San Diego State University Institutional Biosafety Committee

Experiments involving Biohazardous Materials, Agents, or Toxins Requiring IBC Review

Biological materials, agents, or toxins is defined as infectious biological or synthetic agents, biologically derived materials and toxins that present a risk or potential risk to the health of humans, animals, or plants either directly through exposure or infection or indirectly through damage to the environment.

- Infectious microorganisms classified as Risk Group 1-4;
- Human, animal and plant pathogens (bacterial, fungal, parasitic, rickettsial, viral, prions);
- Research collecting or analyzing human or non-human primate cell lines (established, or primary), tissues, blood, blood products, fluids or other human source material, i.e. sputum, feces, saliva urine. Use of human source material for clinical diagnostic and treatment purposes and/or you receive tissues that have been previously fixed are excluded. (If you will be the one to fix tissues, a BUA IS needed);
- Work with biological toxins (saxitoxin, aflatoxin, venom, etc.);
- Possession, use and/or transfer of regulated Select Agents and Toxins;
- Use of animals or derived products from animals that harbor zoonotic agents (e.g. wild trap animals, fecal samples from wild rodents);
- Use of plants or products of plants that are non-indigenous or noxious weeds;
- Administration of infectious agents, human or non-human primate tissues, toxic materials, or select agents into animals, animal tissue and/or plants and plant tissues;
- Large scale cultures of over 10 liters in one vessel;
- Environmental samples collected from areas that may contain infectious agents.