

## NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC MEETING

April 9, 2020

The NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH Animal Care and Use Committee convened at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, April 9, 2020 via Webex. Three protocols and four amendments were reviewed, with actions taken.

1. Members:

Voting:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Redacted by agreement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Marsha Merrill (SNB)	Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dr. James O'Malley (AHCS)	Attending Veterinarian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Redacted by agreement	
<input type="checkbox"/>		
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Present	Absent

2. Guests:

Redacted by agreement

3. Call to Order:

- a. The minutes from the March 12, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

#### 4. Protocols:

- a. The Committee approved the following protocol(s) as written or pending minor administrative changes: None

- b. The Committee tabled the following protocol(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review by the designated review process:

i.

(b)(5)

ii.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

iii.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

- c. The Committee tabled the following protocol(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review at a future full Committee review: None.
- d. The following protocol(s), reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting, were approved by designated review:
  - i. ASP [Redacted] Title: "Development of the Vertebrate Inner Ear," [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.
- e. The Committee approved by designated member review the following protocol(s):
  - i. ASP [Redacted] Title: "Determination of Optimum Percent CO2 Chamber Filling Rate for Rodent CO2 Euthanasia," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.

5. Amendments:

- a. The Committee approved the following amendment(s) as written or pending minor administrative changes:

- i. ASP [Redacted] #3, Title: "The Regulation of Synaptic Transmission," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.

This amendment adds 80 mice of a new knockout line for a study involving new drug injections and sleep recording.

- ii. ASP [Redacted] #11, Title: "Gene Therapy for Hearing Loss and Dizziness," [Redacted by agreement] [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.

This amendment utilizes already approved surgery protocols to inject Baculovirus into the mouse inner ear. Baculovirus is not pathogenic to human or mice, but has the ability to carry large genes. The assessment of transduction success will be assessed by GFP expression. No additional animals have been requested for this amendment.

- b. The Committee tabled the following amendment(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and be re-reviewed by the designated review process:

- i. (b)(5)



(b)(5)

ii.

(b)(5)

c. The Committee tabled the following amendment(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review at a future full Committee review: None.

d. The following amendment(s) reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting were approved by designated review:

i. ASP <sup>Redacted</sup><sub>d</sub> #2, Title: "Transferrin Receptor Binding Nanoparticles to Specifically Deliver MicroRNA Therapeutics to Treat Head and Neck Cancer," <sup>Redacted by agreement</sup>  
<sup>Redacted</sup><sub>hv</sub> NIDCD.

ii. ASP <sup>Redacted</sup><sub>ed</sub> #8, Title: "Mitochondrial Quality Control," <sup>Redacted by agreement</sup> NINDS.

iii. ASP <sup>Redacted</sup><sub>ed</sub> #5, Title: "Transgenic Mouse Model of Human Endogenous Retroviruses in Neurological Diseases," <sup>Redacted by agreement</sup> NINDS.

iv. ASP <sup>Redacted</sup><sub>ed</sub> #8, Title: "Gene Therapy for Hearing Loss and Dizziness," <sup>Redacted by agreement</sup>  
<sup>Redacted</sup><sub>hv</sub> NIDCD.

v. ASP <sup>Redacted</sup><sub>ed</sub> #2, Title: "Synaptic Circuitry of Olivocochlear Efferent Neurons," <sup>Redacted by agreement</sup>  
<sup>Redacted by agreement</sup> NIDCD.

vi. ASP <sup>Redacted</sup><sub>ed</sub> #1, Title: "Functional Evaluation and Regulation of the Blood-Brain Barrier in Glioma Models," <sup>Redacted by agreement</sup> NINDS.

e. The Committee approved by designated member review the following amendment(s): None.

f. The Committee approved by Veterinary Verification and Consultation the following amendment(s): None.

g. The Committee approved by Unconditional Administrative Process the following amendment(s):

i. ASP <sup>Redacted</sup><sub>ed</sub> #3 <sup>Redacted by agreement</sup> added <sup>Redacted by agreement</sup> and removed <sup>Redacted by agreement</sup>

6. Annual Reviews:

- a. The Committee approved by Designated Member Review the annual review of the following protocols: None.

7. Post-Approval Monitoring:

- a. On March 10, three recently weaned mice were found dead in a flooded cage. The appeared to have been flooded for two or three days before it was found. Investigation is on going.
- b. The response from OLAW for a previously reported zebrafish incident was included in the meeting documents.

