



**Research and Teaching with Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules #2370.021**

<b>INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>  April 16, 2020	<b>LAST REVISION DATE:</b>  November 24, 2020	<b>RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY DIVISION/DEPARTMENT</b>  Office of Research and Economic Development
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**POLICY STATEMENT**

Research or teaching involving Recombinant and Synthetic nucleic acid molecules may not commence prior to the Principal Investigator’s receipt of written approval or written exemption from the IBC for the activities. All required IBC approvals/exemptions must be in place before Pre-Award will set up a new Project ID, continuation or temporary release of project funds.

**SCOPE**

University Community (faculty, staff and students) that conduct research or teaching with recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules.

**REASON FOR POLICY**

To ensure that IBC approval or IBC exemption is obtained for all research and teaching involving Recombinant and Synthetic nucleic acid molecules prior to commencement of those activities.

<b>DEFINITIONS</b>	
<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITIONS</b>
IBC	The Florida International University Institutional Biosafety Committee.
ORED	The Florida International University Office of Research and Economic Development
PI	The Principal Investigator
Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules	The (i) molecules that a) are constructed by joining nucleic acid molecules and b) that can replicate in a living cell, i.e., recombinant nucleic acids; (ii) nucleic acid molecules that are chemically or by other means synthesized or amplified, including those that are chemically or otherwise modified but can base pair with naturally occurring nucleic acid molecules, i.e., synthetic nucleic acids, or



(iii) molecules that result from the replication of those described in (i) or (ii) above.

### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Principal Investigator Responsibilities - Principal investigators are responsible for adhering to all applicable federal and state laws and all FIU policies and procedures regarding research or teaching involving Recombinant and Synthetic nucleic acid. Specific guidelines and procedures for conducting projects involving Recombinant and Synthetic nucleic acid are detailed in the IBC policies and procedures. The Principal investigator shall not allow any individual to work on the project as Co-PI or other key personnel unless and until that individual has gone through the required training and the individual has been approved by the IBC to participate on the project. Principal investigators and all persons working on projects involving Recombinant and Synthetic nucleic acid should consult the IBC policies and procedures to ensure that they are in compliance with all requirements.

### RELATED RESOURCES

- [FIU IBC Policies and Procedures](#)
- [NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules \(NIH Guidelines\)](#)

### CONTACTS

Office of Research Integrity  
Florida International University  
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### HISTORY

**Initial Effective Date:** April 16, 2020

**Review Dates** (*review performed, no updates*): January 29, 2024

**Revision Dates** (*updates made to document*): April 22, 2020, November 24, 2020



**Research and Teaching with Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules # 2370.510a**

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**PROCEDURE STATEMENT**

The PI must submit his/her protocol for the project involving Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules to the Florida International University IBC in accordance with the IBC's policies and procedures, prior to commencement of the project. The IBC's policies and procedures are posted on the ORED website on the IBC page. The link(s) to the policies are also found on the Document Details page of this policy abstract online. Those policies and procedures govern the IBC process and conduct of projects involving Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules from the initial protocol application through close-out of the project. If the activities are funded, once the IBC has approved the protocol, ORED will process the award and issue a project ID for the project or process the temporary release of sponsored project funds or the continuation, as appropriate.