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<th><strong>PI:</strong> Dow, Steven W.</th>
<th><strong>Title:</strong> Mechanisms of Enteric Burkholderia pseudomallei infection</th>
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<td>Steven Dow</td>
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<td><strong>Other Professional-Co-Investigator:</strong> Herbert Schweizer</td>
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We selected these applications as sound examples of good grantsmanship. That said, time has passed since these grantees applied, and so the samples may not reflect the latest application format or rules. Therefore, always follow your funding opportunity's instructions for application format. We post new samples periodically.

Please note that the application text may be used only for nonprofit educational purposes provided the document remains unchanged and the PI, the grantee organization, and NIAID are credited.

See more samples online: [https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/sample-applications](https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/sample-applications).
**APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**
SF 424 (R&R)

1. **TYPE OF SUBMISSION**
   - [ ] Pre-application
   - [x] Application
   - [ ] Changed/Corrected Application

2. **DATE SUBMITTED**
   - 02/11/2010

3. **DATE RECEIVED BY STATE**
   - 

   **State Application Identifier**

4. **a. Federal Identifier**
   - 

5. **APPLICANT INFORMATION**
   - **Legal Name:** Colorado State University
   - **Organization DUNS:**
   - **Street1:** 601 S. Howes Street
   - **City:** Fort Collins
   - **State:** CO: Colorado
   - **Country:** USA: UNITED STATES
   - **ZIP / Postal Code:** 80523-2002
   - **Applicant Identifier**
   - **Agency Routing Identifier**

6. **EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION (EIN) or (TIN):**

7. **TYPE OF APPLICANT:**
   - [x] H: Public/State Controlled Institution of Higher Education
   - [ ] Other (Specify):
   - **Women Owned**
   - **Socially and Economically Disadvantaged**

8. **TYPE OF APPLICATION:**
   - [x] New
   - [ ] Resubmission
   - [ ] Renewal
   - [ ] Continuation
   - [ ] Revision
   - **If Revision, mark appropriate box(es).**
     - [ ] A. Increase Award
     - [ ] B. Decrease Award
     - [ ] C. Increase Duration
     - [ ] D. Decrease Duration
     - [ ] E. Other (specify):

9. **NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY:**
   - National Institutes of Health

10. **CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER:**

11. **DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT:**
   - Mechanisms of Enteric Burkholderia pseudomallei infection

12. **PROPOSED PROJECT:**
   - **Start Date:** 08/01/2010
   - **Ending Date:** 07/31/2012
   - **Congressional District of Applicant:** CO-004

13. **PROJECT DIRECTOR/PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR CONTACT INFORMATION**
   - **Prefix:** Dr.
   - **First Name:** Steven
   - **Last Name:** Dow
   - **Position/Title:** Professor
   - **Organization Name:** Colorado State University
   - **Department:** Clinical Sciences
   - **Division:** CVMBS
   - **Street1:** 1678 Campus Delivery
   - **City:** Fort Collins
   - **State:** CO: Colorado
   - **Country:** USA: UNITED STATES
   - **ZIP / Postal Code:** 80523-1678
   - **Phone Number:**
   - **Fax Number:**
   - **Email:**

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**Tracking Number:** GRANT10529698

**Funding Opportunity Number:** PA-10-069
**Received Date:** 2010-02-11T17:02:50-04:00
**SF 424 (R&R) APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**

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15. ESTIMATED PROJECT FUNDING

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16. * IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?

- **a. YES**
  - YES: THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON: DATE: 

- **b. NO**
  - NO: PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372; OR
  - NO: PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW

17. By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances * and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)

* I agree

* The list of certifications and assurances, or an Internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

18. SFLLL or other Explanatory Documentation

**19. Authorized Representative**

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* Signature of Authorized Representative

Linda Monum

* Date Signed

02/11/2010

20. Pre-application

* Add Attachment
* Delete Attachment
* View Attachment
# 424 R&R and PHS-398 Specific
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### Project/Performance Site Primary Location

- **Organization Name:** Colorado State University
- **Street1:** 300 W. Drake Road
- **City:** Fort Collins
- **State:** CO: Colorado
- **ZIP / Postal Code:** 80523-1678

### Project/Performance Site Location 1

- **Organization Name:**
- **Street1:**
- **Street2:**
- **City:**
- **State:**
- **ZIP / Postal Code:**

### Additional Location(s)

- **Organization Name:**
- **Street1:**
- **Street2:**
- **City:**
- **State:**
- **ZIP / Postal Code:**
1. * Are Human Subjects Involved?  
   - Yes  No

1.a. If YES to Human Subjects
   - Is the Project Exempt from Federal regulations?  
     - Yes  No
   - If yes, check appropriate exemption number: 1 2 3 4 5 6
   - If no, is the IRB review Pending?  
     - Yes  No
   - IRB Approval Date:  
     - Human Subject Assurance Number:  

2. * Are Vertebrate Animals Used?  
   - Yes  No

2.a. If YES to Vertebrate Animals
   - Is the IACUC review Pending?  
     - Yes  No
   - IACUC Approval Date:  
     - Animal Welfare Assurance Number:  

3. * Is proprietary/privileged information included in the application?  
   - Yes  No

4.a. * Does this project have an actual or potential impact on the environment?  
   - Yes  No

4.b. If yes, please explain:

4.c. If this project has an actual or potential impact on the environment, has an exemption been authorized or an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) been performed?  
   - Yes  No

4.d. If yes, please explain:

5. * Is the research performance site designated, or eligible to be designated, as a historic place?  
   - Yes  No

5.a. If yes, please explain:

6. * Does this project involve activities outside of the United States or partnerships with international collaborators?  
   - Yes  No

6.a. If yes, identify countries:

6.b. Optional Explanation:

7. * Project Summary/Abstract
   - Add Attachment  Delete Attachment  View Attachment

8. * Project Narrative
   - Add Attachment  Delete Attachment  View Attachment

9. Bibliography & References Cited
   - Add Attachment  Delete Attachment  View Attachment

10. Facilities & Other Resources
    - Add Attachment  Delete Attachment  View Attachment

11. Equipment
    - Add Attachment  Delete Attachment  View Attachment

12. Other Attachments
    - Add Attachments  Delete Attachments  View Attachments
Burkholderia pseudomallei (Bp) is a Gram-negative bacterial pathogen that can cause a variety of difficult-to-treat infections in humans ranging from acute sepsis to chronic abscesses. While Bp is endemic in southeast Asia and northern Australia, infections are now being diagnosed with increasing frequency around the world, including in Central and South America. Therefore, it is likely that Bp infections will soon be identified in the U.S. Though infection with Bp was previously thought to occur by inhalation or skin inoculation, our new studies indicate that Bp is actually a primary enteric pathogen, which can readily establish acute or persistent GI tract infection following oral inoculation in mouse models. However, at present essentially nothing is known regarding the pathogenesis of enteric infection with Bp. Therefore, the studies proposed here are intended to fill a critical void in our understanding of pathogenesis of infection with this important and emerging bacterial pathogen. First, we will use the mouse infection model of Bp infection to determine whether most or all strains of Bp can establish enteric infection and to identify virulent and avirulent isolates. Second, we will use the model to define the role of the intestine as a reservoir for Bp infection and to identify cells in the GI tract where the organism is maintained during chronic infection. Last, we will investigate how Bp is disseminated to other organs during chronic enteric infection. The information generated in these studies will substantially alter our view of Bp as a pathogen and also lead to a reassessment of the risks posed by oral Bp infection.
*Burkholderia pseudomallei* is an important and dangerous bacterial pathogen that appears in recent years to be spreading around the world, including Central and South America. This organism is particularly dangerous because it is able to survive for years in soil and water, is very resistant to most antibiotics, and can cause rapidly fatal infections in humans. Previously it was assumed that the organism was contracted only by inhalation or skin injury, but our new data indicate that *B. pseudomallei* is also very infectious orally and causes chronic intestinal infection with fecal shedding. We will therefore study the mechanisms that allow *B. pseudomallei* to infect the intestinal tract, using mouse models of infection.
The Dow lab in the Infectious Disease Annex occupies a 900 sq BSL-2 lab that is equipped with 2 tissue culture hoods, two double water-jacketed CO2 incubators, an IEC PR-7000 centrifuge, a refrigerated microcentrifuge, 2 freezers (-20C and -80C), two refrigerators, a Dynatech ELISA reader and plate washer, and a Leica inverted microscope and a DSML direct microscopy with digital camera attachment. Smaller equipment includes 2 electronic balances, 2 water baths, heating blocks, BioRad power supplies (2) and gel boxes (2 each), and blotting apparatus, and vortexers, and PX2 Hybaid PCR machine. Share facilities and equipment include a high-speed centrifuge, an ice machine, and gel scanner and analysis system. The lab also has access to a Beckman Coulter Cyan ADP multicolor flow cytometer in the adjacent laboratories.

