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Planning

NHS England Down's Syndrome Screening Quality Assurance Support Service (DQASS)

NHS England

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-002492

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-043454

Published 24 January 2024, 5:18pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS England

1st Floor, Quarry House, Quarry Hill

Leeds

LS2 7UE

Contact

Kaysha Maynard

Email

kaysha.maynard@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

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

NHS England Down's Syndrome Screening Quality Assurance Support Service (DQASS)

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85148000 - Medical analysis services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

NHS England is to conduct market engagement to obtain input and feedback in preparation for a potential tender of a Down's Syndrome Screening Quality Assurance Support Service (DQASS)

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Down's Syndrome Screening Quality Assurance Support Service (DQASS) is in place to monitor and support the quality and effectiveness of the screening tests for Down's syndrome (T21), Edwards' syndrome (T18) and Patau's syndrome (T13) in England.

The DQASS service supports the NHS Fetal Anomaly Programme by providing statistical services that delivers independent clinical audit data and feedback to screening laboratories and ultrasound practitioners to enable quality assurance and continuous quality improvement.

The analysis undertaken by the service checks the baseline median values, risk algorithm

parameter values and population measures, such as age adjusted follow-up rates. Through meta-analyses, DQASS provides information on effects of factors such as smoking that is used to improve screening performance.

The analyses provided by DQASS is used by the Screening Quality Assurance Service (SQAS) to improve the screening programme through feedback on all aspects of the test to laboratories, ultrasound departments and commercial.

DQASS provides independent audits of screening laboratory and ultrasound data in a standardised and statistically valid format.

The service model includes statisticians who are experts in Down's, Edwards' and Patau's syndromes.

For more detailed information about the DQASS, including reporting, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/downs-syndrome-screening-quality-assurance-support-service>

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II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 April 2024

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: No