting Date	Thursday, October 18 2025
Meeting Time	10:00 AM
Meeting Type	Hybrid Meeting

IBC Members Present	Name	Role	Attendance
	Dr. Gerwald Koehler	Committee Chair	Present
	Dr. I-Hsiu (George) Huang	Scientific Member	Present
	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	Absent
	Dr. David Wallace	Animal Expert	Present
	Dr. Vikram Gujar	Alternate Member - Affiliated Scientist	Present, nonvoting at this meeting
Quorum	Quorum is met. The IBC has six (6) voting members present, and four (4) voting members are required to conduct business.		

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

Call to Order	The IBC Chair called this meeting to order at 10:00 am.		
Conflicts of Interest	The IBC Chair asked all members present to identify any conflicts of interest with the materials that are to be reviewed. No conflicts of interest were disclosed at this meeting.		
Discussion of previous minutes	No discussion of the previous meeting minutes was held. Dr. Johnson made the motion to approve, and BJ seconded. All members were in favor of approval, with none against or abstaining.		
Review and Approval of previous meeting minutes	Date of previous meeting	Motion	Votes; for/against/abstain
	Thursday, September 18 2025	Approve as written	6/0/0

Review of Prior Business	Business	Review and Discussion
	Report of pending/outstanding protocol(s)	Kadin discussed any pending and outstanding protocols; at the time of this meeting, there are no pending or outstanding protocols in need of review at the next meeting.

New IBC Registrations and Amendments for Review		
Review of IBC-00001237		
PI Name(s)	Dr. Subhas Das	
Registration Title/Number	Epigenetic Regulation in Pleural Inflammation	IBC-00001237
Project Overview	Through previous studies, the Das lab has found that Glutaminase 1 (GLS1) is a novel biomarker for colon inflammation. To confirm whether GLS1 is a specific marker for colon inflammation, or it is pan-inflammatory marker for other inflammation as well, we wanted to investigate other inflammatory models. For this study a carrageenan-induced pleurisy model leading to pleural inflammation will be studied. This study will involve the use of A549 Lung Carcinoma cells, Lewis Lung carcinoma cells, and tissues harvested from Sprague-Dawley rats post-mortem. A549 and Lewis lung carcinomas are from established, ATCC-purchased cell lines and do not have any characteristics of note. No nucleic acid sequences, aside from those found naturally in the listed cell lines and rats, will be used in this experiment. No host/vector systems will be used in this project, and no modifications will be made to any nucleic acid sequences. This project involves the experimental manipulations of cell culture and working with animals and therefore will have a proposed Biosafety Level of BL-2. This project seeks to establish DNA methylation of GLS gene in acute pleural inflammation, determine if blocking DNA methylation will resolve the pleural inflammation in WT and GLS+/- rats, identify aberrant DNA methylation of GLS during malignant pleural inflammation using tumor cells, and understand the role of ER stress and Unfolded Protein Response (UPR) during pleural inflammation and whether using UPR inhibitors alleviate pleural inhibition.	
NIH Guidelines Section	App C-VIII, III-D-4-b	
Risk Assessment and	Risk Assessment:Administration to animals, sprays/aerosols from centrifugation, use of sharps	

Discussion	Discussion: Use of animals in conjunction with biohazards can lead to accidental exposure; all personnel will take proper animal handling training, and incidents will be reported to IBC and IACUC immediately. Use of sharps, specifically glassware, noted as the chance of accidently generating sharps via broken glassware is possible; care and attention should be taken in the lab to prevent accidents.		
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	The IBC recommends that all personnel take the online training courses for Working with Rats and the Animal Researchers training courses.		
Occupational Health Respresentative Review (if applicable)	All personnel who will be working with animals are to be enrolled in the OLAW-compliant occupational health program prior to beginning work with the animals.		
Biosafety Level Assignment	Biosafety Level:	2	
	Additional Discussion or notes:	Care should be taken when handling animals to prevent accidental exposure	
IBC Vote	Motion:	Approve pending changes outlined below 1st: BJ Reddig	2nd: Dr. Huang
	Votes, for/against/abstain/recused:		6/0/0/0

	Notes:	The IBC determined that the revisions would be reviewed by the Biosafety Officer. The following changes have been requested: 1) Please add a funding source, if one is applicable to this study. 2) Please change your answer to the question "Does your research involve the use of biohazardous materials in conjunction with live animals?" to YES, and fill in any additional sections that arise due to this change. 3) Correction of few typos, as well as clarifying a few abreviations in the Goals and Aims. 4) Please ensure that all applicable procedures are checked in the Personnel section.