8. Old Business:

- a. In response to guidance from OLAW a revised version of the ACUC's policy for significant changes was presented to the ACUC. This version lists specific references for the VVC review process. There was a request to add a statement specifically noting that changes in duration or frequency of Category E behavioral tests need to be brought to the full committee for review. The Committee accepted the new policy with the addition of this statement.

9. New Business:

- a. The Chair summarized the March ARAC meeting. The main topic being how the NIH intramural program is responding to COVID-19: reduction of personnel, reduction of lab work to mission-critical functions, and maintaining essential supplies.
- b. Discussion of "tips only" surgical technique was tabled for the next month.
- c. The Committee approved the use of ad hoc reviewers for the semi-annual site-visit to 

Redacted by agreement
- d. The Committee approved the emergency plan for animal care staff reductions due to COVID-19.
- e. The Committee performed their program review by reviewing a document describing the changes that have been made to the program since the last AAALAC Program Description. The Attending Veterinarian (AV) also described some recent changes that were not captured in this document due to COVID-19: a positive test among the animal care staff created a 20-30% reduction in staff for precautionary isolation. This prevented the plan for splitting the staff into two separate teams from being implemented. The Chair asked whether there was a noticeable decrease in investigator use. The AV said there has been a varied response from the labs about reducing colony size.

10. The next NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2020 at 1:00 PM via Webex.

## NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC MEETING

May14, 2020

The NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH Animal Care and Use Committee convened at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, May14, 2020 via Webex. Four protocols were reviewed, with actions taken.

1. Members:

Voting:

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Marsha Merrill (SNB)	Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. James O'Malley (AHCS)	Attending Veterinarian
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<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Present	Absent

2. Guests:

Redacted by agreement

3. Call to Order:

- a. The minutes from the April 9, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

#### 4. Protocols:

- a. The Committee approved the following protocol(s) as written or pending minor administrative changes:

- i. Title: “Mechano-Electrical and Electro-Mechanical Transduction in Sensory Hair Cells,” [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.

The Griffith laboratory studies the inner ear sensory cells and hair cells. They utilize guinea pigs, rats, and mice to accomplish this task. They primarily euthanize animals prior to tissue collection of the inner ear hair cells. Other work involves knocking out genes and studying hearing and vestibular function in mice. They do this by studying startle responses and auditory brainstem responses in primarily anesthetized mice. This is a renewal of an existing protocol and they have been highly successful in publishing in this area. Mice have early endpoints or removal from treatment groups for any potentially dangerous experimental conditions. Rodents in this protocol have traditionally had minimal negative side effects.

- ii. Title: “Mouse Spermatozoa Cryopreservation and Archiving,” [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.

The aim of this project is to cryopreserve mouse sperm to safely maintain/store important mouse transgenic lines.

- b. The Committee tabled the following protocol(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review by the designated review process:

- i.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

ii.

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

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- c. The Committee tabled the following protocol(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review at a future full Committee review: None.
- d. The following protocol(s), reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting, were approved by designated review:
  - i. ASP<sup>Redacted</sup> Title: "Breeding of Rodent Lines and Harvest of Tissue for the Study of Somatosensation,"<sup>Redacted by agreement</sup> NCCIH.
- e. The Committee approved by designated member review the following protocol(s): None.

5. Amendments:

- a. The Committee approved the following amendment(s) as written or pending minor administrative changes: None.
- b. The Committee tabled the following amendment(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and be re-reviewed by the designated review process: None.
- c. The Committee tabled the following amendment(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review at a future full Committee review: None.
- d. The following amendment(s) reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting were approved by designated review:

- i. ASP [Redacted] #1, Title: "Mechanisms of Protection Against Hair Cell Death," [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.
- ii. ASP [Redacted] #3, Title: "The Regulation of Synaptic Transmission," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.
- iii. ASP [Redacted] #1, Title: "Local Protein Translation in Mammalian Neuronal Axons," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.
- iv. ASP [Redacted] #4, Title: "Utilization of Mouse Models to Study Sinonasal Malignancies," [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.
- v. ASP [Redacted] #1, Title: "Congenital Myasthenic Syndromes Platform Vector Gene Therapy Design," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.

