

SERCEB Policy regarding the Dual-Use Potential and Concerns for Ongoing Work:

1. In the event that in the course of their approved research, a member of the SERCEB team of investigators should encounter the discovery of additional strains, mutant strains, etc with the potential for increased risk of infectivity or overwhelming host responses, the SERCEB steering committee requests the following immediate action:

****This finding should be considered to be an emergent event and should be reported immediately to the investigator's institutional biosafety officials and to Dr. Fred Sparling, PI for the SERCEB at the following telephone numbers: Direct phone-[919-843-8598 (UNC)]. In the event that Dr. Sparling is not available, the finding should be reported to Elaine Fitzsimons at UNC [919-843-7937] or another member of the SERCEB Steering Committee [Mark Denison at Vanderbilt (615-343-9881); Phil Hanna at UMich (734-615-3706); Richard Moyer at UFL (352-273-5230); Jenny Ting at UNC (919-966-5538); David Stephens at Emory (404-712-1643); Joseph St. Geme at Duke (919-681-4080) or Richard Whitley at UAB (205-934-5316)].**

****Dr. Sparling or his representative will convene an immediate teleconference with the investigator, the Institutional Biosafety Committee representative of the investigator's institution, and the members of the SERCEB Steering Committee to discuss the safe management of this discovery and repercussions as well as methods for containment.**

****The SERCEB Steering Committee will draft a report to be sent to the NIH RCE Program officials and to all necessary NIH Regulatory Committees that Program officials require, as well as report the results of the teleconference to NIH RCE program officials.**

2. In the event that in the course of their research, a member of the SERCEB team of investigators should produce information that might elicit concern about “dual use” concerns if published—that is, if information could foreseeably be used to design around detection, broaden host range, reduce host response, increase virulence of infectivity, or otherwise produce information that could be misused—then the SERCEB Steering Committee should be notified before the manuscript is submitted for publication. It will then be read and discussed by the Steering Committee, which may also request review by NIH officials or others, and then relayed to the investigator, with recommendations about how to proceed.

This revised policy approved by the SERCEB Steering Committee on February 21, 2006.