Activities That Require an IBC Protocol

The IBC reviews and approves many laboratory activities which may include research, teaching, and diagnostic activities.

All activities (e.g. research, teaching, diagnostic) conducted/performed at MSU, or funded by a grant awarded to an MSU PI which conform to the descriptions listed below must submit an IBC protocol.

The IBC defines potentially biohazardous materials to include all infectious organisms (bacteria, chlamydia, parasites, prions, rickettsia, and viruses), toxins, and rDNA which can cause disease or illness in humans, animals, or plants, or cause significant environmental or agricultural impact. Materials that may harbor infectious organisms, such as human or primate tissues, fluids, cells, or cell cultures are also considered biohazardous.

Projects involving materials included in any of these categories must secure IBC approval prior to initiation:

- **Recombinant DNA** (rDNA).
- **Genetically modified organisms** (GMOs) including, but not limited to:
  - Animals, plants, invertebrates, and/or other organisms created by MSU employees or in/on MSU property.
  - Transgenic field trials, any genetically modified organisms to be introduced into the environment, including planting of deregulated items in the field.
  - Field testing of plants engineered to produce pharmaceutical and industrial compounds.
- **Pathogens/infectious agents and pests** (RG2/BSL2 or higher human and animal pathogens, non-indigenous plant pathogens as well as those plant and animal pests regulated by the USDA-APHIS).
- **Select/Biological Agents and Toxins** (CDC and USDA). Please note that possession, use, or transfer of Select Agents and Toxins entails additional requirements —contact the ORC for additional information.
- **Human and non-human primate cells** (including cell lines), tissue, blood and potentially infectious body fluids.
- **Work with animals or vectors known or suspected to be reservoirs of RG2 or RG3 infectious agents** when such work increases potential exposure risks to personnel or other animals.
- **Oncogenic viruses used in conjunction with animals.**
- **Any work that requires a USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) permit;** in order to protect American agriculture and our natural resources, APHIS oversees and regulates the “import, transit and release of regulated animals, animal products, veterinary biologics, plants, plant products, pests, organisms, soil, and genetically engineered organisms.”

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