- e. The Committee approved by designated member review the following amendment(s): None.
- f. The Committee approved by Veterinary Verification and Consultation the following amendment(s): None.
- g. The Committee approved by Unconditional Administrative Process the following amendment(s):
  - i. ASP [Redacted] #1, [Redacted by agreement] added [Redacted by agreement] from the protocol.

6. Annual Reviews:

- a. The Committee approved by Designated Member Review the annual review of the following protocols:
  - i. ASP [Redacted by agreement]
  - ii. ASP [Redacted]
  - iii. ASP [Redacted]

- iv. ASP Redacted by agreement
- v. ASP

7. Post-Approval Monitoring:

- a. On March 10, three recently weaned mice were found dead in a flooded cage. The conditions of the cage indicated that the cage had been flooded for two or three days before it was found. This means it was missed by multiple individuals over several cage checks. The Chair will draft an incident report for the next ACUC meeting.

8. Old Business:

- a. The ACUC's policy for significant changes was brought back to the ACUC. This version had a few minor corrections and added a statement that amendments approved through the VVC process would be included in the minutes (which is just a clarification of the existing procedures). The Committee accepted the new policy with the addition of this statement.

9. New Business:

- a. The Attending Veterinarian provided the Committee with a description of "tips-only" surgical technique. The use of this technique requires appropriate training and must be described in the ASP. The Committee accepted this as guidance for PIs.
- b. The final report from the OLAW visit was included in the meeting materials. The Chair noted that OLAW found several good aspects about our program. The Attending Vet discussed three things that OLAW thought needed improvement. 1) The VVC policy should list specific drugs or have references to approved drug formularies. The Committee has reviewed changes to the VVC policy in response to this comment. 2) Rodent pups should be counted at first cage change or manipulation, which ever comes first. The AV expects some PI pushback and has sent his concerns to OACU. 3) An off-site zebrafish satellite facility lacked separation laboratory activities and is not operated at the same standard as the large on-site zebrafish facility. The Committee has not found this facility to be out of compliance and intends to challenge this comment.
- c. The spring semi-annual report was included in the meeting materials for committee members to review. No one had any issues with the report, and all were asked to provide signatures electronically.

- 10. The next NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2020 at 1:00 PM via Webex.

## NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC MEETING

June 11, 2020

The NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH Animal Care and Use Committee convened at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, June 11, 2020 via Webex. Two protocols were reviewed, with actions taken.

1. Members:

Voting:

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Marsha Merrill (SNB)	Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. James O'Malley (AHCS)	Attending Veterinarian

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□ Present      ■ Absent

2. Guests:

Redacted by agreement

3. Call to Order:

- a. The minutes from the May 14, 2020 meeting were approved with minor changes.

#### 4. Protocols:

- a. The Committee approved the following protocol(s) as written or pending minor administrative changes:
- i. Title: “Development and Regulation of Neuroendocrine Cells Expressing the LHRH/GnRH,” [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.

b. The Committee tabled the following protocol(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review by the designated review process:

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

- c. The Committee tabled the following protocol(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review at a future full Committee review: None.
- d. The following protocol(s), reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting, were approved by designated review:
  - i. [Redacted by agreement], Title: "Mechano-Electrical and Electro-Mechanical Transduction in Sensory Hair Cells," [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.
  - ii. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Teleost Retinal Circuits," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.
- e. The Committee approved by designated member review the following protocol(s): None.

5. Amendments:

- a. The Committee approved the following amendment(s) as written or pending minor administrative changes: None.
- b. The Committee tabled the following amendment(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and be re-reviewed by the designated review process: None.
- c. The Committee tabled the following amendment(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review at a future full Committee review: None.
- d. The following amendment(s) reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting were approved by designated review: None.
- e. The Committee approved by designated member review the following amendment(s):
  - i. [Redacted by agreement] #1, Title: "Mechano-Electrical and Electro-Mechanical Transduction in Sensory Hair Cells," [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.
- f. The Committee approved by Veterinary Verification and Consultation the following amendment(s): None.
- g. The Committee approved by Unconditional Administrative Process the following amendment(s):
  - i. [Redacted by agreement] #1 [Redacted by agreement] added [Redacted by agreement] to the protocol.

6. Annual Reviews:

- a. The Committee approved by Designated Member Review the annual review of the following protocols:

- i. ASP
  - ii. ASP
  - iii. ASP
  - iv. ASP
  - v. ASP
- 

7. Post-Approval Monitoring:

- a. A draft letter to the IO for the incident that occurred on March 10 and discussed at the May meeting was presented to the Committee. The letter was accepted as written.