The Regional Biocontainment Laboratory (RBL) immediately adjacent to the Infectious Disease Annex houses 3 large suites of BSL-3 containment facilities. The Dow laboratory currently occupies one suite, along with the Schweizer lab, where the Burkholderia pseudomallei animal challenge studies and tissue culture work is done.

Clinical:

The Veterinary Teaching Hospital occupies approx 80,000 sq ft of space and is fully equipped for clinical management of diseases of companion animals and livestock. Equipment includes in-house laboratory, CT, MRI, radiation therapy, surgery suites and nuclear medicine.

Animal:

Laboratory animals are housed in a 20,000 sq ft Biological Resources Building on campus. This facility is AALAC accredited and currently houses mice, rats, rabbits and dogs. Within the RBL building, there is up to 8,000 sq ft of space for housing rodents under BSL3 and BSL2 containment conditions.

Computers:

Dell desktop computers (2)
Dell Latitude laptop (4)

Office:

100 sq ft of office space in the Infectious Disease Annex building.
MAJOR EQUIPMENT: List the most important equipment items already available for this project, noting the location and pertinent capabilities of each.

Cyan ADP multicolor flow cytometer (Infectious Disease Annex lab)
Confocal Core Unit with a Zeiss LSM 510 META laser scanning confocal microscope equipped with 4 lasers (Infectious Disease Annex)
IVIS in vivo animal imaging system (RBL building)
Typhoon image analysis system (Animal Cancer Center, Vet Teaching Hosp)
CyAn MLE Flow Cytometer (Animal Cancer Center, VTH)
Olympus Fluoview Lasar Scanner confocal microscope (VTH)
Leica cryostat (Clinical Sciences laboratory, VTH)
Leica direct microscopes and digital camera (Infectious Disease Annex)
Mo-Flo high speed cell sorter (Pathology Bldg, CSU)
**RESEARCH & RELATED Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)**

### PROFILE - Project Director/Principal Investigator

| Prefix: [Dr.] | * First Name: Steven       | Middle Name: W |
| Last Name: Dow |                    |                |
| Position/Title: Professor | Department: Clinical Sciences |
| Organization Name: Colorado State University | Division: CVMBS |
| * Street1: 1678 Campus Delivery | Street2: |
| * City: Fort Collins | County/Parish: |
| * State: CO: Colorado | Province: |
| * Country: USA: UNITED STATES | * Zip/Postal Code: 80523-1678 |
| * Phone Number: | Fax Number: |
| * E-Mail: | Credential, e.g., agency login: |
| * Project Role: PD/PI | Other Project Role Category: |
| Degree Type: BA, DVM, PhD | Degree Year: 1978, 1982, 1992 |
| Attach Biographical Sketch | Attach Current & Pending Support |

### PROFILE - Senior/Key Person 1

| Prefix: | * First Name: Mercedes | Middle Name: |
| Last Name: Gonzalez-Juarrero | Suffix: Ph.D |
| Position/Title: Associate Professor | Department: Microbiology, Immunology & Pat |
| Organization Name: Colorado State University | Division: |
| * Street1: 1682 Campus Delivery | Street2: |
| * City: Fort Collins | County/Parish: |
| * State: CO: Colorado | Province: |
| * Country: USA: UNITED STATES | * Zip/Postal Code: 80523-1682 |
| * Phone Number: | Fax Number: |
| * E-Mail: | Credential, e.g., agency login: |
| * Project Role: Other Professional | Other Project Role Category: Co-Investigator |
| Degree Type: BS, PhD | Degree Year: 1982, 1990 |
| Attach Biographical Sketch | Attach Current & Pending Support |

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**Key Personnel**

Tracking Number: GRANT10529698

Funding Opportunity Number: PA-10-069 Received Date: 2010-02-11T17:02:50-04:00
### RESEARCH & RELATED Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)

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<td>Middle Name:</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Schweizer</td>
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Principal Investigator/Program Director (Last, first, middle): Dow, Steven, W
A. Personal Statement. The goal of our research program is to better understand the pathogenesis of *Burkholderia pseudomallei* infection, using animal models of infection. These studies stem from our ongoing work in developing new immunotherapeutics for vaccines and treatment of bacterial infectious diseases. My background in comparative pathology and immunology provides a strong basis for designing and directing the proposed studies. In addition, over the past 5 years I have gained considerable experience working with animal models of *Burkholderia* infection, including models of both *B. mallei* and *B. pseudomallei*. For example, I have been involved for several years in the development of inhalational animal models of infection with several BSL3 level pathogens, including *Francisella tularensis*, *Yersinia pestis*, and the *Burkholderias*. The studies of acute and chronic enteric infection with *Burkholderia pseudomallei* are a natural extension of our work with mucosal infection and immunity to bacterial pathogens. Our group has the necessary expertise and containment facilities to conduct the proposed studies and our recent publication record demonstrates our emerging expertise and collaborations in the Burkholderia field. I have also enlisted the help of several key collaborators and co-investigators (Schweizer, Gonzalez) whose expertise will strengthen the project team.

B. Positions and Honors.

Positions and Employment
2009-present Assistant Dept. Chairman for Graduate Studies, Dept of Clinical Sciences
2007-present: Professor, Dept of Microbiology, Immunology, and Pathology and Dept of Clinical Sciences, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO
2001-2006 Associate Professor, Dept of Microbiology, Immunology, and Pathology and Dept of Clinical Sciences, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO
1995-2001 Instructor, National Jewish Medical and Research Center, Denver, CO and the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver, CO
1993-1995 Post-Doctoral Fellow, National Jewish Medical and Research Center, Denver, CO
1987-1992 Graduate Student, Department of Pathology, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO
1984-1987 Residency in Small Animal Medicine, Dept Clinical Sciences, Colorado State University

Other Experience and Professional Memberships
Ad hoc study section member, Microbiology Infectious Disease RC, National Institutes of Health, Feb. 2005
Ad hoc study section member, Innate Host Defense IRG, National Institutes of Health, Oct. 2005
Ad hoc study section member, Immune Mechanisms SEP, November, 2009
Current Study section member, Topics in Bacterial Pathogenesis, NIH/NIAID, Oct. 2006; Feb, 2007, June 2008
Member, American Association of Immunologists, American Society for Microbiology

Honors
Phi Beta Kappa, University of Virginia, 1978
Summa cum laude graduate, University of Georgia, 1982
Pfizer Animal Health Award for Research Excellence, Colorado State University, 2004

C. Selected Peer-reviewed Publications.
Most relevant to the current application


Additional recent publications of importance to the field (in chronological order)


D. Research Support

**Ongoing Research Support**

U54 AI065357-01 RP1.2 (RCE). Dow (P.I.; 15% effort) 5/1/09-5/1/14

*Immuno-Antimicrobial Therapy for Pneumonic Burkholderia Infection*

This project will investigate the role of the innate immune system in controlling *Burkholderia mallei* infection of the lungs, using mouse models. These studies will also investigate the ability of immunotherapy to generate protective immunity to pneumonic *Burkholderia* infection.

U54 AI065357-02 (Developmental Project) Dow (PI) 9/1/08 - 9/1/09

Inhalational delivery of antibiotic nanoparticles for rapid protection from pneumonic Burkholderia infection

Role: PI (5% effort)

These studies will investigate the effectiveness of inhaled delivery of sustained release antibiotic nanoparticles in mouse inhalational challenge models with *B. pseudomallei*.

UOI Slayden, R (PI) 3/1/09 - 3/1/14

Development of chemotherapeutics against *F. tularensis and B. pseudomallei*.

Role: Co-I (10% effort)

This project will investigate the effectiveness of newer generations of triclosan-based antimicrobials for generating protection from acute infection with *F. tularensis and B. pseudomallei*. 
**Completed Research Support**

**SBIR NIH/NIAID**  
Fairman (PI)  
6/1/06 - 2/31/09  
"Innate Immune Stimulation as a Pathogen Countermeasure."  
Role: PI of CSU subcontract (18% effort)  
These studies are investigating the effectiveness of activating innate immune responses using parenterally and mucosally administered liposome-DNA complexes for eliciting protection from pulmonary *Francisella tularensis* infection.

**U01 AI056487-01**  
Dow (P.I.; 20% effort) 9/29/03-1/31/08  
*Antigen Presentation And Pulmonary Immunity To Yersinia Pestis*  
These studies will assess innate and adaptive immune responses to a novel liposome-nucleic acid vaccine adjuvant and to assess the ability of this adjuvant to elicit protective mucosal immunity against inhaled *Yersinia pestis* infection.

