COVID-19 Procedures

 Until further notice:

As of March 13, 2020, all research performed at the BIC must implement the screening and disinfection protocols as linked below. No research will be allowed to restart until your research plan has been approved by the VPR’s office, your ADR, or CSU. More information can be found here. The written authorization must include the building & rooms researchers will need access to and the names of the people needing access. The authorization letter should be sent to the BIC so a BIC representative is able to brief you on our new protocols and equipment scheduling procedures. Once you have met with a BIC representative via Zoom or the like, you can then access the facilities and start research. This process needs to be followed for any research group that would like to utilize any of the imaging equipment within the BIC.

COVID-19 Research Restart: Additional Policies
Health Screening

Disinfection Protocols

Welcome

 Statement of Capabilities:
The Biomedical Imaging Center at The University of Texas at Austin is an interdisciplinary, multi-methods facility currently specializing in non-invasive neuroimaging. The focal points of the center are a Siemens Skyra 3T MRI (housed in the Norman Hackerman Building) and a new Siemens Vida 3T MRI scanner (housed in the Health Discovery Building) used by many researchers for studies of human perception, memory, decision-making, and behavior. Unique emphases at the BIC includes a strong connection to supercomputing resources at the Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC), real-time fMRI, high-resolution / 3D visual presentation, and support for developmental studies.

The Biomedical Imaging Center also has preclinical scanning capabilities. The centerpiece of the preclinical imaging systems is a Bruker BioSpec 7T MRI with a 16cm bore. The BIC currently has three volume coils with inner diameters of 72, 38, and 23 mm. The BIC also has an IVIS Spectrum optical imaging system made by Xenogen/Perkin Elmer. The system has 8 excitation filters (410-760 nm) and 12 emission filters (475-850 nm). The BIC also has the capability to do preclinical PET/CT thanks to a Siemens Inveon PET/CT scanner. The scanner is equipped with a variable focus X-ray source with an extra-large 165mm detector. The PET part of the system is equipped with LSO crystals in a 20x20 array. These crystals are arranged in 4 rings of 16 blocks making it possible to achieve 1.6x1.6mm pixel spacing. The axial PET field of view is 12.7cm, but with continuous table motion, 30cm axial field of view is possible.

- Getting Access to BIC Resources
  - Training
    - Human Studies
    - Working with Minors
    - Incidental Findings
    - BIC-Sponsored Workshops
  - Screening subjects with Redcap
  - Usage Fees
  - Scheduling Time on BIC Instruments
  - Facilities Access
    - BIC Parking Permits: NHB & HDB
    - After-Hours Access
    - Important Forms and Fliers

- Resources
  - Skyra 3T MRI
  - Vida 3T MRI
  - Bruker Biospec 7T MRI
  - IVIS
  - Siemens Inveon PET/CT
  - Bruker Extreme
  - Machine Shop
  - Animal Preparation and Studies
  - Bio-Safety Labs
  - Conference Room
  - Lonestar 5 - Neuroscience Tools
  - Equipment Troubleshooting

- Staff
  - Dr. Doug Befroy - Assistant Director
  - Dr. Don Nolting - Facilities Management
  - Ruth Sogas-Paramio - Accounting
  - C. Cumba - Software Stuff

- Tutorials
  - Matlab Github
  - MRI Safety Video
  - IVIS Manuals
  - Mock Scanner Operations Issues

BIC Staff Emergency Contacts

Non-emergency contacts should be directed to the BIC Support e-mail address.

- Doug Befroy, Assistant Director - HDB Office: 512-495-5639, mobile: 512-661-4408
Contact the staff members below only if Drs. Befroy or Nolting cannot be reached. Please do not contact them on the weekends.

- Chad Cumba, Software Engineer - office: 512-232-5957
- Ruth Sogas-Paramio, Senior Administrative Associate - office: 512-232-4203