8. Old Business: None.

9. New Business:

- a. The Chair gave a brief summary of the May ARAC meeting. Topics included plans for returning to the physical workplace, an update to the Center for Disease Research project, and policy/guideline changes in response to the OLAW report.
- b. The Committee discussed their response to the OLAW report. The Attending Vet discussed three things that OLAW thought needed improvement. 1) A rebuttal statement for the zebrafish satellite facility to OACU. 2) ARAC is making changes to their significant changes guideline, and the Committee should wait before making any additional changes to our policy. 3) The program has decided to implement a method for counting pups at the first cage change. One member asked whether this was likely to inflate animal numbers, but was reminded that PIs are already required to justify all animals that are born so the number of animals shouldn't increase. There was some concern about handling of "delicate strains."

10. The next NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2020 at 1:00 PM via Webex.

# NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC MEETING

July 9, 2020

The NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH Animal Care and Use Committee convened at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, July 9, 2020 via Webex. Three protocols and one amendment were reviewed, with actions taken.

## 1. Members:

### Voting:

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Maria Lorenzo (AHCS)      Attending Veterinarian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Redacted by agreement
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Marsha Merrill (SNB)      Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Redacted by agreement
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent

## 2. Guests:

Redacted by agreement
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## 3. Call to Order:

- a. The minutes from the June 11, 2020 meeting were inadvertently overlooked and will come back at the August meeting.

## 4. Protocols:

- a. The Committee approved the following protocol(s) as written or pending minor administrative changes: None.

- b. The Committee tabled the following protocol(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review by the designated review process:

i.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

ii.

(b)(5)

iii.

(b)(5)

- c. The Committee tabled the following protocol(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review at a future full Committee review: None.
- d. The following protocol(s), reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting, were approved by designated review:
  - i. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Development and Regulation of Neuroendocrine Cells Expressing the LHRH/GnRH Gene," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.
  - ii. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Anatomical, Cellular, and Molecular Mechanisms of Visceral Pain," [Redacted by agreement] NCCIH.



iii. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Neural Mechanisms Underlying Vocalization and Breathing in Rodent," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.

iv. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Neural Mechanism of Spatial Navigation and Memory," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.

e. The Committee approved by designated member review the following protocol(s): None.

5. Amendments:

a. The Committee approved the following amendment(s) as written or pending minor administrative changes: None.

b. The Committee tabled the following amendment(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and be re-reviewed by the designated review process:

i. (b)(5)

[Redacted content]

(b)(5)

- c. The Committee tabled the following amendment(s) for revision to address the concerns mentioned in the discussion and re-review at a future full Committee review: None.
- d. The following amendment(s) reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting were approved by designated review: None.
- e. The Committee approved by designated member review the following amendment(s):

- i. [Redacted by agreement] #3, Title: "Breeding of Marmosets," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.
  - ii. [Redacted by agreement] #1, Title: "AHCS Primate Holding," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.
- f. The Committee approved by Veterinary Verification and Consultation the following amendment(s): None.
- g. The Committee approved by Unconditional Administrative Process the following amendment(s):
- i. [Redacted by agreement] #6, [Redacted by agreement] added [Redacted by agreement] to the protocol.
  - ii. [Redacted by agreement] #1, [Redacted by agreement] added [Redacted by agreement]  
[Redacted by agreement]

6. Annual Reviews:

- a. The Committee approved by Designated Member Review the annual review of the following protocols:
- i. ASP [Redacted by agreement]
  - ii. ASP
  - iii. ASP
  - iv. ASP
  - v. ASP
  - vi. ASP
  - vii. ASP
  - viii. ASP
  - ix. ASP

7. Post-Approval Monitoring:

- a. On Monday, June 8 a cage containing one mouse in poor condition was found with an empty water bottle. In addition to the signs of apparent dehydration, an ocular concern was also identified. The mouse was euthanized, and an investigation was initiated. It appears that the water bottle became empty over the weekend, a circumstance that went unnoticed by the staff. Follow up actions will be taken with the staff involved to prevent this from happening in the future. An incident memo will be presented at the August meeting.

8. Old Business: None.

9.

