

Do I need an IBC Protocol?

Guidance Chart UTRGV Institutional Biosafety Committee Protocols

MATERIAL	MANIPULATIONS	IBC Review Needed?		Review Type
		NO	YES	
Human/primate blood, bodily fluids, tissue samples or cells from non-at-risk populations/sources.	Collection, preparation for storage and shipment.	✓		None
	Collection, processing, organotypic culture, and/or manipulation for research.		✓	<i>ad hoc</i>
Human/primate blood, bodily fluids, tissue samples, or cells from known at-risk populations/sources.	Collection, organotypic culture, preparation for storage and shipment and/or manipulation for research.		✓	FCR
Commercially available human/vertebrate animal cell lines and tissues.	Acquisition, propagation, processing, and/or manipulation for research.		✓	<i>ad hoc</i>
Certified pathogen-free plant or invertebrate animal cell lines and tissues.	Collection, processing, propagation and/or manipulation for research.	✓		None
Recombinant or synthetic nucleic acids and viral vectors.	See NIH Guidelines		✓	FCR
Non-infectious microorganisms (RG1*) or materials containing RG1 organisms.	Possession, collection, propagation, processing, and manipulation for research of pure cultures volumes <10L.	✓		None
Pure cultures of infectious microorganisms (RG2, RG3 or RG4 [†]) or materials containing such infectious agents.	Possession, collection, propagation, processing and/or manipulation for research.		✓	FCR
Samples of soil, water, invertebrate animals or plants known to be free of pathogens. [#]	Collection, processing, and/or manipulation for research.	✓		None
Samples of soil, water, invertebrate animals or plants suspected or known to harbor pathogens.	Collection, processing, and/or manipulation for research or shipment.		✓	FCR

***Risk Group 1** (RG1) organisms are not known to cause disease in healthy human adults. **Risk Group 2** (RG2) organisms are known to cause limited or treatable disease in healthy human adults. **Risk Group 3** (RG3) organisms are known to cause serious or lethal human disease with limited treatments available. **Risk Group 4** (RG4) organisms are known to cause serious or lethal human disease and have no available treatments¹.

[†]UTRGV does not have the facilities and therefore cannot permit work with Risk Group 4 organisms.

[#] If presence of infectious agents is suspected or determined in the course of the manipulations, the activity becomes immediately subject to FCR IBC review.

¹ Partial lists of RG1, 2, 3 & 4 organisms are available through the [NIH Guidelines](#) and the [ABSA International Database](#).

[Chosewood, L. Casey and Deborah E Wilson. Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical laboratories \(BMBL\) 5th Edition Diane Publishing, 2009.](#)

ad hoc: protocol will be reviewed by Full Committee Review outside regularly scheduled meeting times either via an additionally scheduled convened meeting or through email.

FCR: Full Committee Review during a convened IBC meeting