

Institutional Approaches: Processes for Identifying and Reviewing Research Subject to the Policy

A Collegiate Perspective

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Why DURC Matters

Improper oversight and regulation of research with DURC covered agents or experiments that alter virulence, host range, dissemination, agent resistance and stability or host susceptibility could result in any of the following

- *Human illness and death*
- *Catastrophic animal losses*
- *Disruption of food supply*

What if This Were the Headline?



Deadliest outbreak of bird flu in US history caused by lapses in laboratory procedures at University of Minnesota - By J. Doe, July 22, 2015



Critical Infrastructure Sectors



Food and Agriculture Sector

- Listed as one of 14 critical infrastructure sectors
- Almost entirely under private ownership
- Composed of an estimated 2.2 million farms, 900,000 restaurants, and more than 400,000 registered food manufacturing, processing, and storage facilities
- This sector accounts for roughly one-fifth of the nation's economic activity



Disruptions in Food Supply Due to Disease Outbreaks Have Far-Reaching Effects

- Social
- Economic
- Lifestyle/recreation



DURC Oversight and Compliance

Institutional Oversight

- Must allow for nuanced and thoughtful discussion of the risks incurred and benefits to be gained *before* conducting the experiments and publishing the results*
- Institutional/collegiate culture must be in place that fosters recognition of research studies that are currently listed in the DURC policies for those agents of concern for DURC, and in addition, recognition of research of concern with other agents affecting human and animal health and the food supply

* David Brown past UMN IBC Chair

DURC Oversight and Compliance

Institutional Oversight

- University
 - IBC (IRE)
 - DEHS
 - BSL-3 oversight
 - SPA in OVPR
- Collegiate
 - PI and lab staff
 - Research Safety Officer
 - Department Chair
 - Associate Dean of Research

DURC Oversight and Compliance

Institutional and Collegiate Oversight

- Enhanced by Education
 - PI and lab staff
 - Research Safety Officer
 - Collegiate administration
- Amplified by IBC (IRE) Membership and Consultation
 - Committee members with different and complimentary expertise
 - IBC (IRE) stakeholder groups to help craft policy and provide review as needed