10. New Business:

- a. The Chair gave a brief summary of the June ARAC meeting. Topics included changes to two guidelines and one new guideline in response to the OLAW report. The guidelines

were included in the ACUC packet and will need to be compared to the ACUC's guidelines.

11. The next NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2020 at 1:00 PM via Webex.

## NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC MEETING

August 13, 2020

The NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH Animal Care and Use Committee convened at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, August 13, 2020 via Webex. Two protocols and three amendments were reviewed, with actions taken.

1. Members:

Voting:

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Redacted by agreement

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Dr. Maria Lorenzo (AHCS)

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Attending Veterinarian

Redacted by agreement

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Dr. Marsha Merrill (SNB)

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Chair

Redacted by agreement

Present

Absent

2. Guests:

Redacted by agreement

3. Call to Order:

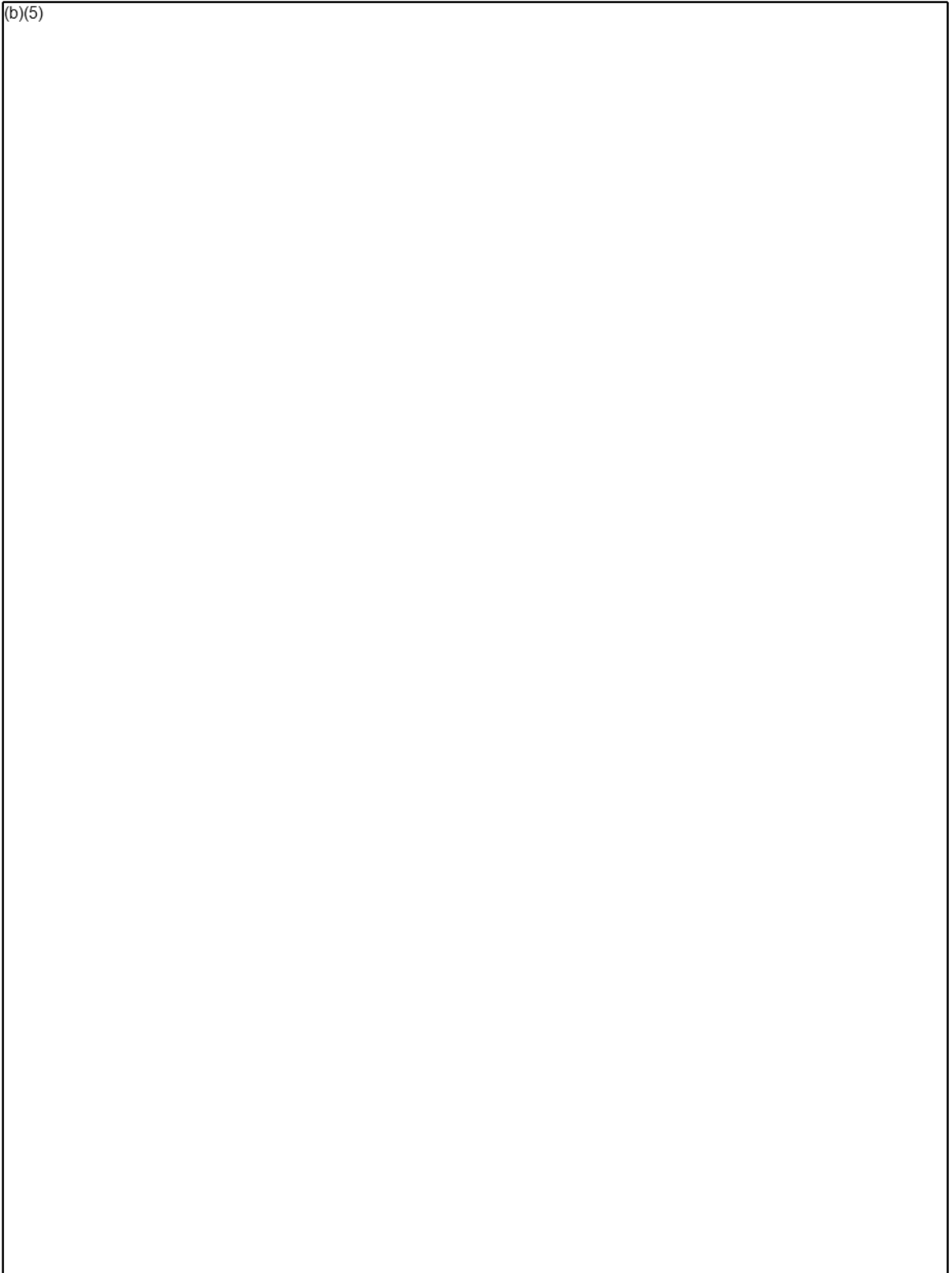
- a. The minutes from the June 11, 2020 and July 9, 2020 meetings were approved as written.

