

Dual Use Research of Concern (DURC) Review

The DURC review process starts when a PI wishes to work with a DURC agent or toxin.
Potential DURC research is discovered several ways, including screening BUA applications, IACUC protocols, and SAGE grant applications.

PI submits DURC form.

DURC Institutional Review Entity (IRE) reviews form & determines whether the proposed research involves any of the 7 experimental effects.

yes

DURC IRE conducts risk assessment to determine whether research is DURC

no

yes

DURC IRE findings are recorded on the form submitted by the PI.

DURC IRE works with PI to develop a draft risk mitigation plan. The plan is finalized and approved by the appropriate US Government funding agency.

Projects involving only botulinum neurotoxin

All other projects

Completed DURC form is returned to the PI, and research can commence.

DURC IRE findings are presented to the full IBC at the next monthly meeting.

Risk mitigation plan is implemented and reviewed by the DURC IRE on an annual basis.

DURC IRE findings are presented to the full IBC at the next monthly meeting.

Completed DURC form and BUA letter are returned to the PI, and research can commence.

15 DURC Agents & Toxins:

- Avian influenza virus (high-path)
- Bacillus anthracis*
- Botulinum neurotoxin
- Burkholderia mallei*
- Burkholderia pseudomallei*
- Ebola virus
- Foot-and-mouth disease virus
- Francisella tularensis*
- Marburg virus
- Reconstructed 1918 influenza virus
- Rinderpest virus
- Toxin-producing strains of *Clostridium botulinum*
- Variola major virus
- Variola minor virus
- Yersinia pestis*

7 Experimental Effects:

- Enhances harmful consequences of agent or toxin
- Disrupts immunity or effectiveness of immunization without clinical justification
- Confers resistance to prophylactic or therapeutic interventions or facilitates ability to evade detection methodologies
- Increases the stability, transmissibility, or the ability to disseminate the agent
- Alters the host range or tropism
- Enhances the susceptibility of a host population
- Generates or reconstitutes an eradicated or extinct agent