**RO1 CA86224-01**  
Dow (PI, 50% effort) 9/1/99-9/1/2007  
*Systemic Gene Therapy for Inhibiting Tumor Angiogenesis*  
These studies investigated the ability of intravenous delivery of cationic liposome-DNA complexes to inhibit tumor angiogenesis and deliver anti-angiogenic genes, using both mouse models and spontaneous tumor models in dogs.
**A. Personal Statement**

The goal of this proposal is to understand the mechanisms by which *Burkholderia pseudomallei* (*Bp*), establishes and maintains persistent enteric infections. Among other goals of this proposal is to identify the cells in the GI tract where the organism is maintained during chronic infection. My role as a collaborator in these studies is derived from my previous experience in the field of immunopathology. My experience in the field of infectious diseases, immunology, pathology and inflammatory responses entails studies in viral, parasites or bacterial infections (e.g. *African swine fever virus*, *HIV*, *Theileria Parva* and *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Mycobacterium leprae*) in pigs, cattle, mice or human. More specifically, during the last ten years I have worked in the tuberculosis field revealing the nature of immune and inflammatory host responses to mycobacterial infections. This work has provided important information about the ability of the infecting bacilli to establish persistence and potentially latent disease as well as practical ways of using targeted lung therapies to the benefit of the host. During the last five years I have also been working in studies involving the immune responses to the chronic inflammatory responses developed after implantation of medical devices. Finally, most recently I am a collaborator in a project funded by the Rocky Mountain Regional Center for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases granted to Drs. John T. Belisle and E. Torsten. The aim of this study is "Defining the Immunolipidome of *Burkholderia pseudomallei*”. My role in this project is the design of immunological tools and assays aiming to define the Immunolipidome of *Burkholderia pseudomallei*. Thus, while developing the above mentioned research I have acquired significant expertise in *in vivo* and *in vitro* models of infection as well as in flow cytometry, immunocytochemistry and confocal microscopy in tissue sections. In addition, my studies have involved the design of vaccines or immunotherapies using molecular biology and immunological tools aiming to promote protection of the host against pathogen infection.
B. Positions and Honors

1985-1987    Research scholarship from USDA/OICD/International Research Division, program #G-5-272
1987-1989    Research Scholarship from US-Spain Joint Committee for Scientific and Technology Cooperation, Program #G11
1999-2003    Awarded grant ROI AI-44072 Supplement to promote Reentry into Biomedical and Behavioral Research Careers
2003-2009    Assistant Professor at the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology, Colorado State University, CO, USA
2005–present    Affiliate Faculty Cell and Molecular Biology Department, Colorado State University.
July 2009-    Associate Professor at the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology, Colorado State University, CO, USA

Professional Memberships

Memberships
American Society of Microbiology
American Association of Immunology
Society of Leukocyte Biology

Editorial boards
Member of the Editorial Advisory Board of Tuberculosis. July 2007 to present
Member of the Editorial Board FEMS Immunology and Medical Microbiology. May 2008 to present.

C. Selected Peer-reviewed Publications (Selected from 30 peer-reviewed publications)

Most relevant to the current application


**Additional recent publications of importance to the field (in chronological order)**


C.-Research Support.

**Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology, Bridge Funds.**

07/01/09-12/31/09

“The antimicrobial capacity of dendritic cells expressing high levels of intracellular IL-10 against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.”
Role: PI
Co: Peter Murray.

NIH/NIAID
Chronic Tuberculosis: Latent or Dynamic
The major goal of this project is to determine the immunological mechanisms underlying chronic TB and its reactivation
Role: CO-PI

2RO1 EB000894-06A1 09/01/2007-06/31/2008
NIBIB/NIH
Molecular comparison of macrophage foreign body responses
The major goal is the definition of macrophage models to study the inflammatory responses originated by surgically implanted biomaterials
Role: PI (CSU Subcontract EB 00894)

1S10RR023735-01 10/01/2006-01/10/2008
National Center For Research Resources
Purchase, installation of Zeiss LSM 510 Laser Scanning Microscope. Creation of a confocal core unit for the MIP
Role: PI

ROI AI-063457 (V. D. Vissa, PI) 05/15/2005-01/31/2010
NIH/NIAID
Molecular Epidemiology of Leprosy
The major role of this grant is to determine the epidemiological changes of different isolates of M. leprae.
Role: Consultant

ROI AI-44072 (I. M. Orme) 08/01/2000-08/01/2003
NIH/NIAID
Chronic Tuberculosis: Latent or Dynamic
The major goal of this project is to understand the basis of latent tuberculosis
Role: PI of Supplement to promote Reentry into Biomedical and Behavioral Research Careers
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors in the order listed on Form Page 2. Follow this format for each person. DO NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES.

NAME
Schweizer, Herbert Paul

POSITION TITLE
Professor of Microbiology

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login)

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTITUTION AND LOCATION</th>
<th>DEGREE (if applicable)</th>
<th>MM/YY</th>
<th>FIELD OF STUDY</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Microbiology</td>
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<td>University of Konstanz</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>07/83</td>
<td>Microbiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postdoctoral Training (see Positions &amp; Empl.)</td>
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A. Personal Statement. For over two decades my research group has studied various aspects of bacterial physiology and genetics, most notably mechanisms of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* fatty acid biosynthesis and antimicrobial resistance mechanisms. About 5 years ago these studies were extended to *Burkholderia pseudomallei*. In this short period of time, my research group developed a nationally and internationally recognized *B. pseudomallei* research program. We constructed state-of-the-art select agent compliant genetic tools, procured a large collection of clinical and environmental *B. pseudomallei* strains from diverse geographical sources, contributed to the understanding of mechanisms of resistance to clinically significant antibiotics, tested novel compounds for anti-*B. pseudomallei* activity, and co-authored policy papers on working with this biodefense pathogen. I am serving as a subject matter expert on *B. pseudomallei* with the Dept. of Homeland Security and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. I am therefore well qualified to contribute to the proposed studies.

B. Positions and Honors.

Positions and Employment

1983-1984 Postdoctoral Fellow, Division of Microbiology, Univ. of Konstanz, Faculty for Biology
1984-1986 Postdoctoral Fellow, Dept. of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Univ. of North Dakota Medical School, and Dept. of Biochemistry, Virginia Polytechnic Inst. & State Univ.
1986-1989 Research Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biological Chemistry, Univ. of Michigan Medical School
1989-1992 Assistant Professor, Dept. of Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, Univ. of Calgary Health Sciences Center
1992-1995 Associate Professor, Dept. of Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, Univ. of Calgary Health Sciences Center
1995-2001 Associate Professor, Dept. of Microbiology, Colorado State University
2001-2002 Professor, Dept. of Microbiology, Colorado State University
2002-2008 Professor, Associate Dept. Head for Graduate Studies and Research, Dept. of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology, Colorado State University
2007- Associate Director, Rocky Mountain Regional Center of Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases Research
2008- Professor, Associate Dept. Head, Dept. of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology, Colorado State University

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

1996- Editorial Board, Biotechniques
2001 National Institutes of Health, SBIR Study Section, ad hoc
2001,2003 National Institutes of Health, Bacteriology and Mycology 1 and 2 Study Sections, ad hoc
2004-2009 National Institutes of Health, IDM Study Section, member
2006 National Institutes of Health, DDR Study Section, ad hoc
Program Director/Principal Investigator (Last, First, Middle):

2006   USDA grant review panel member
2006   BEI Repository, NIAID Scientific Review Committee
2007-2009 National Institutes of Health, IDM Study Section, Chair
2009   NIH ARRA SBIR/STTR review panel, Chair
2009-   Scientific Advisory Board, Great Lakes RCE
2010-   NIH Center for Scientific Review College of Reviewers, member
Ongoing Consulting for private companies and government agencies
Ongoing Peer review of journal articles, and proposal reviews and site visits for other national and international granting agencies

Honors
1983   Ph.D. Summa Cum Laude, University of Konstanz
1984   Feodor Lynen Postdoctoral Fellowship, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
1995   Scholarship, Medical Research Council of Canada
1992-1995 Member of the Centers for Excellence of the Canadian Bacterial Diseases Network
2006   Elected to American Academy of Microbiology

C. Selected peer-reviewed publications (in chronological order from 122 total).


www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/120841054/abstract?cretry=1&srretry=0


http://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S0035920308700324


D. Research Support.

ACTIVE

NIH U54 AI065357 Belisle (PI); Schweizer PI of subproject 5/1/09-4/30/14
Title: Burkholderia pseudomallei antibiotic resistance mechanisms
The major goals of this project are to identify resistance mechanisms for clinically significant antibiotics and to generate knowledge and tools for rapid identification of resistance mechanisms.

NIH U54 AI065357 Belisle (PI); Schweizer PI of subproject 5/1/09-4/30/14
Title: RMRCE Developmental proposals
The goals of this project are to administer the Developmental Research Project aspects of the RMRCE.