#### 4. Protocols:

- a. The following protocol(s) were approved: None.

- b. Modifications are required to secure approval for the following protocol(s) and revisions will be reviewed by the Designated Member Review process:

- i. (b)(5)



(b)(5)

ii.

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

- c. Modifications are required to secure approval for the following protocol(s) and revisions will be reviewed at a future Full Committee Review: None.
- d. The following protocol(s), reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting, were approved by Designated Member Review:
  - i. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Transferrin Receptor Binding Nanoparticles to Specifically Deliver MicroRNA Therapeutics to Treat Head and Neck Cancer," [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.
  - ii. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "The Study of Somatosensation in Mice," [Redacted by agreement] NCCIH.
- e. The Committee approved by Designated Member Review the following protocol(s): None.

5. Amendments:

- a. The following amendment(s) were approved: None.
- b. Modifications are required to secure approval for the following amendment(s) and revisions will be reviewed by the Designated Member Review process:

i.

(b)(5)

ii.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

iii.

(b)(5)

- c. Modifications are required to secure approval for the following amendment(s) and revisions will be reviewed at a future Full Committee Review: None.
- d. The following amendment(s), reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting, were approved by Designated Member Review:

- i. 

Redacted by  
agreement

 #11, Title: "Gene Therapy for Hearing Loss and Dizziness," 

Redacted by  
agreement

Redacted by  
agreement

 NIDCD.

ii. [Redacted by agreement] #3, Title: "Spinal Circuits and Plasticity," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.

iii. [Redacted by agreement] #1, Title: "Development of the Afferent and Efferent Innervation of the Mouse Inner Ear," [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.

e. The Committee approved by Designated Member Review the following amendment(s):

i. [Redacted by agreement] #14, Title: "Mouse Genes Required for Inner Ear Development and Function," [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.

ii. [Redacted by agreement] #2, Title: "Characterization of Sensory Cell Function and Development in Zebrafish," [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.

f. The Committee approved by Veterinary Verification and Consultation the following amendment(s): None.

g. The Committee approved by Unconditional Administrative Process the following amendment(s):

i. [Redacted by agreement] #15, [Redacted by agreement] added [Redacted by agreement] to the protocol.

ii. [Redacted by agreement] #4 [Redacted by agreement] added the NL2 knockout mouse strain to the protocol.

iii. [Redacted by agreement] # [Redacted by agreement] add [Redacted by agreement] and transferred 16 mice from a collaborating ASP.

## 6. Annual Reviews:

a. The Committee approved by Designated Member Review the annual review of the following protocols:

- i. ASP [Redacted by agreement]
- ii. ASP [Redacted by agreement]
- iii. ASP [Redacted by agreement]
- iv. ASP [Redacted by agreement]

## 7. Incident Reports:

a. The Chair discussed the investigative findings and resolution of the incident that occurred on June 8. A draft of the incident memo will be provided to the Committee the Committee subsequently.

## 8. Old Business: None.

## 9. New Business:

- a. The Committee discussed issues that PIs were encountering when trying to add new investigators to their protocols. The two major issues were 1) enrollment in the Animal Exposure Program and 2) taking the Aseptic Techniques training.
    - 1) It was taking months to get an appointment with OMS and then for OMS to update the database. The OACU observer asked to be notified of delays with OMS, and he would look into the issue.
    - 2) The online quiz that is supposed to be taken as part of the aseptic training is not working properly. The ACUC coordinators are looking into problem, and in the meantime the certificates will be waived and investigators can take the quiz at a later time. Investigators are still expected to watch the video prior to the didactic portion of training and should notify the ACUC coordinators when they have watched the video.
  - b. The Chair gave a brief summary of the July ARAC meeting. Scientific merit review for NHP studies was the main topic of discussion.
10. The next NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2020 at 1:00 PM via Webex.

# NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC MEETING

October 8, 2020

The NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH Animal Care and Use Committee convened at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, October 8, 2020 via Webex. Two protocols and three amendments were reviewed, with actions taken.