New IBC Registrations and Amendments for Review		
Review of IBC-00001250		
PI Name(s)	Erica Crockett	
Registration Title/Number	The Impacts of Ashwagandha Supplementation on Diurnal Cortisol and Stress Among Women	IBC-00001250

Project Overview	This study will add knowledge about how ashwagandha can impact diurnal cortisol values at waking, 30 minutes-post waking, and bedtime. This study will also assess the impact of ashwagandha consumption on inflammatory and health biomarkers and self-reported perceived stress, anxiety, and well-being among females. The purpose of this project is to better understand the role of ashwagandha on the stress response and well-being among healthy, but stressed, women. This study will begin after approval has been granted by both the Biosafety Committee and Institutional Review Board. The agents collected for this study will be blood, saliva, and urine. These agents will be collected from research participants and will not be modified in any way. All samples will be treated as biohazardous and as if they are infected with the most concerning and common infections found in these bodily fluids, including Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, or HIV. No nucleic acids will be employed in this study, aside from those naturally found in the samples that have been collected. No Host/Vector systems will be employed. No modifications will be made to any nucleic acids within the samples. Several experimental manipulations will be employed, including venous blood draw by study personnel, passive saliva collection by participants, urine sample collection by participants, as well as ELISA, multiplex assay, and potentially genetic/epigenetic profiling to understand the molecular effects of ashwagandha. The proposed biosafety level of this study will be Biosafety Level 2.
NIH Guidelines Section	None
Risk Assessment and Discussion	Risk Assessment: Blood collection, Sprays/areosols from centrifugation
	Discussion: The committee discussed the hazardous procedures, and determined that additional hazards would also need to be described in the protocol. In addition to what is listed above, the IBC will ask the PI to add procedures for managing potential splashes and working with engineered sharps/needles
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 was described as required by the IBC at this time.

Occupational Health Respresentative Review (if applicable)	No additional occupational health concerns were noted.		
Biosafety Level Assignment	Biosafety Level:	2	
	Additional Discussion or notes:	No additional discussion was held regarding the Biosafety level	
IBC Vote	Motion:	Defer registration pending additional information	
		1st: Dr. Koehler	2nd:
	Votes, for/against/abstain/recused:		0/0/0/0
	Notes:	The IBC determined that there was not enough information within this protocol to effectively review it, and that no vote could be held given this lack of information. As such, it will be returned to the PI with a request for additional information, and will be reviewed at the next applicable meeting.	

New IBC Registrations and Amendments for Review		
Review of IBC-00001252		
PI Name(s)	Dr. Subhas Das	
Registration Title/Number	Epigenetic Modulations during Chronic Colon Inflammation.	IBC-00001252

Project Overview	The Das lab has studied acute colon inflammation and found interesting, acute colon inflammation markers involved in the biogenesis and the maintenance of colon inflammation. To understand whether these biomarkers are relatively expressed in chronic colon inflammation like Inflammatory Bowel diseases (IBD), colitis-associated cancer (CAC) or the colorectal cancer (CRC), further studies of these acute biomarkers in chronic studies is warranted. The epigenetic drivers that regulate different novel biomarkers like Glutaminase and Nerve growth factor among others during acute colon inflammation can also be targeted in chronic colon inflammation like IBD, CAC, and CRC. This study will be conducted at Biosafety Level 2 and will involve the use of Sprague Dawley rats. These rats will be inoculated with various chemicals to cause acute and chronic colon inflammation, as well as chemicals that are expected to alleviate the inflamed condition. The colons, brains, and spleens of these rodents will be collected for molecular analysis: DNA extraction to understand epigenetic modulations including DNA methylation and histone modifications, and RNA extraction for quantitative PCR analysis, and protein extraction for Western Blot experiments. No modifications to the tissues will be made by the study team, an no external nucleic acids or host/vector systems will be used. Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee project approval will be sought for all portions of this project involving the use of live, vertebrate animals.
NIH Guidelines Section	III-D-4-b
Risk Assessment and Discussion	Risk Assessment: Use of Animals with biohazards Discussion: No additional discussion was held regarding the listed hazardous procedures.
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	The IBC recommends that all personnel take the online training courses for Working with Rats and the Animal Researchers training courses.

Occupational Health Respresentative Review (if applicable)	All personnel who will be working with animals are to be enrolled in the OLAW-compliant occupational health program prior to beginning work with the animals.	
Biosafety Level Assignment	Biosafety Level:	2
	Additional Discussion or notes:	No additional discussion was held regarding the Biosafety level
IBC Vote	Motion:	Defer registration pending additional information
		1st: Dr. Koehler 2nd:
	Votes, for/against/abstain/recused:	0/0/0/0
	Notes:	The IBC determined that there was not enough information within this protocol to effectively review it, and that no vote could be held given this lack of information. As such, it will be returned to the PI with a request for additional information, and will be reviewed at the next applicable meeting.

New Business	Topic	Discussion
	New Member Discussion	Kadin Falkensten discussed that a new non-affiliated member, Jennifer Nangle, has been found. Jennifer's resume will be sent to members for review, and her addition to the Biosafety committee will be discussed either via email or at the next IBC meeting.
Additional/Other Business	Revision of Bylaws	Dr. Koehler noted that the chair of the faculty senate has allowed the IBC to postpone modifying it's bylaws until the NIH has released its new guidelines.

Review of Incidents	No incidents were discussed at this meeting.
Inspections/Ongoing Oversight	No inspections or ongoing overisght was discussed at this meeting.

IBC Training	No continuing education was held during this meeting.
Public Comments	No public comments were noted during this meeting.
Adjournment	The IBC Chair moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:03am. The next IBC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 20 2025.