NIH UO1 AI082052 Bowlin (PI); Schweizer (PI of subcontract) 6/1/09-5/31/11
Title: Development of a novel lead series against category A & B bacterial pathogens
The major goals of this project are to use rational drug design strategies to further develop a lead series of antibacterial compounds. Efforts in Dr. Schweizer’s laboratory will be directed towards assessing in vitro and in vivo efficacies against Burkholderia pseudomallei.

NIH R43 AI79986 Moir (PI); Schweizer (PI of subcontract) 6/15/08-6/14/10
Title: Therapeutics targeting fatty acid synthesis in Pseudomonas aeruginosa
The major goals of this project are to identify novel fatty acid synthesis inhibitors and to evaluate their in vitro efficacies.

NIH U54 AI065357 Belisle (PI); Schweizer PI of subproject 6/1/05-4/30/10
Title: Burkholderia spp.: novel therapeutic approaches
The goals of this project are to identify and evaluate efflux pump inhibitors as therapeutics for Burkholderia pseudomallei and related species.

NIH U54 AI065357 Supplement Belisle (PI); Schweizer (PI of subproject) 5/1/08-4/30/10
Title: Evaluation of Novel Melioidosis Therapeutics
The goals of this project are to evaluate several investigational drugs as novel melioidosis therapeutics.

COMPLETED

HDTRA1-08-C-0049 Flavin (PI); Schweizer (PI of subcontract) 10/15/08-12/30/09
Title: Development of cethromycin, a novel antibiotic
The major goal of this project is to evaluate the efficacy of cethromycin as an antibiotic against various biodefense pathogens. Efforts in Dr. Schweizer’s laboratory are aimed at defining in vitro efficacy against Burkholderia pseudomallei and to assess potential resistance mechanisms.
NIH U54 AI065357 Supplement Belisle (PI); Schweizer PI of subproject 12/1/06-4/30/09
Title: Attenuated BSL2-Compatible *Burkholderia mallei* and *B. pseudomallei* Strains
The major goals of this project are to engineer avirulent *Burkholderia* strains for which reagent exempt status can be sought through CDC’s Select Agent program.

NIH U54 AI065357 Supplement Belisle (PI); Eckstein (PI) and Schweizer (co-investigator on sub-project) 5/1/07-4/30/09
Title: Defining the Immunolipidome of *Burkholderia pseudomallei*
The goals of this project are to identify *B. pseudomallei*-specific immunogenic lipids with the ultimate purpose of developing species-specific diagnostics. Dr. Schweizer is providing *B. pseudomallei* extracts and expertise.

RO3 AI058141 Schweizer (PI) 7/1/04-6/30/07
Title: Genetic tools for pathogenic bacteria
The goals of this project were to develop new genetic tools for pathogenic bacteria, specifically novel Tn7-based gene integration vectors.

**PENDING**
### 1. Project Director / Principal Investigator (PD/PI)

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<th>* First Name:</th>
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<td>* Last Name:</td>
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### 2. Human Subjects

- Clinical Trial?  
  - No  
  - Yes
- * Agency-Defined Phase III Clinical Trial?  
  - No  
  - Yes

### 3. Applicant Organization Contact

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Title:</td>
<td>Senior Research Administrator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Street1:</td>
<td>601 S. Howes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Street2:</td>
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<tr>
<td>* City:</td>
<td>Fort Collins</td>
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<td>* State:</td>
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<td>* Country:</td>
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4. Human Embryonic Stem Cells

* Does the proposed project involve human embryonic stem cells?  ☒ No  ☐ Yes

If the proposed project involves human embryonic stem cells, list below the registration number of the specific cell line(s) from the following list: http://stemcells.nih.gov/research/registry/. Or, if a specific stem cell line cannot be referenced at this time, please check the box indicating that one from the registry will be used:

Cell Line(s):  ☐ Specific stem cell line cannot be referenced at this time. One from the registry will be used.
### Budget Period: 1

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#### A. Direct Costs

- * Funds Requested ($)
- * Direct Cost less Consortium F&A
- Consortium F&A
- * Total Direct Costs

#### B. Indirect Costs

<table>
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- Cognizant Agency (Agency Name, POC Name and Phone Number): DHHS, Wallace Chan, [redacted]

- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement Date: 06/26/2009

- Total Indirect Costs

#### C. Total Direct and Indirect Costs (A + B)

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### Budget Period: 2

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#### A. Direct Costs

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- * Direct Cost less Consortium F&A
- Consortium F&A
- * Total Direct Costs

#### B. Indirect Costs

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- Cognizant Agency (Agency Name, POC Name and Phone Number): DHHS, Wallace Chan, [redacted]

- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement Date: 06/26/2009

- Total Indirect Costs

#### C. Total Direct and Indirect Costs (A + B)

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### Budget Period: 3

**Start Date:**

**End Date:**

#### A. Direct Costs

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#### B. Indirect Costs

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**Cognizant Agency (Agency Name, POC Name and Phone Number):**

**Indirect Cost Rate Agreement Date:**

**Total Indirect Costs:**

#### C. Total Direct and Indirect Costs (A + B)

**Funds Requested ($):**

### Budget Period: 4

**Start Date:**

**End Date:**

#### A. Direct Costs

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#### B. Indirect Costs

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**Cognizant Agency (Agency Name, POC Name and Phone Number):**

**Indirect Cost Rate Agreement Date:**

**Total Indirect Costs:**

#### C. Total Direct and Indirect Costs (A + B)

**Funds Requested ($):**
# PHS 398 Modular Budget, Periods 5 and Cumulative

## Budget Period: 5

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### B. Indirect Costs

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**Cognizant Agency (Agency Name, POC Name and Phone Number):**

**Indirect Cost Rate Agreement Date:**

**Total Indirect Costs:**

### C. Total Direct and Indirect Costs (A + B)

<table>
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## Cumulative Budget Information

### 1. Total Costs, Entire Project Period

- *Section A, Total Direct Cost less Consortium F&A for Entire Project Period* $[
- *Section A, Total Consortium F&A for Entire Project Period* $[
- *Section A, Total Direct Costs for Entire Project Period* $[
- *Section B, Total Indirect Costs for Entire Project Period* $[
- *Section C, Total Direct and Indirect Costs (A+B) for Entire Project Period* $[

### 2. Budget Justifications

- **Personnel Justification:**
- **Consortium Justification:**
- **Additional Narrative Justification:**

---

**Principal Investigator/Program Director (Last, first, middle):** Dow, Steven, W
**Budget justification:**

**Personnel:**

**Steve Dow:** PI: 1.2 Calendar months effort; duties will include overseeing entire project, plus experimental design and data analysis and interpretation; manuscript preparation

**Mercedes Gonzalez-Juarerro:** Co-I; 3.6 Calendar months effort; her duties will include conducting some of the animal infection experiments as well as bacterium localization experiments, using immunohistochemistry and laser confocal microscopy

**Andrew Goodyear (Grad student):** 6 Calendar months effort; his duties will include conducting animal challenge experiments as well as quantitation of bacteria in the gut and other tissues; also screening of new isolates of B. pseudomallei in vivo and in vitro
# PHS 398 Research Plan

## 1. Application Type:

From SF 424 (R&R) Cover Page. The response provided on that page, regarding the type of application being submitted, is repeated for your reference, as you attach the appropriate sections of the Research Plan.

*Type of Application:*

- [x] New
- [ ] Resubmission
- [ ] Renewal
- [ ] Continuation
- [ ] Revision

## 2. Research Plan Attachments:

Please attach applicable sections of the research plan, below.

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<thead>
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<th>Section</th>
<th>Add Attachment</th>
<th>Delete Attachment</th>
<th>View Attachment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to Application (for RESUBMISSION or REVISION only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Specific Aims</td>
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<td>1241-Research Strategy.pdf</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Progress Report Publication List</td>
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### Human Subjects Sections

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<tr>
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<td>7. Inclusion of Women and Minorities</td>
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<td>8. Targeted/Planned Enrollment Table</td>
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### Other Research Plan Sections

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List of Research Plan Attachments

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Tracking Number: GRANT10529698

Funding Opportunity Number: PA-10-069

Received Date: 2010-02-11T17:02:50-04:00
2. **Specific Aims.** The overall goal of this proposal is to better understand how the Gram-negative bacterial pathogen *Burkholderia pseudomallei* (*Bp*) initiates and sustains infections in the GI tract. The *Bp* bacterium is normally found in soil and water, but is also a deadly pathogen in humans, where it can cause a variety of difficult-to-treat infections ranging from acute sepsis to chronic abscesses. While *Bp* is endemic in southeast Asia and northern Australia, infections are now being diagnosed with increasing frequency around the world, including in Central and South America. Therefore, it is likely that *Bp* infections will soon be identified in the U.S., as the result of either deliberate or accidental introduction. Thus, the proposed studies to gain a better understanding of the pathogenesis of *Bp* infection can be justified based on both national and international health concerns.

