

The History and Origin of IBCs in the NIH Guidelines: Asilomar Revisited

IBC's in a Changing Research Landscape: A Policy Conference

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Asilomar Revisited

Pacific Grove, California

February 1975

- Accepted Principles in Planning Safe Experiments
 - Laboratory safety (containment) is an essential consideration in the experimental design
 - Effectiveness of safety practices should match, as closely as possible, the estimated risk

Asilomar Revisited

Pacific Grove, California

February 1975

- Accepted Responsibilities of Investigators
 - Risk assessment
 - Inform laboratory staff of potential hazards
 - Assure staff competency in safe practices
 - Exercise considerable caution in performing experiments

Asilomar Revisited

Pacific Grove, California

February 1975

- Thoughts on Institutional Review of Recombinant DNA Experiments
 - Need for institutional certification of physical containment in research laboratories
 - A knowledgeable committee should conduct certification reviews
 - Review process should be efficient and depend on local circumstances

NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules June 1976

- Institutional Responsibilities
 - Responsibilities fulfilled by principal investigators
 - Establishment of an Institutional Biohazards Committee (IBC)

NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules June 1976

- Roles and Responsibilities of the IBC
 - Provide advice on institutional policies
 - Create and maintain a safety reference resource
 - Certify that appropriate physical containment and training are in place
 - Develop P4 safety and operations manual

NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules June 1976

- IBC Membership Requirements
 - Sufficient experience and expertise in disciplines relevant to rDNA technology, biological safety, and engineering
 - Members may be from the institution or consultants

NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules June 1976

- IBC Membership Requirements (continued)
 - Committee should possess *or have available to it* the competence to determine the acceptability of its findings in terms of:
 - applicable laws and regulations
 - community attitudes
 - health and environmental considerations

Revised NIH Guidelines December 1978

- Institutional Responsibilities: Principal Changes
 - Emphasis on ensuring appropriate review and implementation procedures
 - Delegation of authority to approve certain experiments
 - IBC focus change from “biohazard” to “biosafety”

Revised NIH Guidelines December 1978

- Institutional Responsibilities: Principal Changes (continued)
 - Expertise, diversity, and composition of IBC membership
 - Appointing a Biological Safety Officer
 - Training and health surveillance

Revised NIH Guidelines December 1978

- IBC Responsibilities: Principal Changes
 - Independent determination of required safeguards
 - Exercise of delegated authority for approving certain experiments
 - Oversight of facilities, practices, and training

Revised NIH Guidelines December 1978

- Laboratory Safety Monograph (July 1978)
 - Biosafety reference document
 - Provides guidance to IBC
 - Tabulation of duties and responsibilities