

Proceedings of 8th Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBSC), LUVAS meeting held on 28.05.2025 at 9:00 am in the committee room of Vice-Chancellor's Secretariat Old Campus, LUVAS, Hisar.

Following were present in the meeting:

Dr. Naresh Jindal, Chairman IBSC; and Director of Research, LUVAS, Hisar
 Dr. B. R. Gulati, Director NIVEDI, Bengaluru (DBT's nominee), Joined online via google meet link.
 Dr. Bidhan Chandra Bera, Principal Scientist, NRCE, Hisar (Outside expert)
 Dr. Meenakshi Chaudhary, Medical officer, CCS HAU, Hisar (Biosafety officer)
 Dr. Swati Dahiya, Scientist, Vety. Microbiology, LUVAS, Hisar (Internal Member)
 Dr. Aman Kumar, Senior Scientist, ABT, LUVAS, Hisar (Internal Member)
 Dr. Joshi Vinay Ganeshrao, Scientist ABT, LUVAS, Hisar (Internal Member)
 Dr. Sushila Maan, Professor and Head, ABT, LUVAS, Hisar (Member Secretary)

At the outset, the member secretary welcomed the Chairman, DBT expert and members of the IBSC for the meeting. Following seventeen agenda items were presented by concerned PIs. All the students and PIs presented their proposals. Valuable suggestions were given by different members of IBSC, which were incorporated by all PIs.

Sr. No	Title of Proposal	Major Advisor/Student/PI	Approved/rejected/deferred/ any other remarks of IBSC
1.	Molecular detection, isolation and characterization of avian metapneumovirus and infectious bronchitis virus from respiratory disease complex affected poultry	PI-Dr. Naresh Jindal, Prof, VPHE) (Dr. Khushbu, Ph.D.	Avian metapneumovirus and Infectious bronchitis virus both are Risk Group 2 pathogens, hence the proposal was approved.
2.	To determine the direct efficacy of BCG vaccination in buffaloes and indirect efficacy in reducing onward transmission	(PI-Dr. Ramesh Kumar, DIO, VPHE)	The BCG vaccine strain is Risk Group 2. The proposal is approved with suggestion to the PI to follow proper vaccination and health checkup of handlers and maintain the record.
3.	Development of monoclonal antibody-based ELISA for detection of IL-17A in bovines	(PI- Dr. Anita Dalal, Asstt. Prof, VMC) (Dr. Gajendra Singh, M.V.Sc)	Approved. Although the PI will use archived serum samples, however it was suggested to take all key biosafety precautions while collecting fresh blood samples from chronic disease cases. It was also suggested to take IAEC approval for the project.
4.	Development of duplex PCR assay for detection of Chicken Parvovirus and Fowl Adenovirus in poultry	(PI- Dr. Vandna Bhanot, Sr. DIO, VPHE) (Dr. Gurmandeep, M.V.Sc)	Chicken Parvovirus and Fowl Adenovirus are Risk Group 2 pathogens, hence approved.
5.	Pathomorphological and molecular studies on hepato-renal affections in broiler chickens	(PI-Dr. Babu Lal Jangir, Asstt. Prof, VPP) (Dr. Jitender Vertia, M.V.Sc)	The proposal involves Salmonella, Adenovirus, Infectious Bronchitis virus, Astroviruses which are all Risk Group 2 pathogens, hence approved.
6.	Molecular epidemiology, virus isolation, characterization and upscaling of vaccines for BTV	(PI-Dr Sushila Maan Prof & Head ABT; Co-PI Dr Kanisht Batra, Assistant Prof, ABT)	BTV is Risk Group 2 virus, hence approved.
7.	Development of nanoparticles-based method for enrichment and detection of avian <i>Salmonella</i> spp.	(PI-Dr. Joshi Vinay Ganeshrao, Scientist, ABT) (Dr. Shubham, M.V.Sc)	Avian <i>Salmonella</i> spp. is a Risk Group 2 pathogen, hence approved.
8.	Development of nanoparticles-based method for enrichment and detection of avian <i>Escherichia</i> spp.	(PI: Dr. Pawan Kumar, Asstt. Prof, ABT) (Dr. Sharadha Vasal, M.V.Sc)	Avian <i>Escherichia</i> spp. is a Risk Group 2 pathogen, hence approved.
9.	Production and characterization of Nanobodies for the development of an ELISA-based detection of foot-and-mouth disease virus.	(PI- Dr. Pankaj Kumar, DIO, VPHE) (Dr. Deepika Sheroan, Ph.D)	Approved, as no direct handling of FMDV is proposed in the project.
10.	PI region-based molecular detection and characterization of foot-and-mouth disease virus from clinically suspected cases	(PI-Dr. Swati Dahiya, Scientist, VMC) (Dr. Parminder, M.V.Sc)	Approved, as no direct handling of FMDV is proposed in the project.