Little is known regarding how infection with *Bp* develops, though inhalation or cutaneous inoculation are currently considered the most likely routes of infection. **However, our new studies indicate that *Bp* is actually a primary enteric pathogen, which can readily establish acute or persistent GI tract infection following oral inoculation in mouse models.** Furthermore, our findings also suggest that *GI tract is the primary reservoir for maintenance and dissemination of Bp during chronic infection.* Thus, re-defining *Bp* as a primary enteric pathogen will have major implications for understanding how humans are infected with *Bp* and the risks posed by *Bp* contaminated food, soil and water. However, at present essentially nothing is known regarding the pathogenesis of enteric infection with *Bp*.

Therefore, the studies proposed here are intended to fill a critical void in our understanding of pathogenesis of infection with this important and emerging bacterial pathogen. To address these knowledge gaps, we will use a mouse model of enteric *Bp* infection developed in our lab to answer three key questions. First, is enteropathogenicity a property of all isolates of *Bp*, or are only certain isolates virulent after oral inoculation? If highly virulent enteric strains of *Bp* are identified, will *in vitro* assays of invasion correlate with the virulence phenotype? Secondly, what are the target cells for *Bp* infection in the intestine during acute and chronic infection? This information could be very important for developing new vaccination or treatment strategies. Third, how does *Bp* disseminate from the intestine to other organs following enteric infection, since widely disseminated infections are a key feature of *Bp* infection? For example, if dissemination were found to be primarily cell-associated, then different classes of antimicrobials could be used for treatment of chronic infection as opposed to acute infection. The information generated from these studies may substantially alter our view of *Bp* as a pathogen and lead to a reassessment of the risks posed by oral *Bp* infection. The questions raised above will be addressed by means of 3 Specific Aims.

**Aim 1.** Determine whether enteropathogenicity is a general feature of all or only some *B. pseudomallei* isolates.

**Aim 2.** Identify intestinal target cells for *B. pseudomallei* during acute and chronic enteric infection.

**Aim 3.** Determine how *B. pseudomallei* disseminates from the GI tract following oral inoculation.
3. Research Strategy

(a) Significance. *Burkholderia pseudomallei* (Bp) infection is a Gram-negative bacterial pathogen that normally survives as a saprophyte in soil and water, but is also capable of infecting most mammals and causing serious infections (1-5). *Bp* infection is a major cause of bacterial sepsis and chronic disseminated infections (meliodosis) in humans in Thailand and northern Australia (4-8). The fatality rate for patients with *Bp* infection, even with prompt and aggressive treatment, still ranges from 20% to over 50%. Moreover, *Bp* is an emerging pathogen and infections have been increasingly reported in many regions of the world, including Central and South America (9-13). In fact, *Bp* infection is now considered endemic in regions of China and India, and in Brazil (11, 12, 14). Infections with *Bp* are particularly dangerous because the organism is intrinsically resistant to many antimicrobials, can persist for years in the soil and in water, and can cause a wide array of clinical symptoms, ranging from acute sepsis, to chronic recurrent infection, to clinically silent infection (5-8, 15-17). Meliodosis is also an increasing problem in travelers who have visited regions of the world where *Bp* is endemic (18). Thus, *Bp* is dangerous bacterial pathogen with high potential for spread into new regions of the world including the U.S. via deliberate or accidental introduction in soil, food, or water.

Currently *Bp* is not considered a primary enteric pathogen for infection of humans. At present, infection with *Bp* is presumed to occur following inhalation or cutaneous inoculation, though the actual link between cutaneous exposure and infection is weak (Dr. Sharon Peacock, see Letter of Support). Thus, current treatment and prevention efforts for human meliodosis do not consider the impact of oral infection or persistent fecal carriage and shedding of the organism (5, 7, 8). There is however epidemiological evidence to suggest that oral infection with *Bp* does occur in humans. For example, outbreaks of meliodosis in villages in Indonesia have been linked directly to drinking water supplies contaminated with *Bp*, which can survive for years in water (19). Infections with *Bp* increase significantly during times of greater exposure to very wet conditions (eg, rice farming during the monsoon season), which would be consistent with oral exposure to a water borne agent (20-22). Outbreaks of meliodosis have also been associated with tsunami events (23, 24). In addition, patients with meliodosis have been misdiagnosed as having typhoid (enteric fever) (25). In fact, clinical observations (Dr. Peacock, personal communication) suggest that oral infection may be a much more important route of infection with *Bp* in humans than previously assumed. Since *Bp* can persist in water or soil for years, enteric infection of humans with *Bp* would have major public health consequences (26, 27).

Virtually nothing is known regarding enteric infection with *Bp*. Development of a new animal model of enteric *Bp* infection would therefore be valuable for several reasons. For one, a mouse enteric *Bp* model would be essential for helping understand the pathogenesis of enteric meliodosis in humans. A new mouse model of an enteric *Bp* infection would also add an important new animal model for study of enteric pathogens in general. From a clinical perspective, an enteric *Bp* infection model in mice would also be critical for development of new vaccines for *Bp* and for development of new antimicrobial treatment and prevention strategies.

(b) Innovation. We have spent several years developing mouse models of *Burkholderia* infection for evaluating new immunotherapeutic approaches to treatment and for investigating the immunopathogenesis of pulmonary infection with *B. mallei* and *B. pseudomallei* (28-30). In the course of these studies, we made the unexpected observation that mice could be easily infected with *Bp* following oral inoculation and remain persistently infected and undergo persistent fecal shedding of *Bp*. We have determined mouse strain differences in susceptibility to oral infection with *Bp*. It also became clear from our studies that the ability to cause enteric infection was not only a property of laboratory adapted strains of *Bp*. These preliminary data therefore provide compelling new evidence that *Bp* is an enteric pathogen, a fact not previously appreciated by others in the field. Thus, we have now developed a new mouse model of enteric infection with *Bp* that has the potential to substantially alter the current *Bp* infection paradigm.

Our access to a collection of over 30 clinical isolates of *Bp* obtained from patients in Thailand and Australia provides a key resource for these studies. This panel of *Bp* isolates, provided by our
collaborator Dr. Herbert Schweizer (CSU), has proven very useful previously for investigating Bp antibiotic resistance mechanisms (31-34). Studies with these Bp isolates have led to a productive and ongoing collaboration between the Dow and Schweizer labs, as evidenced by several publications in press or recently published (30). Moreover, this panel of isolates has allowed us to determine in initial oral animal challenge studies that enteric virulence is likely a general property of nearly all Bp stains, and not just the laboratory-adapted 1026b strain.

Our studies have also benefited from a key technical innovation, namely the development by our lab of a new selective medium for culture of Bp from intestinal contents and feces (35, 36). This new modified Ashdown’s medium has been extremely useful for identifying and quantifying Bp in the intestines and feces of infected mice. The new medium suppresses the growth of all normal commensal enteric bacteria found in mice, while selectively allowing the growth of Bp from intestinal contents and feces, including all clinical Bp isolates tested to date. Currently, this medium is being evaluated for use with clinical specimens from human patients in Thailand, in a collaborative effort with Dr. Peacock.

A number of studies have investigated animal models for meliodosis, primarily in the context of pneumonic infection, and to date none have investigated oral challenge models (37-43). Therefore, we believe the enteric meliodosis infection model we have developed is unique. In addition, the Bp oral infection model has several unique features compared to other enteric bacterial infection models in mice (44-47). For example, in mice with enteric Bp infection, intestinal lesions are very mild and consist primarily of scattered mononuclear cell infiltrates. Mice with enteric Bp infection exhibit few overt signs of infection and do not develop diarrhea. Most mice that develop chronic enteric infection following low-dose inoculation with Bp go on to develop disseminated infection to the spleen and CNS over a 45-90 day period. Thus, enteric infection with Bp resembles in many respects typhoid fever caused by Salmonella typhi in humans and in mouse models, but with several key differences, including 1) greater susceptibility to low-dose oral challenge with Bp; 2) lack of neutrophilic inflammation in Bp-infected mice; and 3) the relatively high prevalence (15-20%) of CNS infection following oral Bp infection. Thus, the mouse model of enteric Bp infection is novel and should prove useful for generating insights into general mechanisms of enteric bacterial infection.

(c) Approach

Preliminary studies. During the course of developing new animal models of chronic Bp infection, we discovered that most chronically infected mice actually harbored substantial numbers of Bp in their intestinal tract. This finding prompted us to investigate in greater detail how susceptible mice were to oral inoculation with Bp. First, we determined LD50 doses for Bp strain 1026b when inoculated orally in 3 inbred strains of mice (Table 1). Importantly, the LD50 doses determined for Bp 1026b were much lower than those typically reported for Salmonella and Shigella infection in mouse models (44, 47, 48). In addition, pre-treatment with antimicrobials or fasting of the mice was not required for successful infection. All 3 strains of mice tested were readily infected orally with Bp, with 129 Sv/Ev strain mice being extremely susceptible to oral inoculation. We also wished to determine whether oral susceptibility was a unique property of the 1026b strain of Bp, the strain with which most of these studies were conducted. Therefore, mice were also inoculated orally with 3 random clinical isolates of Bp (part of the Bp collection maintained by Dr. H. Schweizer) and found that mice were highly susceptible to oral inoculation with all 3 Bp strains tested. The estimated LD50 for these new Bp strains was also up to 2 logs lower than that determined for Bp strain 1026b (data not shown).

