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Planning

## **RCI Manual and Automated Test Systems**

NHS Blood & Transplant

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-000622

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0289c2

Published 12 January 2021, 11:08pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

NHS Blood & Transplant

North Bristol Park

Filton, Bristol

BS34 7QH

#### **Email**

[marta.drozdowska@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:marta.drozdowska@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UK - UNITED KINGDOM

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.nhsbt.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk)

### **I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

### **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

### **I.5) Main activity**

Health

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

RCI Manual and Automated Test Systems

Reference number

NHSBT1481

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 38434520 - Blood analysers

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Supplies

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

Please see part II.2.4 for detailed description of the procurement

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 33140000 - Medical consumables
- 33696100 - Blood-grouping reagents
- 33696200 - Blood-testing reagents
- 38434520 - Blood analysers
- 42931100 - Laboratory centrifuges and accessories
- 50421000 - Repair and maintenance services of medical equipment

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - UNITED KINGDOM

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Please note this is NOT the start of a procurement process. A separate contract notice will be published to cover this requirement.

Prior to commencing the formal procurement process, and to help inform our strategy, NHSBT would like to consult the market to improve our knowledge of all current offers available in the market place, identify further opportunities and potential issues, as well as gauge market interest in the proposed service.

Red Cell Immunohaematology (RCI) is a specialist function within the Clinical Services Directorate of NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT). The RCI Laboratories provide antibody resolution and red cell phenotyping on samples referred from Hospital Transfusion Laboratories and other Laboratories within NHSBT. Reference services are provided from Barnsley, Birmingham, Colindale, Filton (Bristol), Liverpool, Newcastle, and Tooting.

NHSBT is seeking to engage with suppliers on the market who can provide a system to support, as a minimum, manual and automated blood grouping (ABO, Rh D, C, c, E, e, K), antibody screening and identification, consistent with the workload and case mix of RCI laboratories. RCI would expect to be able to undertake trials of the system on NHSBT premises. The test system is required to identify, sample, dispense and test blood samples and include all items required to analyse, interpret, transmit and store results on those tests. Automated testing is required for simpler high-volume tests, manual testing is required for low volume complex tests. It is a requirement that the system is compatible

with NHSBT Reagents, and would meet regulatory requirements in the UK for the duration of its use.

Information gained from this exercise will be used to inform production of a detailed specification and subsequent advertisement through the FTS route. Interested organisations are requested to send an expression of interest via email to [Marta.Drozdowska@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:Marta.Drozdowska@nhsbt.nhs.uk) by no later than 17:00 hrs (GMT) on 9th February 2021.

If you do not respond by this date you aren't excluded from taking part in the forthcoming tender, this date is to allow for supplier engagement to be organised.

Further information (e.g. the draft technical specification, award criteria, timescales etc) may be released, for consultation purposes only, to organisations who express an interest.

Please note that all details are subject to change.

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

15 June 2021

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes