

Virginia Commonwealth University

INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE (IBC)

Under the National Institutes of Health "[Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA \(rDNA\) Molecules](#)", the university, its Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), and the Principal Investigator are all assigned major roles in assuring that work with recombinant DNA (rDNA) is performed as safely as possible, in ways that eliminate or reduce potential exposure of personnel and environment. The University has also chosen to expand the functions of the IBC to include overseeing the use of other biohazards and animal research involving hazardous chemicals that are not included in the NIH guidelines.

All research projects involving biohazardous agents and non-exempt r-DNA, conducted by VCU faculty, employees, or students must be registered and approved by the IBC.

1. Registration Forms

- a. [Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement](#): *Required for all research involving NIH non-exempt rDNA, BSL-2 or greater biohazards, and select agents.*
- b. [Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Hazard Assessment Forms](#): *Required for all animal research protocols involving BSL-2 or greater biohazards, NIH exempt and nonexempt rDNA, and reportable hazardous chemicals.*
- c. [Select Agent Registration Form](#): Required for research involving any (exempt and nonexempt) Centers for Disease Control (CDC) listed select agents.

2. PI Resources for Hazard Assessment/Protocol Preparation

- a. [VCU rDNA and Biohazard Information](#)
- b. [VCU Biosafety Manual](#)
- c. [Guide for Developing IACUC Protocols Involving Hazardous Chemicals](#)
- d. [CDC/NIH: Biosafety in Microbiology and Biomedical Laboratories](#)
- e. [VCU Select Agent Information Page](#)