VAN ANDEL INSTITUTE®

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IBC Meeting Minutes
Date: September 16, 2026
Location: Conf. Room 2101/2102

Voting Members Present (7):
Glen Alberts, B.S.
Scott Bechaz, ILAM, RLATg
Craig Bickel, M.Div.
Nicholas Burton, Ph.D.
Angie Jason (non-voting)
Lauren Miedema, B.S., MPH
Rachael Sheridan, Ph.D.
Jennifer Steiner, Ph.D. (Acting Chair)

Voting Members Excused (3):
Michael Henderson, Ph.D. (Chair)
Pamela Bartlett, B.S.
Sam Pinto, B.S. (Vice Chair)

Christy Goss (guest)

Call to Order
Jennifer Steiner called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the IBC meeting on 08/19/26 were approved unanimously.
Vote: (7 Total) 7 Approve 0 Disapprove 0 Abstain 0 Recuse

Protocol Reviews

A. Reference #26-0101 – Initial – Sara Nowinski, Ph.D.
"Labeling Neuromuscular Junctions with Alexa Fluor–Conjugated α-Bungarotoxin"
Primary Reviewer: Glen Alberts

The purpose of this protocol is to explore the role of a biochemical pathway that builds fats in the mitochondria. We study what happens when this pathway does not work properly, which happens in a group of patients who are born with mutations in genes in the pathway. The members determined that the proposed study procedures, practices and the training and expertise of the personnel who will be conducting the study are appropriate.

Applicable section of the *NIH Guidelines* the research falls under: Section III-D-1.

Risk Group: 2
Containment Level: BSL2

Location Assessment: Fume hood in 4217W, 4119W, 4211W, Nowinski lab bays (bay 7, 8)

Action: Approved.

Vote: (7 Total) 7 Approve 0 Disapprove 0 Abstain 0 Recuse

B. Reference #26-0070 – 3 Year Re-Write – Darren Moore, Ph.D.
"LRRK2 cell biology and Parkinson's Disease"
Primary Reviewer: Jennifer Steiner

The purpose of this protocol is to use viral gene delivery tools in rats and mice to study how mutations in the LRRK2 gene cause inherited forms of Parkinson's disease, in order to develop a new animal model for testing future treatments. The members determined that the proposed study procedures, practices and the training and expertise of the personnel who will be conducting the study are appropriate, but the following clarifications must be provided.

1. General Information – The investigator was asked to rewrite lay summary and advise on use of N95s outside the BSC.
2. Training – The investigator was asked to remove past personnel.
3. Project Category – The investigator was asked to answer host information question.

Applicable section of the *NIH Guidelines* the research falls under: Section III-D-1.

Risk Group: 2
Containment Level: BSL2

Location Assessment: 3221W, 2035 (surgery suite), 2012, 2018 (perfusion room)

Action: Modifications to secure approval.

Vote: (7 Total) 7 Approve 0 Disapprove 0 Abstain 0 Recuse

C. Reference #26-0068 – 3 Year Re-Write – Darren Moore, Ph.D.
"Cell biology of VPS35 and other genetic models of Parkinson's Disease"
Primary Reviewer: Jennifer Steiner

The purpose of this protocol is to use viral gene delivery tools in rats and mice to study how the VPS35 gene and related genes cause inherited forms of Parkinson's disease, in order to develop new animal models for testing future treatment. The members determined that the proposed study procedures, practices and the training and expertise of the personnel who will be conducting the study are appropriate, but the following clarifications must be provided.

1. General Information – The investigator was asked to rewrite lay summary and advise on use of N95s outside the BSC.

Applicable section of the *NIH Guidelines* the research falls under: Section III-D-1.

Risk Group: 2
Containment Level: BSL2

Location Assessment: 3221W, 2032 (surgery suite), 2018/ (perfusion room)

Action: Modifications to secure approval.

Vote: (7 Total) 7 Approve 0 Disapprove 0 Abstain 0 Recuse

D. Reference #26-0049 – Initial – Peter Jones, Ph.D.
"Lentiviral & PiggyBac expression systems"
Primary Reviewer: Rachael Sheridan

The purpose of this protocol is to assess the potential impacts of vitamin C in regulating normal and malignant cell behavior. The members determined that the proposed study procedures, practices and the training and expertise of the personnel who will be conducting the study are appropriate, but the following clarifications must be provided.

Angie Jason joined the meeting.

1. General Information – The investigator was asked to list required PPE on door sign and check for accuracy.
2. Personnel. The investigator was asked to clarify all personnel listed on this project.
3. Project Categories. The investigator was asked to verify attachments are loaded properly.

Applicable section of the *NIH Guidelines* the research falls under: Section III-D-1.

Risk Group: 2
Containment Level: BSL2

Location Assessment: Phase 2, Level 5, Room 5125W

Action: Modifications to secure approval.

Vote: (7 Total) 7 Approve 0 Disapprove 0 Abstain 0 Recuse

Meeting was adjourned at 9:46 am