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Award

Cytek Aurora spectral cytometer

THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-008532

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04498d

Published 15 March 2024, 4:43pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Edgbaston

BIRMINGHAM

B152TT

Contact

Kseniya Samsonik

Email

k.samsonik@bham.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKG31 - Birmingham

Companies House

RC000645

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Cytek Aurora spectral cytometer

Reference number

SC12413/24

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 38434510 - Cytometers

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The Clinical Immunology Service (CIS) provides a comprehensive Clinical Immunology diagnostics service to the West Midlands, regional services in lymphoma/leukaemia diagnosis and national services for neuro-immunology and myeloma testing. Being situated within the University of Birmingham (UoB), the CIS also provides central trials analysis for a number of national and local research studies and has a strong track record in immunodiagnostic development. The CIS is the anchor tenant for the Precision Health Technologies Accelerator (PHTA) Home - PHTA Ltd, hosted within the Birmingham Health Innovation Campus (BHIC) Birmingham Health Innovation Campus - Birmingham Health Partners. This ambitious new development will leverage the existing Birmingham Health Partners ecosystem to drive innovation and economic growth.

The CIS has built a nationally leading reputation based on our foundations of quality and delivery and has the expertise, reputation, and networks to progress towards being a global leader in diagnostic development, translation and testing. This supports UoB's ambition to become a global top 50 University and contributes towards the success of the PHTA and BHIC.

To ensure the CIS not only remains able to deliver and maintain current business and workload, but also to ensure it can sustain delivery during the move to the PHTA and deliver the anticipated growth in the future, we need to continually update our equipment and methods to ensure improved efficiency, quality and capabilities.

The CIS is a UKAS ISO15189 accredited laboratory offering comprehensive blood cancer, autoimmunity, neuroimmunology, immunodeficiency and allergy diagnostic services to local and national NHS services. Additionally, the CIS hosts the Midlands Integrated Reporting for Haemato-oncology (MIRHO), a blood cancer diagnostic service, providing blood cancer flow cytometry to the whole of West Midlands; this is an area of ensured increased growth as new therapies are commenced and survival improves for blood cancer patients.

To support the growth and development of this service we need to update our flow cytometry platforms and methods. We therefore intend to purchase a Cytex Aurora spectral cytometer.

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: £311,004.45

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG31 - Birmingham

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

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II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - procurement aiming at the creation or acquisition of a unique work of art or artistic performance

Explanation:

- Matching component conformity, configuration, instrument settings, acquisition software and IVDR antibody panels (including disease specific panels, e.g. AML) with the Cytex Northern Lights IVD instrument that we are already evaluating in CIS. To the best of our knowledge these are the only available IVD spectral cytometer/validated IVDR antibody panels on the market. This will allow rapid development of new panels for routine immunophenotyping in our clinical diagnostic laboratory with minimal additional training.
- 60+ detection channels for fluorochromes across a broad range of wavelengths, even when peak emission wavelengths show high degrees of overlap. For example, we would like to simultaneously use Pacific Blue, BV421, SuperBright 436 and BV480 in a single tube panel. To our knowledge, this is only feasible with the 5 laser Aurora instrument.
- Antibody reagent options for pre-built multicolour panels (20 colours) that have been optimized with the instrument. To our knowledge, these are only available for Cytex instruments.
- Characterizing small particles such as extracellular vesicles, with resolution down to 70nm.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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

15 March 2024

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

Cytek Biosciences B.V

Amsterdam

Country

Netherlands

NUTS code

- NL - Netherlands

Cytek Biosciences B.V

74997823

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £311,004.45

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

University of Birmingham

Edgbaston

Country

United Kingdom