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<td>129 Sv/Ev</td>
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<tr>
<td>BALB/c</td>
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<tr>
<td>C57Bl/6</td>
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Table 1. LD50 doses for Bp for oral inoculation.
To accurately quantitate \textit{Bp} bacterial burdens in the GI tract, we developed a modified Ashdown's selective agar for culture of \textit{Bp} from intestinal contents of mice. We found that standard Ashdown agar did not effectively suppress the growth of normal enteric bacteria from mice (Figure 1). In contrast, the new medium completely suppressed the growth of commensal bacteria from the gut and feces of mice infected with \textit{Bp}, while at the same time allowing for selective growth of \textit{Bp}. Using the modified Ashdown agar, we quantitated \textit{Bp} numbers in the gut of chronically infected mice (Figure 2). In all mice infected with \textit{Bp} strain 1026b, we found that bacterial numbers remained relatively constant over at least a 30-day period at a level of $10^3$ to $10^4$ CFU in the small intestine, cecum and colon tissues. Moreover, infected animals also persistently shed \textit{Bp} in their feces, at concentrations of approximately $10^3$ CFU per gm of feces. Thus, \textit{Bp} readily establishes persistent and chronic enteric infection with fecal shedding in mice.

The localization and dissemination studies proposed here will be done using fluorescent GFP and RFP plasmids that can be used to readily produce stable, chromosomally integrated transfectants in nearly all strains of \textit{Bp}. As an example of intracellular expression, macrophages were infected \textit{in vitro} at an MOI of 10 with RFP expressing \textit{Bp} at 2h and 24h after inoculation, and infected cells readily visualized by fluorescence microscopy (Figure 3). These constructs will be provided in collaboration with Dr. Tung Huang (University of Hawaii, see Letter of Collaboration). Cells containing GFP$^+$ and RFP$^+$ bacteria will be visualized using confocal microscopy and flow cytometry. Thus, we have the necessary expertise, reagents, bacterial strains, and research infrastructure to complete the proposed studies.

**Aim 1. Determine whether enteropathogenicity is a general feature of all or only certain \textit{B. pseudomallei} isolates. Rationale and Hypothesis.** We have observed that the 1026b strain of \textit{Bp} and at least 3 clinical \textit{Bp} isolates efficiently infect the GI tract of adult mice following low-dose oral inoculation, and then disseminate to multiple different organs over a several-month period. However, it is not known if all strains of \textit{Bp} can cause enteric infection, or whether certain strains are particularly virulent following oral inoculation. Nor is it known whether certain \textit{in vitro} properties such as cell invasion and replication can be correlated with \textit{in vivo} virulence, which is an essential step in developing assays for identification of enteric virulence determinants. To address these questions, a low-dose oral challenge model in BALB/c mice will be used to screen a panel of 30 \textit{Bp} isolates for enteric tropism and for virulence. Selected high and low virulence strains of \textit{Bp} will then be further evaluated \textit{in vitro} to assess their ability to invade and replicate in intestinal epithelial cells and macrophages. \textit{We hypothesize that most or all \textit{Bp} strains can cause enteric infection and that enteric virulence will correlate with increased invasion and replication in intestinal epithelial cells and macrophages.}

**Objective 1.1. Screen new \textit{Bp} isolates for enteric infection and virulence.**
Experimental Approach. A mouse low-dose oral challenge model will be used to screen a collection of 30 different *Bp* clinical isolates obtained from patients in Thailand and northern Australia by Dr. Herbert Schweizer (see Letter of Collaboration). Prior experience with the *Bp* oral infection model indicates that an oral challenge dose of $10^3$ CFU will provide a useful screen for distinguishing enteric from non-enteric isolates. BALB/c mice (n = 4 per group) will be inoculated orally with *Bp* stocks of known titer diluted to deliver $10^3$ CFU in an inoculation volume of 200 ul, which will be administered to non-anesthetized mice using a gavage needle to assure delivery deep into the esophagus.

The primary readouts for these challenge experiments will be fecal shedding of *Bp* and survival to day 60 after inoculation. Fresh fecal pellets will be collected from each infected mouse twice weekly and fecal bacterial counts determined from solubilized pellets using modified Ashdown medium. Challenged mice will also be weighed daily and observed for signs of clinical illness. Any ill mice will be euthanized and quantitative bacterial counts determined in GI tissues (small intestine, ileum, cecum, and large intestine) and in the spleen and liver and mesenteric lymph nodes, using culture techniques reported previously (28, 29). Median survival times will be determined using Kaplan-Meier survival curves and compared between *Bp* isolates by log rank analysis, with Bonferroni adjustment for multiple comparisons.

Expected Results, Interpretation, Possible Pitfalls. We expect that at least 3-5 highly pathogenic isolates of *Bp* will be identified, based on evidence of heavy intestinal infection (persistent fecal shedding, high bacterial titers in intestinal cultures), significant weight loss, and short survival times. We also expect to identify 3-5 relatively low virulence *Bp* isolates, which will be defined as those that do not cause death, weight loss, or persistent fecal shedding during the 60 day observation period. For example, based on these criteria, *Bp* strain 1026b would be classified as a low-virulence strain, while *Bp*103 (a new clinical isolate), would be classified as a high-virulence isolate. Therefore, we do not expect major obstacles to using the *in vivo* challenge assay to identify high and low virulence *Bp* isolates. If clearly pathogenic or non-pathogenic *Bp* strains are not identified at the $10^3$ CFU oral challenge dose after the first 10 isolates are screened, the challenge dose will be adjusted upward or downward depending on the initial results.

Objective 1.2. Determine whether enteric virulence correlates with increased intestinal epithelial cell or macrophage invasion and replication.

Experimental Approach. Previous studies with *Salmonella* and *Shigella* have shown the enteric virulence correlates with intestinal invasion and cytopathicity(47). Therefore, we will use a mouse primary intestinal epithelial (IE) cell line (mIE2) derived from the Immortomouse® (Robert Whitehead, Vanderbilt University), and a mouse macrophage cell line (RAW267.2) to evaluate invasion and cell killing by *Bp* isolates. These screens will be done using the 3 most and the 3 least virulent enteric *Bp* isolates identified above. For the cell invasion assay, adherent IE or RAW cells in triplicate wells will be infected for 1h with *Bp* at an MOI of 5, then washed and incubated for 1 hour with 10 ug/ml ceftazidime to kill extracellular bacteria. The cells will then be immediately lysed and numbers of intracellular bacteria quantitated, using techniques described previously(28). The ability of different *Bp* strains to invade IE cells will be compared statistically using non-parametric ANOVA, and a similar analysis will be done for macrophage invasion. The cytopathicity assay will be done using the same approach as above, except that cultures will be continued for an additional 24 hours following infection, with 10 ug/ml ceftazidime in the medium to suppress extracellular replication. The number of viable IE or macrophage cells will be determined by MTT assay or by trypan blue exclusion.

Expected Results, Interpretation, Possible Pitfalls. We expect that the more pathogenic *Bp* isolates will invade IE cells and macrophages more efficiently than less pathogenic strains. These results would be important because they would indicate that the ability to invade potential target cells in the intestine correlates with virulence, and this would in turn provide an efficient assay for follow-up studies to identify specific virulence factors. If however invasion is not associated with virulence, this would suggest that intestinal infection may depend on factors other than direct invasion, such as uptake by M cells. Since *Bp* infection causes minimal inflammation in the intestine, we predict that more enteropathogenic strains of *Bp* will paradoxically cause less cell death, despite their ability to infect cells efficiently. Such a result would suggest a mechanism by which *Bp* is able to establish persistent...
infection in the GI tract. Since \textit{Bp} is known to be able to infect a number of different cell types, we do not expect problems with either the cell invasion or cytopathicity assays.

