

Institution	Oklahoma State University - Center for Health Sciences
Meeting Date	Thursday, December 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	Scientific Member	Present
	Dr. Crystal (Niki) Johnson	Scientific Member	Present
	William (BJ) Reddig	Lab representative	Absent
	Dr. Fang (Fiona) Liu	Non-affiliated member	Absent
	Dr. David Wallace	Animal Expert	Present
	Jennifer Nangle	Non-affiliated member	Present
	Dr. Vikram Gujar	Alternate Member - Affiliated Scientist	Present, voted at this meeting
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 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 for the materials to be reviewed at this meeting.
Discussion of previous minutes	No discussion was held regarding the November 20, 2025 meeting minutes. Dr. Johnson made the motion to approve, and Dr. Wallace seconded. Jennifer Nangle abstained from voting as she was not present at the proeviou meeting. All other members voted in favor of approving, with none against.

Review and Approval of previous meeting minutes	Date of previous meeting Thursday, November 20 2025	Motion Approve as Written	Votes; for/against/abstain 6/0/1
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Review of Prior Business	Business	Review and Discussion
	Report of pending/outstanding protocol(s)	Kadin Falkensten gave the report of Pending and Outstanding protocols in need of review at the next IBC meeting. At this time, there is one protocol in need of review: IBC-00001251 (New)
	New Non-Affiliated Member - Jennifer Nangle	Jennifer Nangle has joined the IBC as a non-affiliated member. She has completed all necessary training to serve as a member, and has completed hands-on reviewer training with the Biosafety Officer. Jennifer was in attendance at this meeting.

New IBC Registrations and Amendments for Review		
Review of IBC-00001216 - Amendment		
PI Name(s)	Dr. Malabika Maulik	
Registration Title/Number	Understanding the role of opioids in modulating glia-glia interactions	IBC-00001216

Project Overview	<p>Using OliNeu mouse oligodendrocyte precursor and SIM9A mouse microglial cell lines, we want to investigate how pharmacological treatment and siRNA targeting of the HMGB1 will change the function of the oligodendrocytes and affect the downstream processes. We will further treat the SIM9A microglial cells with recombinant HMGB1 and conditioned medium from OliNeu cells treated pharmacological agents to identify the molecular markers that mediate neuroinflammation. Finally, we will co-culture OliNeu oligodendrocytes with SIM9A microglial cells to understand the interaction of these glial cells during pharmacological agent exposure. This study will use OliNeu mouse oligodendrocyte precursor cells, SIM9A mouse microglial cells; pLV[miR30]-{MBP_promoter}>EGFP :{mHmgb1[miR30-shRNA1]} (a lentivirus), and Mouse siRNA against HMGB1. The OliNeu and SIM9A cells are wild types, with no alterations made to them prior to their use in this study. The Mouse siRNA against HMGB1 gene (siRNA ID s67572, s67573 and s67574) will be purchased from ThermoFisher Scientific and will be used to knock down the HMGB1 gene in the SIM9a and OliNeu cell lines. The lentivirus targets the HMGB1 gene in rodent cells and will be used to confirm that the siRNA used has knocked down the HMGB1 gene. No Host/Vector systems are used in this study. No intentional modifications are made to any nucleic acid sequences as all will be used directly from the vendor, however there could be the potential for unanticipated modifications to these sequences due to molecular interactions within the cells. All materials used in this study will be destroyed completely as soon as possible to prevent any possible modifications from proliferating. This study will employ two primary experimental manipulations: tissue culture and work with recombinant and/or synthetic nucleic acids. The proposed biosafety level for this study is Biosafety Level 2.</p>
NIH Guidelines Section	III-F-1, III-F-2
Risk Assessment and Discussion	<p>Risk Assessment: Generation of Splashes, Aerosols possible from Centrifugation</p> <p>Discussion: The Biosafety Committee discussed the possible addition of the "Sprays/Aerosols from Centrifugation" hazard notice, depending on if the PI will be performing any centrifugation steps. The PI has been asked to verify if any of these steps will occur, and to add the hazard notice if so.</p>
Training	<p>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.</p>

Project Overview	<p>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.</p>
NIH Guidelines Section	None
Risk Assessment and Discussion	<p>Risk Assessment: Blood Collection, Generation of Splashes, Sprays/Aerosols from Centrifugation, Use of Engineered Sharps</p> <p>Discussion: No additional discussion was held regarding the hazardous procedures.</p>
Training	<p>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.</p>
Additional Training	<p>No additional training was outlined by the Biosafety Committee.</p>

Occupational Health Representative Review (if applicable)	No additional Occupational Health concerns were noted regarding this application.	
Biosafety Level Assignment	Biosafety Level:	2
	Additional Discussion or notes:	No additional discussion was held regarding the biosafety level.
IBC Vote	Motion:	Approve as written 1st: Dr. Johnson 2nd: Dr. Huang
	Votes, for/against/abstain/recused:	7/0/0/0
	Notes:	Dr. Johnson made the motion to approve as written, and Dr. Huang seconded. All members were in favor of approving, and no additional discussion was held.

New Business	Topic	Discussion
	No New Business was discussed at this meeting.	
Additional/Other Business	Notice of Agenda Updates	Kadin Falkensten notified the committee that he would be updating the agenda structure to reflect the addition of Jennifer to the committee, the new year that is approaching, and to make a few minor changes to the structure of it to have parity in specific structure between the agenda and minutes.

Review of Incidents	No incidents were reviewed or discussed at this meeting.
Inspections/Ongoing Oversight	No inspections have occurred since last meeting, and no oversight is currently ongoing
IBC Training	No IBC training occurred at this meeting.
Public Comments	No Public comments were noted at this meeting.
Adjournment	The IBC Chair moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 am.

The next IBC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 15 2026.