

Florida Atlantic University
Institutional Biosafety Committee
Experiments Exempt from IBC Approval

Those projects and proposals involving the use of common microorganisms and recombinant DNA techniques exempt from NIH Guidelines do not require approval from the IBC, but must be registered with the IBC. All such experiments may be conducted at Biosafety Level 1 containment. The Chair of IBC will determine if a proposal should be reviewed by the full committee. Investigators should refer to the IBC Policy and Procedures for more detailed information.

The following examples utilized in projects do not require IBC approval. These well-characterized agents are not known to consistently cause disease in healthy adult humans, and are a minimal potential hazard to laboratory personnel and the environment.

Escherichia coli K12

Bacillus subtilis or *Bacillus licheniformis*

Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Adeno-associated virus (AVV) types 1 through 4

Baculoviruses

The following experiments which utilize recombinant DNA technology are exempt from NIH Guidelines and IBC approval.

1. Those that are not in organisms or viruses.
2. Those that consist entirely of DNA segments from a single nonchromosomal or viral DNA source, though one or more of the segments may be a synthetic equivalent.
3. Those that consist entirely of DNA from a prokaryotic host including its indigenous plasmids or viruses when propagated only in that host, (or a closely related strain of the same species), or when transferred to another host by well established physiological means.
4. Those that consist entirely of DNA from an eukaryotic host including its chloroplasts, mitochondria, or plasmids (but excluding viruses) when propagated only in that host (or a closely related strain of the same species).

5. Those that consist entirely of DNA segments from different species that exchange DNA by known physiological processes, though one or more of the segments may be a synthetic equivalent. A list of such exchangers will be prepared and periodically revised by the NIH Director. See [Appendix A](#), *Exemptions under Section III-F-5--Sublists of Natural Exchangers*, for a list of natural exchangers that are exempt from the NIH Guidelines.

6. Those that do not present a significant risk to health or the environment, as determined by the NIH Director. See [Appendix C](#), *Exemptions under Section III-F-6* for other classes of experiments which are exempt from the NIH Guidelines.

Exempt Examples:

1. Amplification of DNA by PCR; nucleic acid probes
2. Propagation of a K12 E. coli transformed with a plasmid containing a mammalian cDNA.
3. Transfection of mammalian cell cultures with pCMV-luciferase or pSV-human growth hormone.