**Aim 2. Identify intestinal target cells for \textit{B. pseudomallei} during acute and chronic enteric infection. Rationale and Hypothesis.** Identifying infected cells in the gut is critical to understanding how \textit{Bp} establishes and maintains enteric infection. To address this question, we will use \textit{Bp} strains engineered to stably over-express GFP or RFP, combined with confocal microscopy and flow cytometry to identify \textit{Bp}-infected cells. Examining intestinal tissues over time following infection will allow us to assess early and late targets for \textit{Bp} infection. \textit{We hypothesize that \textit{Bp} will infect both intestinal epithelial cells and monocytes and macrophages during acute infection, while submucosal macrophages will serve as the primary target cells for chronic infection.}

**Objective 2.1. Identify target cells for \textit{Bp} infection during acute and chronic enteric infection.**

**Experimental Approach.** BALB/c mice (n = 4 per group per time point) will be inoculated orally with 5 X 10^5 CFU \textit{Bp} strain 1026b engineered to over-express GFP (see Dr. T. Huang, Letter of Collaboration). Inoculated mice will be euthanized on d1, d3, d7, d14, and d30 after infection. Tissues will be processed for immunohistochemistry (IHC) or flow cytometry, using previously published techniques in our laboratories (49-51). Briefly, sectioned tissues from the GI tract, mesenteric LN, and spleen will be examined using a laser scanning confocal microscope (Zeiss LSM 510 META, 4-laser microscope) available in the laboratory of Dr. Gonzalez-Juarrero (Co-Investigator on this grant). Dual labeling IHC will be utilized to identify cells containing labeled \textit{Bp}, including the following relevant cell markers: F4/80 (mature macrophages); Ly6-G (neutrophils), cytokeratin (epithelial cells); CD11b and Ly6-C (monocytes); CD3 (T cells), and CD11c and DEC-205 (DC). We will also use multicolor flow cytometry to further define the population of infected cells, using techniques reported previously(52).

**Expected Results, Interpretation, Possible Pitfalls.** We expect that \textit{Bp} will be found primarily within infected intestinal epithelial cells at all levels of the intestine on days 1-3 after inoculation, especially in the ileum and large intestine. This result would be consistent with direct invasion of intestinal epithelium as the primary mechanism of initial enteric infection. By days 7-14, we expect to observe more infected monocytes and macrophages, particularly in the ileum, cecum and large intestine, while infected intestinal epithelial cells will have largely disappeared, consistent with immune elimination or apoptosis. From day 14 onward, we expect that the only \textit{Bp} infected cells in the gut will be macrophages located in submucosal layers of the intestine. We also expect that at these later time points individual infected cells will contain only relatively few (ie, 3-5) bacteria per cell, consistent with a sustained but non-cytopathic and low level infection. We do not expect to find \textit{Bp} associated with M cells or Peyers patches, as we have not been able to culture \textit{Bp} from mesenteric LNs during preliminary studies. If dual-labeling IHC proves problematic, multicolor utilize flow cytometry should prove very useful in helping to conclusively identify \textit{Bp} infected cells. If numbers of infected cells are too low to visualize, we would deliver a higher inoculum of GFP-Bp. We can also employ an anti-Burkholderia capsule antibody obtained from Dr. David Waag (USAMRIID) to detect \textit{Bp} infected cells, as reported recently for \textit{B. mallei}(29).

**Aim 3. Determine how \textit{B. pseudomallei} disseminates from the GI tract following oral inoculation. Rationale and Hypothesis.** A major feature of chronic meliodosis in humans is persistent infection and widespread dissemination of infection to various organs. However, a reservoir for persistent infection has not been identified, nor is it known how the bacterium disseminates. Our preliminary studies suggest that in chronic \textit{Bp} infection, by analogy to \textit{Salmonella typhi} infection, the gut is the primary reservoir persistent infection and that dissemination occurs via infected leukocytes, especially monocytes(48). \textit{We therefore hypothesize that infected monocytes serve as the primary means of disseminating \textit{Bp} from the gut during enteric infection.}

**Objective 3.1. Evaluate entry of \textit{Bp} into the bloodstream during acute and chronic infection.** BALB/c mice (n = 5 per group) will be inoculated orally with GFP-Bp 1026b, then blood samples will be collected for analysis by flow cytometry and blood culture beginning 30 minutes post-inoculation, and continuing at 1h, 3h, 6h, 12h, 24h, 48h, 72h, 7d, 14d, 30d and 60d post-inoculation. The early time
points were selected because extraintestinal *Salmonella typhi* invasion has been shown to occur rapidly (48, 53). The later time points were selected in order to assess the degree to which chronic low level shedding of bacteria is maintained throughout chronic *Bp* infection. Blood mononuclear cells will be immunostained for flow cytometry and GFP<sup>+</sup> cells will be identified using relevant cell surface markers (29, 52, 54). Cytospin preparations of blood cells will also be examined by confocal microscopy. Blood will be cultured after lysing WBC using 0.1% saponin, which we have determined allows efficient detection of *Bp* in blood.

**Expected Results, Interpretation, Possible Pitfalls.** We expect to observe the rapid appearance of GFP<sup>+</sup> *Bp* in the bloodstream very soon after oral inoculation with *Bp* and predict that the majority of bacteria will be contained within CD11b<sup>+</sup>/Ly6C<sup>+</sup> inflammatory monocytes. This result would suggest that *Bp* rapidly exits the gut (possibly via infected DC) and enters the bloodstream in a manner similar to that reported for *Salmonella typhimurium* in mice (48). After 24-48 hours, the number of bacteria in the bloodstream should rapidly diminish, while by day 7-14, we expect to observe the reappearance of GFP<sup>+</sup> *Bp* in monocytes, coincident with an increase of *Bp* numbers in the intestine. Numbers of *Bp* in the bloodstream should then remain relatively constant over the next 30-60 days. One problem in interpretation may be animals that develop disseminated infections in the spleen and become septic. Therefore, in separate studies we will correlate bacterial numbers in the bloodstream with bacterial numbers in the spleen and liver.

**Objective 3.2. Determine whether depopulation of gut *Bp* will reduce bacterial dissemination.** The role of the intestine as a chronic reservoir for infection will also be assessed in mice infected with a very low dose (500 CFU) of *Bp* (to avoid rapid dissemination), as this inoculum leads to nearly 100% persistent intestinal colonization within 30d. Beginning 30 days after infection, one group of mice (n = 10 per group) will be treated orally once daily with the non-absorbed antibiotic neomycin (5-10 mg/mouse to deplete intestinal gram-negative bacteria (55). The incidence of development of disseminated infection will be compared between neomycin treated and untreated mice over the next 60 days.

**Expected Results, Interpretation, Possible Pitfalls.** Depopulation of gut *Bp* bacteria with oral neomycin should reduce the rate of development of disseminated infection if the gut is the primary reservoir of infection. Thus, mice treated with oral neomycin should develop splenic and CNS infections at a significantly reduced rate compared to untreated mice. Interpretation of this result could be confounded if neomycin reaches systemic antibacterial levels (unlikely at the doses proposed here), but we will measure blood levels of neomycin and determine an MIC for *Bp* if positive results are obtained. In the case of negative results, we will culture intestinal contents to assure that *Bp* is adequately depleted, since resistance to neomycin by *Bp* is also possible.

**Objective 3.3. Determine whether dissemination of *Bp* from the gut is reduced in CD18<sup>-/-</sup> animals.** Monocyte and neutrophil migration is severely impaired in mice lacking the integrin CD18 and the CD18<sup>-/-</sup> mouse model has been used previously to define the role of leukocytes in disseminating *Salmonella* infection (48). Therefore, wild type C57Bl/6 and congenic CD18<sup>-/-</sup> mice (n = 40 per group) will be infected with a very low dose of *Bp* (500 CFU) and the development of enteric infection and dissemination will be assessed over a 60-day period. At 7 day intervals, groups of mice (n = 5) will be sacrificed and the bacterial burden in spleen, liver, and lung tissues will be determined, as described previously (29).

**Expected Results, Interpretation, Possible Pitfalls.** We expect that CD18<sup>-/-</sup> mice will develop disseminated infections in the CNS and spleen at a significantly reduced rate compared to wild type mice, which would suggest that trafficking of the infection via infected monocytes is required for dissemination. If no difference is observed between CD18<sup>-/-</sup> and WT mice, this would suggest that the bacterium may exist in a non-cell-associated form in the bloodstream. However, it is also possible that CD18<sup>-/-</sup> mice will succumb at a more rapid rate to *Bp* infection due to their inability to control the primary intestinal infection. This will be assessed using quantitative cultures of feces and intestinal contents in WT and CD18<sup>-/-</sup> mice.
10. Vertebrate Animals

a. **Mouse studies.** It is estimated that a total of 660 mice will be used for the experiments proposed here. This total will include 500 BALB/c mice, 80 C57Bl/6 mice, and 80 CD18⁻/⁻ mice on the C57Bl/6 background.

b. **Justification of animal use.** These studies will be done in mice because this is the lowest vertebrate species that can be used to model enteric infection with Burkholderia pseudomallei. In addition, there is already a great deal of prior data generated in this species. For the mouse studies, most experiments will utilize groups of 4 or 5 mice each. Our prior experience with most of the Bp infection models to be employed here indicate that this group size is sufficient to generate statistically significant results, with a power of 80% to detect differences. Comparisons of two groups will be done by non-parametric t-test and between more than two groups will be compared by non-parametric ANOVA and multiple means comparison tests. All in vivo experiments will be repeated at least once to assure reproducibility.

c. **Veterinary care.** Mice will be housed within the rodent holding facilities in the Regional Biocontainment Laboratory at the Foothills Campus at CSU. Animals will be cared for under the direction of Lab Animal Resources, which includes at least one veterinarian on call at all times. The animal facilities at CSU have been ALAAC approved and are inspected annually.

d. **Humane treatment.** For all Bp challenge experiments, mice will be monitored 3 times daily during the first 7 days after infection, then once to twice daily during the chronic phases of infection. Animals that exhibit weight loss > 20%, reluctance to move, inappetance, and/or significant respiratory distress will be immediately euthanized.

e. **Method of euthanasia.** Any mice that require euthanasia will be euthanized by inhalation of CO2, as recommended by the American Veterinary Medical Association.
11. Select Agents
1. The project involves use of *Burkholderia pseudomallei*, which is considered a category B Select Agent.
2. The facilities at Colorado State University are registered with CDC under entity number C20070924-0686.
3. Possession and use of Select Agents is monitored by the responsible university biosafety officers. For transfer of Select Agents, Federal guidelines are followed, including filing of USDA import permits (where applicable), CDC/APHIS Form 2 and other permits (where applicable).


