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Contract

Manufacture and testing of overencapsulated tablets and placebo capsules for research purposes - LAMDARCT clinical trial

Belfast Health & Social Care Trust

UK7: Contract details notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-005092

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05f108 ([view related notices](#))

Published 21 January 2026, 9:15am

Scope

Reference

DAC20211

Description

This procurement is for the manufacture and testing of over encapsulated tablets and placebo capsules for research purposes - LAMDARCT clinical trial

Contract 1. Manufacture and testing of overencapsulated tablets and placebo capsules for research purposes - LAMDARCT clinical trial

Supplier

- ALMAC CLINICAL SERVICES LIMITED

Contract value

- £494,447.50 excluding VAT
- £593,337 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Date signed

19 January 2026

Contract dates

- 19 January 2026 to 5 January 2030
- 3 years, 11 months, 18 days

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 33600000 - Pharmaceutical products

Contract locations

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Justification for not setting key performance indicators

The Contract is below the £5M threshold for KPI's

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Prototypes and development

Schedule 5, (2) The public contract concerns the production of a prototype, or supply of

other novel goods or services, for the purpose of (c) other research, experiment, study or development.

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is a leading cause of visual loss. There are two main forms of AMD: dry and wet. The current wet AMD treatment is intravitreal antiVEGF injections, repeated every 4-12 weeks. Due to the cost of the medication, the route and frequency of administration, this treatment is a significant burden on the NHS budget. An additional treatment option for wet AMD is L-dopa. L-dopa is a widely available drug (used in treatment of Parkinson's), typically in the form of Carbidopa-L-Dopa. It is taken as an oral tablet and is significantly cheaper than the antiVEGF injections.

The study will be a placebo-controlled clinical trial. Eligible patients will be randomised to receive either 100mg L-DOPA+25mg carbidopa or placebo twice a day, for 24 months, in addition to the current standard of care to determine if this is a more cost-effective and easier-to-administer treatment regime than the current standard of care.

To 'blind' this clinical trial (to reduce bias) requires the development, manufacture and testing of over encapsulated 100mg L-DOPA+25mg carbidopa tablets and development and manufacture of matching placebo capsules. The expertise required to develop and manufacture these capsules in the quantity required for this trial requires outsourcing to a manufacturer licensed by the MHRA possessing the necessary technical expertise.

Supplier

ALMAC CLINICAL SERVICES LIMITED

- Companies House: NI041905
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PRCD-2287-GMQG

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Email: csrfinotifications@almacgroup.com

Website: <http://www.almacgroup.com>

Region: UKN07 - Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. Manufacture and testing of overencapsulated tablets and placebo capsules for research purposes - LAMDARCT clinical trial

Contracting authority

Belfast Health & Social Care Trust

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PLQJ-5727-JCLR

Trust Headquarters, 2nd Floor, Non Clinical Support Building, Royal Victoria Hospital

Belfast

BT12 6BA

United Kingdom

Email: FinanceProcurement@belfasttrust.hscni.net

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland