Institutional Biosafety Committee Policy #1

Designated Facilities for Possession, Use, and Transfer of Select Agents

BACKGROUND:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulate the possession, use, and transfer of specifically designated agents and toxins (Select Agents) that have the potential to pose a severe threat to public health and safety. The Federal Select Agent Program (FSAP) oversees these activities and registers all laboratories and other entities in the United States of America that possess, use, or transfer a select agent or toxin. (http://www.selectagents.gov/).

The U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Agriculture (USDA) published final rules for the possession, use, and transfer of select agents and toxins (42 C.F.R. Part 73, 7 C.F.R. Part 331, and 9 C.F.R. Part 121) in the Federal Register on October 5, 2012.

POLICY:

The Kansas State University Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) has adopted the following policy.

- All campus Select Agents (SA) activities, including the possession, storage, and use of select agents and toxins as defined by HHS and the USDA, shall occur in the Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI). (http://www.selectagents.gov/).

ACTIONS:

- The IBC will perform, as needed, comprehensive campus-wide surveys of researchers and facilities to ensure that all Select Agents on campus are identified for purposes of inventory and compliance.
- It is the responsibility of principle investigators to coordinate all activities involving CDC and USDA Select Agents with the campus Responsible Official (RO) for Select Agent use and the IBC.

COMMENT:

The BRI, located in Pat Roberts Hall, is a state-of-the-art facility specifically designed to perform infectious disease research in a safe and compliant environment. It is a sound and logical policy that the default location for SA activities is the BRI, an Institute with specialized facilities and staff best equipped to manage programs regulating use of high consequence pathogens.

DATE ADOPTED BY THE IBC: 29 January, 2013

Last modified by Cheryl Doerr, 7/12/2016