January 20, 2010

Steve Dow, Ph.D.
Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1678

Dear Steve,

I am writing this letter to indicate my excitement and willingness to collaborate with you on your grant proposal "Mechanisms of Enteric Burkholderia pseudomallei Infection". The studies you propose are very interesting and suggest quite a novel route of infection with this organism. These studies will also help to extend our recent and ongoing collaborations in animal infection models with attenuated strains of B. pseudomallei.

As you know, we have successfully produced stably transfected GFP and RFP expressing B. pseudomallei strains that can be used for in vitro and in vivo tracking. We will therefore be happy to provide you with our GFP and RFP plasmids that can be used to transform your B. pseudomallei isolates for in vivo and in vitro tracking studies. I wish you luck with your proposal and enthusiastically look forward to our ongoing collaborations.

Sincerely and best regards,

[Signature]

Tung T. Hoang, Ph.D.
22\textsuperscript{th} January 2010

RE: Letter of Support for Steven Dow
NIH/NIAID application: Mechanisms of Enteric \textit{Burkholderia pseudomallei} Infection

Melioidosis, the serious human infection caused by the bacterium \textit{Burkholderia pseudomallei}, is a major cause of sepsis in SE Asia. The Mahidol-Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Unit in Thailand has undertaken clinical and laboratory studies of melioidosis for the last 25 years, and we represent the leading clinical researchers in this field. We believe that the single most important research need at this present time is to unequivocally define the routes by which humans become infected with \textit{B. pseudomallei}. This prioritization is based on our belief that prevention of infection through reduction in exposure to the causative organism is the most likely strategy to succeed in the short term in regions where melioidosis is endemic, and could save thousands of lives at relatively low cost.

The evidence base for routes of infection is staggeringly flimsy. The prevailing assumption is that most disease occurs as a result of percutaneous inoculation. This is largely based on the observations that people at high risk such as agricultural workers do not wear protective clothing, work in bare feet, and suffer repeated minor injuries. In addition, disease incidence increases during the rainy season when rice farmers have regular and prolonged contact with contaminated soil and water. Although intuitively compelling, this association is not supported by published evidence. A retrospective study performed in Northern Australia found that less than one quarter of people presenting with melioidosis recalled an injury in the preceding weeks, and a case-control study conducted in the same setting found that exposure to soil was not associated with melioidosis. Furthermore, inoculation as a route of infection fails to take account of disease in people who have no regular contact with soil. Previous studies in Thailand that have defined a close association between melioidosis and rice farming also failed to distinguish between living in a rice farming family but not participating in agricultural work, and performing activities that bring the individual into close contact with soil.

There is stronger evidence for ingestion than for any other route of \textit{B. pseudomallei} infection. Several clusters of melioidosis cases have been reported from Australia in which a strain of \textit{B. pseudomallei} isolated from a common water source was a genetic match for the strain causing disease in the cluster. \textit{B. pseudomallei} has also been isolated from public water supplies in 11 locations in the Northern Territory of Australia, genotyped and implicated as a source of infection in 6 locations. There are striking knowledge gaps in Asia regarding the frequency with which water supplies are contaminated with \textit{B. pseudomallei}, how often such water is consumed, and the relative contribution made by ingestion compared with other routes of infection in people who develop melioidosis. We hypothesize based on knowledge of water treatment and use by people living in NE Thailand that consumption of \textit{B. pseudomallei} is a common occurrence.

We are currently funded to undertake a case-control study to define risk factors pertaining to routes of infection, as well as determine the frequency with which \textit{B. pseudomallei} is present in drinking
water and how often this is consumed. We also aim to determine whether apparently healthy people carry *B. pseudomallei* in the gut. We propose that humans can consume and carry this organism without symptoms in the presence of an intact immune system, and that this may be important in the process of the naturally acquired immunity that appears early in life and if protective for the majority of the population.

Parallel studies that describe and explore an experimental ingestion model of *B. pseudomallei* are critical, and have the added advantage that pathophysiology can be studied in more detail than is possible in the human host. The proposed work by Steve Dow and colleagues is extremely timely, and I would predict would be highly informative about routes and mechanisms of infection. The preliminary data generated in the mouse oral infection model to date indicates clearly that *B. pseudomallei* is a primary enteric pathogen in this species. Moreover, the tools that have been assembled to study the mechanisms of enteric *B. pseudomallei* infection in the mouse model are likely to generate important new insights into disease mechanisms, with direct relevance to human melioidosis. The collaborative nature of the proposed studies with our group and the Dow and Schweizer groups also assures that any discoveries in the mouse infection model can be quickly investigated and/or implemented in the clinical patient population in NE Thailand via the Mahidol-Oxford Research Unit. Therefore, I strongly support the proposed studies and look forward to ongoing interactions between the laboratories.

Sincerely,

Sharon Peacock

Professor of Microbiology
Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University
Bangkok, Thailand

Professor of Clinical Microbiology
Department of Medicine
University of Cambridge
Cambridge, UK
January 21, 2010

Dear Steve,

I am writing this letter to indicate my support for your new proposal "Mechanisms of Enteric Burkholderia pseudomallei Infection". These studies will continue our ongoing collaborations investigating the pathogenesis of meliodosis and the role of antimicrobial resistance and chronic infection. As you know, our laboratory has an extensive collection of over 40 low-passage, clinical isolates of B. pseudomallei obtained from patients in Thailand and northern Australia. This collection has proven very valuable in the past for studies of antimicrobial resistance by B. pseudomallei, and has been used by our two labs to recently investigate the mechanisms of aminoglycoside resistance by B. pseudomallei.

We will therefore be happy for you to have access to our B. pseudomallei collection for in vivo screening for more enteric and virulent strains of B. pseudomallei. These studies are novel and likely to have significant impact on our view of how meliodosis is contracted and spread.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Herbert P. Schweizer, Ph.D.
Professor
Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology
Associate Department Head
Associate Program Director, RMRCR
15. **Resource Sharing Plan.** Once results of the studies have been published, we will be willing to provide, in conjunction with the Schweizer lab and subject to the approvals of the MTA under which the Thai isolates of B. pseudomallei were obtained, organisms that were identified as valuable in the course of these studies.
1. Application Type:
From SF 424 (R&R) Cover Page. The responses provided on the R&R cover page are repeated here for your reference, as you answer the questions that are specific to the PHS398.

* Type of Application:

- ✔ New
- ❌ Resubmission
- ❌ Renewal
- ❌ Continuation
- ❌ Revision

Federal Identifier:

2. Change of Investigator / Change of Institution Questions

☐ Change of principal investigator / program director

Name of former principal investigator / program director:

Prefix: __________________________
* First Name: ____________________
Middle Name: ____________________
* Last Name: ____________________
Suffix: __________________________

☐ Change of Grantee Institution

* Name of former institution:

3. Inventions and Patents (For renewal applications only)

* Inventions and Patents: Yes ☐ No ☐

If the answer is "Yes" then please answer the following:

* Previously Reported: Yes ☐ No ☐
4. * Program Income

Is program income anticipated during the periods for which the grant support is requested?

☐ Yes  ☒ No

If you checked "yes" above (indicating that program income is anticipated), then use the format below to reflect the amount and source(s). Otherwise, leave this section blank.

*Budget Period  *Anticipated Amount ($)  *Source(s)

☐  ☐

☐  ☐

☐  ☐

☐  ☐

☐  ☐

5. * Disclosure Permission Statement

If this application does not result in an award, is the Government permitted to disclose the title of your proposed project, and the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the official signing for the applicant organization, to organizations that may be interested in contacting you for further information (e.g., possible collaborations, investment)?

☒ Yes  ☐ No