I. BMC Response to Novel Coronavirus Outbreak

BMC’s Hospital Epidemiologist briefly commented on how BMC is approaching the novel coronavirus outbreak from an infection control standpoint.

II. Protocol Review

1. Bhz – Amendment

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<tr>
<th>BUA</th>
<th>(PI)</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>BSL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1823</td>
<td>BUA</td>
<td>Storage, Propagation and Distribution of Francisella tularensis</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Storage, Propagation and Distribution of Yersinia pestis</td>
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<td>Receipt and Storage of the 2019 novel Coronavirus and other coronaviruses</td>
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Primary Reviewer: Inna Afasizheva  
Secondary Reviewer: Shannon Benjamin  
Additional Reviewer: Bob Timmerman  
Applicable NIH Guidelines: N/A

Meeting Comments: The PI is proposing to receive and store 2019n-CoV and MERS-CoV. It was clarified that two (2) individuals mentioned in the protocol are EHS staff; one is the Responsible Official for select agents and the other his alternate, their only role is to verify inventory. It was noted that per Facilities, BSL-3 piping is made of Polypropylene which is acceptable for bleach disposal. It was noted that EPA registered disinfectants should be used and members discussed whether bleach was a EPA registered disinfectant. Members discussed that to ensure that appropriate disinfectants are used (and to promote consistency), that EHS should provide investigators with a recommendation. Members discussed that the protocol should include details regarding response in the event that tubes are discovered to be broken upon arrival. It was noted that agent specific training and an Agent Information Sheet are being developed.

- Indicate N/A for ABSL.
- Indicate if the disinfectant to be used (bleach) has been recommended by EHS as an appropriate disinfectant.
- Include language on how breakage of tubes will be handled.

The PI was not present for the vote.

Motion: Conditional Approval (Administrative Review)  
For: 15  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Absent: 0

2. Bhz – New Protocol

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<tr>
<td>2342</td>
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<td>Identification of inhibitors of Hemorrhagic fever virus infection</td>
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Primary Reviewer: Elke Muhlberger  
Secondary Reviewer: Nadya Yun  
Additional Reviewer: Jim Keeney

**Applicable NIH Guidelines:** Section III-D-1. Experiments Using Risk Group 2, Risk Group 3, Risk Group 4, or Restricted Agents as Host-Vector Systems  
Section III-D-1-c. Describes experiments with recombinant BL4 agents to be conducted at BSL4 containment.

**Meeting Comments:** The PI is proposing to conduct drug screening studies to identify potential growth inhibitors of the novel coronavirus. Work is planned in BSL-4 containment for practical purposes only, given that the lab...
otherwise works in BSL-4 containment. It was noted that 2019-nCoV and MERS viruses can be used safely in the BSL4 using BSL-4 practices and procedures. The BSL-4 BSO noted that the disinfectant (5% MicroChem, commonly used in BSL-4) is appropriate to use for coronaviruses (Huajun Zhang, et al., 2018). Agent-specific training needs to be provided to personnel and staff. The PI clarified that coronaviruses will be stored with BSL-4 agents and inventoried.

- Describe how the coronaviruses will be transported from BSL3 to BSL4. Specifically, describe the procedures of how the outer container will be decontaminated. Consider use of an escort until the container is placed in the chemical shower of the BSL4 lab.
- List all inactivation procedures that will be used to inactivate coronaviruses prior to the removal of inactivated material from the BSL4. Add documentation showing that the chosen inactivation procedures effectively inactivate coronaviruses. All used inactivation procedures must also be sufficient to inactivate BSL4 viruses in the lab.
- Transfection of cells with coronavirus genomic RNA can lead to the production of infectious virus. Describe safety procedures that ensure that viral RNA from inactivated material cannot be used to generate infectious virus (e.g. destruction of viral RNA or restricted access to inactivated samples).
- Virus inventory: Although MERS CoV and 2019-n CoV are not classified as select agents, it was recommended to document the possession of virus stocks and frozen material in the BSL4 virus inventory using FreezerPro.
- Provide the current BSC certification date.

The PI was not present for the vote.

Motion: Conditional Approval (Administrative Review)  
For: 11  Against: 0  Abstain: 0  Absent: 3  Recuse: 1