
Research Ethics Committee (REC): Biological and Environmental Safety (REC: BES) Meeting Minutes
30 October 2025

Venue: MS TEAMS Conference Call

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WELCOME: Prof SL Sampson

PRESENT: Prof SL Sampson, Prof M Van de Vyver, Mr FM October, Prof SMJ Hemmings, Dr D Rip, Mrs J De Kock, Dr S Groenewald, Dr NJD Verhoog, Prof V Mavumengwana, Prof K Storbeck, Mrs N Sunday, Mrs B Thompson-Graham, Mr WA Beukes, Ms K Naicker

APOLOGIES: Dr JH Groenewald, Prof C De Beer, Prof WJ Goosen

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: 02 October 2025 – approved

GENERAL MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

1. **SU-SAMRC projects**– The committee noted that ongoing efforts are underway to review and strengthen existing arrangements for collaborative research. This includes ensuring that appropriate governance structures are in place and that research activities are conducted in line with applicable standards. Updates will be provided to the committee once these processes have been concluded.

GENERAL MATTERS:

2. **Research Integrity and Ethics Symposium (31 October 2025)** – Mr WA Beukes. Mr Beukes encouraged the REC members who had registered for the Research Integrity and Ethics Symposium.

Application Number	Department	Project Title and Description	1 st Reviewer	2 nd Reviewer
1) BES-2025-34907	Biomedical Sciences	<p><u>REC:BES - Gates MRI-TBD09-201 PAN-TB 2</u></p> <p>New Application Form</p> <p>Review outcome: Modifications Required</p>		
2) BES-2025-32451	Biomedical Sciences	<p><u>Transcriptomic and functional profiling of B-cells in response to tuberculosis (TB) disease</u></p> <p>Amendment Form</p> <p>Review outcome: Approved</p>		
3) BES-2025-30533	Biomedical Sciences	<p><u>RECBES Induction of myeloid suppressor cells in C57BL/6 mice by mycobacterial vaccines.</u></p> <p>Amendment Form</p> <p>Review outcome: Awaiting Feedback</p>		
4) BES-2025-31269	Biomedical Sciences	<p><u>Utilization of a severely attenuated, double auxotrophic of <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> to (a) rapidly screen anti-mycobacterial compounds and (b) to advance understanding of mycobacterial physiology 2</u></p> <p>Amendment Form</p> <p>Review outcome: Approved</p>		

5)	BES- 2025- 26831	Clinical Pharmacology	<u>LC-MS Research Service Delivery</u> Amendment Form Review outcome: Approved with Stipulations		
6)	BES- 2025- 32150	Biomedical Sciences	<u>Novartis-HS: (CLOU064J12301)</u> Progress Report Form Review outcome: Approved		
7)	BES- 2025- 28068	Biomedical Sciences	<u>Repurposing of apoptosis and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents for Tuberculosis treatment</u> Progress Report Form Review outcome: Approved		
8)	BES- 2025- 30976	Radiobiology	<u>Evaluation of <i>Withania somnifera</i> and <i>Centella asiatica</i> extracts and a radiofrequency field as modifiers of radiation effects in vitro</u> Progress Report Form Review outcome: Approved		
9)	BES- 2025- 30103	Biomedical Sciences	<u>LOST</u> Progress Report Form Review outcome: Approved		
10)	BES- 2025- 33988	Electrical and Electronic Engineering	<u>Proof of concept study – Comparing microclot parameters from controls and Long COVID patients from a single private</u>		

		<p><u>practice in the Western Cape (REC:BES application for CERI Lab))</u></p> <p>New Application Form</p> <p>Review outcome: Approved</p>		
11) BES-2025-33267	Biomedical Science	<p><u>Investigating the role of novel sulfonamide derivatives on beige-like adipocytes and macrophage crosstalk</u></p> <p>New Application Form</p> <p>Review outcome: Approved</p>		
12) BES-2025-33021	Medicine	<p><u>Bilirubin-Binding Assay Development for Cabotegravir in Neonates</u></p> <p>New Application Form</p> <p>Review outcome: Approved</p>		
13) BES-2025-30740	Food Science	<p><u>The effect of non-thermal treatments on the microbial safety, physiochemical, and functional properties of alternative protein powders</u></p> <p>New Application Form</p> <p>Review outcome: Approved</p>		
14) BES-2025-17043	Biomedical Sciences	<p><u>CASCADE - COVID REC:BEE</u></p> <p>Amendment Form</p> <p>Review outcome: Approved</p>		

15) BES- 2025- 16762	Physiological Sciences	<p align="center"><u>Circulated inflammatory biomarkers in Covid-19</u></p> <p align="center">Final Report Form</p> <p align="center">Review outcome: Approved</p>		
16) BES- 2025- 23654	Biomedical Sciences	<p align="center"><u>BES: An observational study of impact of second-line TB treatment on the microbiome and its association with pregnancy and infant outcomes.</u></p> <p align="center">Progress Report Form</p> <p align="center">Review outcome: Approved</p>		
17) BES- 2025- 27987	Biomedical Sciences	<p align="center"><u>Evaluation of immunomodulatory properties of short-chain fatty acids produced by the gut microbiome on alveolar macrophage function in TB patients</u></p> <p align="center">Progress Report Form</p> <p align="center">Review outcome: Approved</p>		
18) BES- 2025- 28136	Biomedical Sciences	<p align="center"><u>Curcumin encapsulated nanoparticles to target mitochondrial dysfunction in Parkinson's disease</u></p> <p align="center">Progress Report Form</p> <p align="center">Review outcome: Approved</p>		

End