

**Marquette University
Office of Research Compliance
Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)**

MINUTES

IBC Member Roster: Austin Fritsch (Voting Contact), Dennis Daye (Member), Michael Schlappi (Plant Expert), Murray Blackmore (Chair, Animal Expert), Edward M. Blumenthal (Member, Vice Chair), M. Behnam Ghasemzadeh (Animal Expert), Jason M. Keaton (Biosafety Officer), Allison E. Reeme (Member), Jerome Donohoe (Non-Affiliated), Eli Colina (Non-Affiliated), Rebecca A. Seevers (Non-Affiliated), Alicja Czyz (Non-Voting Member)

Present: Dennis Daye (Member), Murray Blackmore (Chair, Animal Expert), M. Behnam Ghasemzadeh (Animal Expert), Jerome Donohoe (Non-Affiliated), Eli Colina (Non-Affiliated), Rebecca A. Seevers (Non-Affiliated), Allison E. Reeme (Member),

Absent: Austin Fritsch (Voting Contact), Michael Schlappi (Plant Expert), Edward M. Blumenthal (Member, Vice Chair), Jason M. Keaton (Biosafety Officer),

Guests: Bek Altas, Dan Wheeler

- I. MEETING DATE:** June 25th, 2026
- II. MEETING TYPE:** Remote
- III. MEETING STATUS:** Open
- IV. QUORUM:** Present
- V. CALL TO ORDER:** 10:04 AM
- VI. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** A conflict of interest involving Dr. Blackmore was observed in relation to registration #5375.
- VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - A.** N/A
- VIII. REVIEW MEETING MINUTES**
 - A.** N/A
- IX. NEW REGISTRATION(S)**
 - A.** Daniel Wheeler, BISC; #5375: "Developing Tools for Gated Gene Expression"
 - i. Background:** The registration was resubmitted for full committee review following incorporation of the revisions requested at the May 19th, 2026 IBC meeting, at which time the registration was tabled.
 - ii. Project Overview:** The registration involves experiments for preclinical gene therapy development using plasmid DNAs to generate AAV particles. The utilized genetic components are composed of synthetic promoters, synthetic proteins, plant-derived domains transcription factors,

and reporter systems. They are non-pathogenic and therefore safe to handle under Biosafety Level 1 (BSL-1) The expression of the reporters will be primarily monitored via fluorescent proteins, specifically mScarlet. The initial phase of the proposed project involves in-vitro experiments using plasmid DNA in cell cultures to establish proof of function. Once those studies are completed successfully, AAV particles will be produced and used in animal experiments rather than cell culture systems. More specifically, the work would consist of proof-of-concept studies in mice designed to evaluate the developed gene therapy approach. Although transgene expression is ultimately a part of the broader research goal, the current registration does not include this state of work.

- iii. **Training Verification:** The training of the listed personnel was verified during the May 19th, 2026 IBC Meeting.
- iv. **Applicable section(s) of the NIH Guidelines:** It was determined that the proposed research falls under sections III-E-1, III-D-4, and III-F-8 appendix C-I, and III-F-8 appendix C-II.
- v. **Discussion:**
 - **Viral Vector Quality Control:** The committee inquired whether the other listed suppliers of AAVs perform controls comparable to those described by Addgene. It was explained that the listed suppliers perform sequencing, endotoxin testing, purity assessments, and titer measurements suitable for preclinical animal research.
- vi. **Required Changes:**
 - Ensure that the disinfectant contact time is listed as 10 minutes throughout the registration.
- vii. Motion to conditionally approved the registration, subject to revision by the designated reviewer:
 - Approve: 6, Deny: 0, Abstain: 0
 - Conflicts of interest: 1
 - A conflict of interest was observed. The conflict arose due to Dr. Blackmore's involvement in the project associated with registration #5375. Dr. Blackmore recused himself from the review of the registration.

X. THREE YEAR RENEWAL(S)

XI. MODIFICATION(S)

A. N/A

XII. DESIGNATED REVIEW(S)

A. New registration(s)

i. N/A

B. Three year renewal(s)

i. N/A

- C. Modification(s)
 - i. N/A
- XIII. TERMINATION(S)
 - A. N/A
- XIV. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS
 - A. N/A
- XV. TRAINING
 - A. N/A
- XVI. PUBLIC COMMENTS
 - A. N/A
- XVII. INSPECTIONS/ONGOING OVERSIGHT
 - A. N/A
- XVIII. ADJOURN 10:11 AM



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