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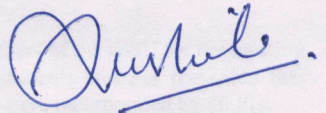
11.	Recombinant Proteins products as a vaccine candidate under the project entitled, "Development of vaccine against animal's haemoprotozoan parasites for mitigating biotic stress"	(PI-Dr. Tarun Kumar, Asstt. Prof)	Approved. The first component of the project involves construction of recombinant protein-based vaccine candidate. This work will be conducted in NRCE, Hisar for which scientists from NRCE who are involved in the project have taken approval from NRCE IBSC. However, the LUVAS PI will carry out the 2 nd component of the project which is vaccine trial studies. Key biosafety consideration for safe handling and storage; environmental impact and worker safety will be taken care of.
12.	Molecular characterization and comparative genomic analysis of <i>Brucella</i> species associated with abortion in bovines	(PI-Dr. Rajesh, HOD, VMC) (Dr. Bhumika, M.V.Sc)	Approved. The work involves molecular work on <i>Brucella</i> sp. detection. As per List of Infective Microorganisms corresponding to different Risk Groups, 2021 section C page number 28, <i>Brucella</i> is risk group 3 pathogen however the explanation in same document marked *5 on page 34 explains "For research and development activities involving clinical materials of human or animal origin, BSL-2 facility may be considered; while for all manipulations of cultures and for experimental animal studies, BSL-3 facility should be considered" accordingly handling of clinical samples As <i>Brucella</i> is BSL-3 pathogen hence it was suggested to bring the samples to the lab in lysis buffer for further work. So the approval was given for BSL-2 work only. In case the PI wants to do any isolation work then they will use BSL-3 facility and they will need separate IBSC approval from the concerned institute.
13.	For isolation and identify <i>Clostridium</i> species and <i>Helicobacter</i> species	(PI-Dr. Deepika, Assoc. Prof, VPP) (Dr. Neeraj, M.V.Sc)	Approved. It was suggested that though both the pathogens are Risk Group 1, however all the precautions to be followed as per BSL2 guidelines while working.
14.	<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp isolates will sub-cultured in the laboratory for the experimental trial entitled "In-vivo pathogenicity study of bovine <i>Acinetobacter</i> spp. in Swiss albino mice	(PI-Dr. Vikas Nehra, Sr. Scientist &HOD, VPP)	Approved. Suggested to mention both species of <i>Acinetobacter</i> in the proposal.
15.	Expression and characterization of scFv clones selected against FMD serotype "0*" from bovine scFv-phage display library	(PI- Dr. Akhil Kumar Gupta, Scientist, VMC)	Approved. No virus handling is involved
16.	Exploring potential targets for development of diagnostics and vaccine candidates against neglected swine enteric viruses	(PI-Dr. Parveen Kumar, Asstt Prof, VMC)	Approved. The PI has been asked to submit the revised proposal mentioning each of the neglected swine enteric viruses and their BSL categories. The PI has done the needful. All the pathogens are Risk Group 2, hence approved.
17.	Isolation & characterization of avian paramyxovirus 1 from poultry	(PI: Dr. Aman Kumar, Sr. Scientist, ABT)	Approved.

Note:

- The projects particularly those requiring handling clinical samples of Risk Group 3 pathogens exempted under *5 (at S. No 3 and 12) need to bring inactivated samples to the lab in lysis buffer and should not handle any live virus or bacteria. They should also mark the laboratory area where such type of inactivated pathogens are to be handled.
- As the projects at S.No 11 and 12 also involve working at NRCE Hisar, hence these proposals also need to be approved by IBSC of NRCE, Hisar. LUVAS component of the proposal is hereby approved.

After detailed discussions all the agenda items were approved by the IBSC.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.



Dr. Sushila Maan, Member Secretary