

**CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE**

IBC MEETING MINUTES

MEETING LOCATION

Zoom (via Invitation)

MEETING DATE and TIME

10-Oct-2025 at 02:00 PM

Institutional Biosafety Committee

2500 California Plaza
Omaha, NE 68178-0125

T: 402.280.2126 | E: IBC@creighton.edu
creighton.edu | creighton.edu/researchservices

ATTENDANCE	
VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:	
Michael Belshan, PhD Chair, Scientist (Medical Microbiology & Immunology)	Aurijit Sarkar, PhD Member, Scientist (Pharmaceutical Sciences)
Richard Goering, PhD Vice Chair, Scientist (Medical Microbiology & Immunology)	Marisa Zallocchi, PhD Member, Scientist (Biomedical Sciences)
Nicholas Streck, PhD Member, Scientist (Biomedical Sciences, Virology, & Immunology)	Graham Cox, PhD Member, Scientist, Community Representative (Animal Containment Expert)
Rima El-Herte, PhD Member, Scientist (Infectious Disease)	Christopher Austin, MS Member, Scientist, Community Representative
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:	
Teri Prentis, BA <i>IRB Administrator</i>	
Stuart Martens, JD <i>Legal</i>	
Shannon Walsh, MS <i>Research Compliance Auditor</i>	
DESIGNATED GUESTS:	
Hui Hong, PhD (Biomedical Sciences) Principal Investigator, EHS-25-0560 <i>Present 2:10 PM-2:15 PM</i>	

Attended in Person: None – virtual meeting.

Attended via Zoom: All attendees were present via Zoom.

The IBC has 10 voting members. Six members, including at least one community representative, are required to conduct business.

A quorum was met and Dr. Belshan called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM

The Chair asked whether any members of the Committee had a conflict of interest for any item on the meeting agenda. No members reported a conflict of interest.

The Chair asked whether members of the Committee had received all necessary materials to complete their reviews for this meeting. All members confirmed they received all necessary materials to complete their reviews for this meeting.

The IBC Administrator reviewed the CITI training, documentation, and disclosure requirements for members of the IBC. No members present at this meeting had training, documentation, and/or disclosure deficiencies. All present members were therefore eligible to vote.

The Chair will vote only as necessary to maintain quorum or to break a tie in voting.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Committee reviewed and approved the **12-Sep-25 IBC Minutes** as written.

Total Vote Count	For	Against	Abstained	Absent	Recused
8	7	0	1	0	0

The Chair, Michael Belshan, abstained.

REVIEW OF PRIOR BUSINESS

None.

POLICY APPROVALS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, EDUCATION

- a. **Submitted IBC registration to NIH on 30-Sep**
 - i. The IBC Administrator reported to the Committee that Shannon McIntyre (Walsh) submitted the registration application to the NIH and that approval has not yet been issued.
- b. **Sent updated IBC letter templates to Rosa**
 - i. The IBC Administrator reported to the Committee that updated letter templates have been sent to the Applications Administrator. The updated letter templates include updated language, in Chair’s contact information, and uniform formatting.
- c. **Work on new IBC application in InfoEd**
 - i. The IBC Administrator reported to the Committee that there will be changes made to the IBC application in InfoEd. For example, the protocol should be typed or copy and pasted from a Word document into a text box, rather than uploaded as a Word document or PDF for ease of access and to utilize the “Form History” function on the application, making it easier to see when requested changes have been made. This function will be helpful in tracking personnel changes and changes to biosafety guidelines, as well. Another important change to be made is the branching logic – the behavior of the application when one question is answered and what questions will follow – of the application.
- d. **Proposed changes to documentation requirements for investigators**

- i. At this time, the IBC Office requires all personnel on an IBC registration to submit a signed and dated CV. The IBC Chair suggests that only the Principal Investigator should be required to submit a CV to reduce the amount of documentation needed to be reviewed. Another factor of this rationale is that documentation of proper training for all personnel is accessible by the IBC Office and would not necessarily be included on the CV for a student, for example. The IBC Chair will discuss with the Director of Research Compliance.

COMMITTEE REVIEW

Submission Number: EHS-25-0560-01

Title: Peripheral Auditory Input Regulates Lateral Cochlear Efferent System: an Optogenetic Study

Principal Investigator: Hui Hong

Submission Type: New

Type of Registration: Exempt Recombinant/Synthetic Nucleic Acid Registration

Determination: Approved with Conditions

Determination Date: 10-Oct-2025

Expiration Date: N/A

Total Vote Count	For	Against	Abstained	Absent	Recused
8	7	0	1	0	0

The Chair, Michael Belshan, abstained.

Agents:	Adeno-associated virus-1, Adeno-associated virus-rg (retrograde)
Agent Risk Group:	RG-1
NIH Guidelines category of r/s NA research, if applicable:	Section III-F

Summary: Adeno-associated virus (AAV) conjugated with Channelrhodopsin-2 (ChR2) will be employed to enable optogenetic manipulation in auditory circuits. This study is essential for revealing changes in synaptic connections between auditory structures following noise-induced hearing loss. All procedures will be conducted in accordance with our previously published protocols (Hong et al., 2022, PNAS).

Discussion: It was discussed by the Committee that the uploaded SASP includes language describing the virus as if it were a chemical or drug. The IBC Administrator informed the Committee that the attending veterinarian was assigned the submission in

InfoEd to review the SASP and approved it as written, and that the SASP does not fall under the IBC's scope of biosafety.

The Committee voted on a determination of Approved with Conditions. The following condition was given by the Committee: Modify the statement in the current biosafety guidelines and procedures document: "The bedding and waste from injected animals will be collected into biohazard bins and disposed according to EH&S protocol" to describe specific procedures to be used by personnel in the laboratory. The Committee voted to allow the Chair to issue full approval via expedited review once the condition has been satisfied.

All required training per institutional policy is complete for all individuals listed on this registration.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

**THIS MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:24 PM
END OF COMMITTEE REVIEW**

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 14-Nov-2025 at 2 PM.

END REPORT