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Planning

Pharmacy Automated Dispensing System (ADS)

Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-012872

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0453c5

Published 19 April 2024, 4:02pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Colney Lane

Norwich

NR4 7UY

Contact

Nathan Griffen

Email

nathan.griffen@nnuh.nhs.uk

Telephone

+44 01603288274

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKH15 - Norwich and East Norfolk

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<https://www.nnuh.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

Pharmacy Automated Dispensing System (ADS)

Reference number

C257797

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 48921000 - Automation system

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (NNUH) is looking to replace its existing Pharmacy Automated Dispensing System (ADS) to improve the efficiency and safety of the automatic dispensing process, improve stock holding volumes, and input and output vales.

The pharmacy department issues approximately 37,000 inpatient, outpatient, and discharge items a month, which is an equivalent of 9,250 per week.

The pharmacy department also issues approximately 20,000 ward stock items per month, equivalent to 5,000 items issued per week.

Over 200 unique items are delivered daily from wholesalers and suppliers, originating from 6500 ordered items a month.

The NNUH Pharmacy Department currently uses System C (previously known as JAC) as the pharmacy stock control system (PSC) and dispensing software.

The Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Pharmacy department and James Paget University Hospital (JPUH) Pharmacy department (Great Yarmouth) share PSC software (System C (JAC)) on a locality basis, and this would require an interface with any future ADS system.

Both NNUH and JPUH will be acquiring an electronic patient record (EPR) supplied by Meditech (Expanse) in the future and there may be a requirement for an interface with the EPR supplier.

SOLUTION

The supplier is asked to provide a solution for pharmacy dispensing and ward stock top-ups as well as a cabinet for the storage and dispensing of controlled drugs.

The supplier MUST be responsible for ascertaining interface requirements from System C (JAC)

The supplier is required to provide System C (JAC) with information and technical advice / support throughout the project.

The supplier MUST be responsible for liaising with System C (JAC) to resolve all interface issues between the ADS and pharmacy software.

The technical requirements of the specified system MUST be specified to include all power requirements, including computer and network connections. Please provide any details of electrical works and data network requirements for the normal functioning of the ADS.

The environmental conditions required for system operation MUST be supplied. The proposed ADS will be set in a temperature-controlled environment, however, to cover temperature excursions, information regarding operating conditions for temperature, heat and humidity must be supplied.

The supplier should be able to produce bespoke or standardised reports on request by the Trust. Details surrounding available reports should be provided, including any additional costs for bespoke reports.

The ADS MUST meet regulatory compliance for the identification, handling, and storage of data, including GS1.

The service life of the proposed ADS should provide full operating capacity for the life of the contract, with the option of upgrades due to development of technology and innovation.

The Pharmacy department would like to utilise automatic labelling applications (dispensing) technology to improve safety, efficiency, and accuracy, whilst not reducing the output speed to ward boxes. Please state the maximum speeds obtainable, and how this will be achieved.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £5,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH15 - Norwich and East Norfolk

Main site or place of performance

Norfolk and Norwich Univeristy Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Colney Lane, Norwich, Norfolk NR4 7UY

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The purpose of this Prior Information Notice (PIN) is to understand the current market position with regards to Pharmacy Automated Dispensing Systems and to obtain high level proposals from suppliers which meet our requirements; proposals must include indicative costs and highlight potential areas for innovation to ensure a future-proofed system based on our requirements.

Information will be used to inform a business case and support requests for funding. Once approved; NNUH intend to publish invitation to tender (ITT) documents under the East of England Collaborative Procurement Hub (EoECPH) - Pharmacy Automation Solutions Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS).

If you would like to be invited to further competition, but are not presently awarded on to the DPS, please contact the Hub using the details below:

Contact name: Joe Bassett

Contact email: pharmacy@eoecph.nhs.uk

Contact number: 01223 616 356

For any other queries please submit using the messaging facility provided within the eCommerce System <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>.

II.2.14) Additional information

Potential Providers may raise questions or seek clarification regarding any aspect of this PIN

at any time prior to the clarification deadline.

Questions must be submitted using the messaging facility provided within the eCommercial System <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>.

NNUH will not enter into exclusive discussions regarding the requirements of this PIN with Potential Providers.

To ensure that all Potential Providers have equal access to information regarding this PIN, NNUH will publish all its responses to questions raised by Potential Providers on an anonymous basis.

Responses will be published in a questions and answers document to all Potential Providers.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 April 2025

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: Yes