

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/006506-2024>

Planning

## **Malaria & Arbovirus detection assays**

NHS Blood and Transplant

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-006506

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-044445

Published 29 February 2024, 11:52am

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

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

NHS Blood and Transplant

203 Longmead Rd, Avon

Bristol

BS16 7FG

#### **Contact**

Tennille Madigan

#### **Email**

[tennille.madigan@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:tennille.madigan@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 7795483583

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<https://www.nhsbt.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**

Malaria & Arbovirus detection assays

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

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

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

Services

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

The Kit Evaluation Group (KEG) assesses the suitability of molecular and serological microbiological assays to be used for the screening of blood and non-blood (e.g. stem cell, tissue) donors to ensure assays are suitable in terms of sensitivity and specificity. KEG approval of suitable assays is a requirement of the Guidelines for the Blood Transfusion Services in the United Kingdom (Red Book - <https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/red-book>).

NHSBT are looking to perform two evaluations, one on malaria detection assays and the other on arbovirus detection assays, which utilise high-throughput automated Nucleic Acid Testing (NAT) technology. This system needs to be integrated (extraction and amplification stages on the same automated equipment) and target DNA or RNA in blood samples collected from blood and non-blood donors. An automated and integrated NAT system is essential to minimise manual steps and to allow for high-throughput testing.

These evaluations are driven by horizon scanning and testing resilience and the proposed work would be standalone evaluations not linked to any procurement exercises. To learn more about KEG we will be holding virtual webinars in the summer of 2024.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £1

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## II.2) Description

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

- 71900000 - Laboratory services
- 33141625 - Diagnostic kits
- 33124130 - Diagnostic supplies
- 33696200 - Blood-testing reagents

### II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

Main site or place of performance

NHS Blood and Transplant Site: Filton

### II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Kit Evaluation Group (KEG) assesses the suitability of molecular and serological microbiological assays to be used for the screening of blood and non-blood (e.g. stem cell, tissue) donors to ensure assays are suitable in terms of sensitivity and specificity. Kit Evaluation Group (KEG) approval of suitable assays is a requirement of the Guidelines for the Blood Transfusion Services in the United Kingdom (Red Book - <https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/red-book>).

NHSBT are looking to perform two evaluations, one on malaria detection assays and the other on arbovirus detection assays, which utilise high-throughput automated Nucleic Acid Testing (NAT) technology. This system needs to be integrated (extraction and amplification stages on the same automated equipment) and target DNA or RNA in blood samples collected from blood and non-blood donors. An automated and integrated NAT system is essential to minimise manual steps and to allow for high-throughput testing.

These evaluations are driven by horizon scanning and testing resilience and the proposed work would be standalone evaluations not linked to any procurement exercises. To learn more about KEG we will be holding virtual webinars in the summer of 2024.

Please email [tennille.madigan@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:tennille.madigan@nhsbt.nhs.uk) for further information and expressions of interest by 30th April 2024.

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

1 July 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