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Tender

Services to deliver Onasemnogene abeparvovec/Zolgensma

NHS England - Specialised Commissioning

F21: Social and other specific services – public contracts
Contract notice
Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-002051
Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-028f59
Published 2 February 2021, 1:35pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS England - Specialised Commissioning

80 London Road

London

SE1 6LH

Contact

Anna Salt

Email

anna.salt@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - UNITED KINGDOM

National registration number

na

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.england.nhs.uk

Buyer's address

https://uk.eu-supply.com/ctm/Company/CompanyInformation/Index/68205

I.3) Communication

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

https://uk.eu-supply.com/app/rfq/rwlentrance_s.asp?PID=36403&B=AGCSU

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

https://uk.eu-supply.com/app/rfq/rwlentrance_s.asp?PID=36403&B=AGCSU

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Services to deliver Onasemnogene abeparvovec/Zolgensma

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

NHS England is seeking to commission a service to deliver Onasemnogene abeparvovec/Zolgensma from four providers in England. It is currently anticipated that there may be one provider to cover the North of England, one to cover the Midlands, one to cover the South of England plus one other. The commissioner is by no means fixed on this geographical spread as the quality of the service provision is the most important factor.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £6,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85100000 - Health services
- 85140000 - Miscellaneous health services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - UNITED KINGDOM

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Spinal muscular atrophy, or SMA, is a rare genetic disorder that causes muscle weakness and progressive loss of movement. It is most commonly caused by defects in the gene SMN1.

Onasemnogene abeparvovec (Zolgensma, AveXis) is a single-use gene replacement therapy made of a viral vector that has been modified to contain the primary gene for the human survival motor neuron (SMN) protein, which is lacking or mutated in people with SMA. When injected, the vector is expected to carry the gene into the nerve cells, enabling production of sufficient amounts of SMN. It is administered intravenously.

NHS England is seeking to commission a service to deliver Onasemnogene abeparvovec/Zolgensma from four providers in England. It is currently anticipated that there may be one provider to cover the North of England, one to cover the Midlands, one to cover the South of England plus one other. The commissioner is by no means fixed on this geographical spread as the quality of the service provision is the most important factor.

As well as having a neuromuscular MDT and experience in treating children with SMA, the successful providers will need to have the capability to safely manage the product itself in line with it being classified as ‘containment level 1’ and ensure that all elements of the patient pathway (pre-treatment, during treatment and post-treatment) can be put into place. The providers will also be expected to operate as a national-MDT to ensure that eligible patients can be treated within appropriate timescales. This will involve regular meetings/calls to discuss the appropriate treatment of individual patients and to share information on capacity to treat patients.

It is anticipated that the number of children requiring treatment each year is between 25 and 35, although this number may be subject to change, depending on the outcome of the NICE evaluation and, for example, if new-born screening for SMA was introduced.

Novartis Gene Therapies is the company who produce this gene therapy and providers will be required to comply with the company’s contractual documentation. This is currently in draft so providers will be expected to have contacted Novartis Gene Therapies prior to submitting a tender response to discuss their requirements in respect of providing

a service to deliver Onasemnogene abeparvovec/Zolgensma.

Given the significant amount of preparatory work that needs to be undertaken to deliver a gene therapy service, it is not feasible for commissioners and providers to wait until NICE has made its recommendation. To do so would risk the NHS not being ready to provide access within the timeframe set out in the Mandate requirements on NICE approved treatments and not being able to make the treatment available as soon as possible after the NICE decision has been made. Providers are therefore submitting bids to deliver a service ‘at risk’ and it may be the case that the product does not receive a positive NICE recommendation. Bidders are responsible for their own costs incurred throughout each stage of the Procurement process.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement

Duration in months

60

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2.14) Additional information

All bidders must complete the Qualification Questionnaire and Technical Questions.

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.4) Objective rules and criteria for participation

List and brief description of rules and criteria

As detailed within the ITT documents

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Form of procedure

Open procedure

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Date

8 March 2021

Local time

12:00pm

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Arden & GEM Commissioning Support Unit

2nd Floor Cardinal Square, 10 Nottingham Road

Derby

DE1 3QT

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

Arden & GEM Commissioning Support Unit

2nd Floor Cardinal Square, 10 Nottingham Road

Derby

DE1 3QT

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

Arden & GEM Commissioning Support Unit

2nd Floor Cardinal Square, 10 Nottingham Road

Derby

DE1 3QT

Country

United Kingdom