



## Environment, Health and Safety Office

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## Institutional Biosafety Committee

### Overview

The Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) works closely with the [Human Subjects Committee \(HSC\)](#) who acts as KUMC's Institutional Review Board (IRB) in regards to research involving humans. The committee also works closely with the [Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee \(IACUC\)](#) in regards to research involving research. Diligently fostering an open line of communication between all the above mentioned parties is vital to ensure that research is conducted in a manner consistent with the biosafety practices outlined within both accepted industry standards and mandatory regulations.

The committee meets monthly and welcomes public citizens to attend. The meeting dates and times for the first half of 2014 are found below. If you are interested in attending a meeting, please contact Charles Cherrito at [ccherrito@kumc.edu](mailto:ccherrito@kumc.edu) or 913-588-5206.

2014-06-09

2014-07-14

2014-08-11

2014-09-08

2014-10-13

2014-11-10

2014-12-08

2015-01-12

### Charter

The IBC has developed a "Charter" that defines the IBC's roles and responsibilities and its prevue for reviewing protocols. The IBC Charter can be found [here](#). The IBC is charged with the responsibility of overseeing four aspects of research (animal, human or bench-top) conducted at KUMC; they include:

- a. Recombinant DNA (rDNA)
- b. Synthetic DNA

- c. Select Pathogenic Agents and/or Toxins (BSAT)
- d. Etiological Agents

## Definitions

Below are the most current definitions regarding each topic pertinent for review from the IBC. The definitions are directly from each federally governing body.

### Recombinant DNA (rDNA) & Synthetic DNA

In the context of the *NIH Guidelines*, recombinant and synthetic nucleic acids are defined as:

1. molecules that are constructed by joining nucleic acid molecules and can replicate in a living cell
2. nucleic acid molecules that are chemically or by other means synthesized or amplified, including those that are chemically or otherwise modified but can base pair with naturally occurring nucleic acid molecules
3. molecules that result from the replication of those described in 1 or 2 above

### Select Pathogenic Agents and/or Toxins (BSAT)

Biological select agents and toxins are a subset of agents that the United States Departments of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Agriculture (USDA) have determined to have the potential to pose a severe threat to public health and safety, to animal or plant health, or to animal or plant products.

### Etiological Agents

An etiologic agent is defined as being any kind of microorganism that can cause a human to develop a disease. The definition includes microorganism like bacteria and viruses. Etiologic agents are also referred to as toxins.

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#### Contact KUMC

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