## 1. Members:

### Voting:

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Maria Lorenzo (AHCS)      Attending Veterinarian
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Marsha Merrill (SNB)      Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Redacted by agreement
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☐ Present      ☒ Absent

## 2. Guests:

Redacted by agreement
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## 3. Call to Order:

- a. The minutes from the August 13, 2020 meetings were approved as written.

## 4. Protocols:

- a. The following protocol(s) were approved:



- i. [Redacted by agreement] Title “Probing the Neural Basis of Cognitive Dysfunction in Mouse Models of Genetic Predisposition to Schizophrenia,” [Redacted by agreement] NINDS. [Redacted by agreement] recused himself from the discussion.

The studies in this proposal use experimental mice to characterize the neural circuit basis of spatial working memory and its dysfunction in models of genetic susceptibility to schizophrenia. This protocol was approved pending the administrative additions of adding the description of a cognitive defect for one of the strains and any safety language from the pending safety review.

- b. Modifications are required to secure approval for the following protocol(s) and revisions will be reviewed by the Designated Member Review process:

- i. (b)(5)
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(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

- c. Modifications are required to secure approval for the following protocol(s) and revisions will be reviewed at a future Full Committee Review: None.
- d. The following protocol(s), reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting, were approved by Designated Member Review:
  - i. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Mechanisms of Neuronal Excitability in the Central Nervous System," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.
  - ii. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Generation of patient-derived xenograft models," [Redacted by agreement] [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.
  - iii. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "MRI of the Brain in Awake Rats," [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.
- e. The Committee approved by Designated Member Review the following protocol(s): None.

5. Amendments:

- a. The following amendment(s) were approved:
  - i. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Genetic Tools to Explore Retinal Circuitry," [Redacted by agreement] [Redacted by agreement] NINDS.

This amendment adds 48 mice for visual detection behavioral experiments.

- b. Modifications are required to secure approval for the following amendment(s) and revisions will be reviewed by the Designated Member Review process:

i.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

ii.

(b)(5)

- c. Modifications are required to secure approval for the following amendment(s) and revisions will be reviewed at a future Full Committee Review: None.
- d. The following amendment(s), reviewed at an earlier full Committee meeting, were approved by Designated Member Review:
- i. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Utilization of mouse models to study sinonasal malignancies,"  
[Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.
- e. The Committee approved by Designated Member Review the following amendment(s):
- i. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Development of Molecular Contrast Agents for Brain MRI,"  
[Redacted by agreement] NINDS.
- f. The Committee approved by Veterinary Verification and Consultation the following amendment(s):
- i. [Redacted by agreement] Title: "Molecular and Epigenetic Mechanisms of Hereditary Hearing  
Loss," [Redacted by agreement] NIDCD.
- g. The Committee approved by Unconditional Administrative Process the following amendment(s):
- i. [Redacted by agreement]  
ii.  
iii.  
iv.  
v.  
vi.  
vii.  
viii.

- ix. Redacted by agreement
- x.
- xi.
- xii.
- xiii.
- xiv.
- xv.
- xvi.
- xvii.
- xviii.

6. Annual Reviews:

- a. The Committee approved by Designated Member Review the annual review of the following protocols: None.

7. Incident Reports:

- a. The Chair provided a draft of the letter for the incident that occurred on June 8. The committee accepted the letter as written.

- b. (b)(5) The investigation is on-going.

- c. One of the vets also informed the Committee of an incident being investigated by another IC that occurred in the shared facility.

8. Old Business: None.

9. New Business:

- a. The Chair gave a brief summary of the September ARAC meeting, including a discussion about FOIA requests.
- b. Some ACUC members requested clarification about the change in CO2 flow rate for euthanasia as described in the newest AVMA Guidelines for Euthanasia.
- c. The Committee performed the semi-annual program review. There were changes to the veterinary staff, including the Attending Veterinarian, and also changes to the ACUC roster. Some temporary changes were made to animal husbandry procedures and personnel safety requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A few rooms in the animal facility have been changed from procedure rooms to holding rooms. One minor deficiency was noted; some site-visits occurred outside of their proper date range due to difficulty of scheduling visits while under COVID-19 restrictions.



10. The next NINDS/NIDCD/NCCIH ACUC meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2020 at 1:00 PM.