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Award

## **Fixed Bed Bioreactor**

NHS Blood and Transplant

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-007680

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03b368

Published 16 March 2023, 12:39pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

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

NHS Blood and Transplant

500 North Bristol Park

Bristol

BS34 7QH

#### **Contact**

Louise Wilson

#### **Email**

[louise.wilson@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:louise.wilson@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1179217239

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKK11 - Bristol, City of

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

**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**

Fixed Bed Bioreactor

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 38434510 - Cytometers

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Supplies

**II.1.4) Short description**

One-off requirement, for a single fixed-bed bioreactor, for the production of viral vectors for advanced cell and gene therapies using mammalian cell culture.

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)**

Value excluding VAT: £171,411.82

## **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

One-off requirement, for a single fixed-bed bioreactor, for the production of viral vectors for advanced cell and gene therapies using mammalian cell culture.

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price

### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

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

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

This one-off requirement, for a single fixed-bed bioreactor, for the production of viral vectors for advanced cell and gene therapies (using mammalian cell culture), had to be medium-scale, GMP-compatible, and had to be suitable for process development and GMP-compatible clinical manufacturing. The selected instrument had to provide a colonisable surface area for cell growth of 10-30m<sup>2</sup> with working media volumes between one and up to four litres, and the possibility of integrated in-line harvest of the product.

Analysis of different suppliers' instruments, made it clear that there is currently only one suitable instrument to fulfil the requirements of an intermediate-scale fixed-bed bioreactor, noting that the colonisable surface area or potential current competitor's instruments were unfortunately either too small , or massively too large for the criteria outlined above.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **Section V. Award of contract/concession**

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract/concession**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

13 March 2023

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire**

Univercells Technologies S A

Chemin de la Vieille Cour 56a and b 1400 Nivelles

Nivelles

Country

Belgium

NUTS code

- BE - Belgium

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

#### **V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)**

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £171,411.82

Lowest offer: £171,411 / Highest offer: £171,412 taken into consideration

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>

#### **VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures**

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>

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

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>