

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/021019-2024>

Planning

## **Supply of Cryopreservation bags for use in Reagents**

NHS Blood and Transplant

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-021019

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-047c2a

Published 10 July 2024, 10:48am

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

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

NHS Blood and Transplant

500 North Bristol Park

Bristol

BS34 7QH

#### **Contact**

Sahithi Bandi

#### **Email**

[sahithi.bandi@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:sahithi.bandi@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 7385149017

**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.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**

Supply of Cryopreservation bags for use in Reagents

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

- 33140000 - Medical consumables

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

Supplies

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

Supply of Cryopreservation bags for use in Reagents

NHSBT Reagents and TES Production are located at the Speke, Liverpool site. NHSBT Reagents is a department within the Clinical Services. NHSBT TES is a department within the Organ and Tissue Donation Transplant Directorate of National Health Service Blood and Transplant (NHSBT).

NHSBT Reagents manufacture a range of in Vitro Diagnostic devices and applies the CE Mark (where appropriate) in accordance with 98/79/EC or the UKCA Mark (where appropriate) in accordance with the UK MDR 2002. Cryopreservation bags are used within Reagents to store red cells with cryoprotectant solution.

Cryopreservation packaging bags are used routinely as part of the cryopreservation of a range of different human tissue products alongside cryoprotectant solution so must conform to the business and functional requirements listed below. These products are produced under license from the HTA.

NHSBT now wishes to commence a formal procurement process and is seeking to engage with suppliers and understand the market.

#### **Business Requirements**

- The quality of the stored cells and tissue grafts in the cryopreservation bag must be maintained and the Supplier must refrain from any activity which may adversely affect the quality of the manufactured product.
- The cost-effectiveness of the packaging must be maintained or improved.
- The system must meet current Health and Safety legislation (Health and Safety at Work Act 1974)
- The supplier must be able to hold a contingency stock of a minimum of two months' supply.
- Detailed specification will be shared while scheduling the premarket engagement call.

It is NHSBT's intention to hold pre-procurement supplier engagement meetings the week of 11th July to 9th August 2024. The meetings will be held remotely, the dates are to be

confirmed. To enable NHSBT to finalise arrangements (e.g., send meeting details and agree time slots) for the meeting's, interested organisations are required to send an expression of interest via email to Sahithi Bandi [sahithi.band@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:sahithi.band@nhsbt.nhs.uk) by no later than 17:00 hrs (GMT) on 06/08/2024. This should include a list of your potential attendees and a brief overview (or a website link) of the Goods / Services which might be offered. Please include options, if available, for a managed service contract.

No business whatsoever is guaranteed under any resulting framework agreement or contract, and there is no guarantee that any framework agreement or contract will be put in place in relation to this notice. No compensation etc. will be paid if a tender or resulting framework agreement is withdrawn for any reason. Bidders should take part in this process only on the basis that they fully understand and accept this position.

It should be noted that this procurement exercise may allow other Health authorities to use any agreements awarded.

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

Value excluding VAT: £150,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UKK11 - Bristol, City of

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

Supply of Cryopreservation bags for use in Reagents

NHSBT Reagents and TES Production are located at the Speke, Liverpool site. NHSBT Reagents is a department within the Clinical Services. NHSBT TES is a department within the Organ and Tissue Donation Transplant Directorate of National Health Service Blood and Transplant (NHSBT).

NHSBT Reagents manufacture a range of in Vitro Diagnostic devices and applies the CE Mark (where appropriate) in accordance with 98/79/EC or the UKCA Mark (where appropriate) in accordance with the UK MDR 2002. Cryopreservation bags are used within

Reagents to store red cells with cryoprotectant solution.

Cryopreservation packaging bags are used routinely as part of the cryopreservation of a range of different human tissue products alongside cryoprotectant solution so must conform to the business and functional requirements listed below. These products are produced under license from the HTA.

NHSBT now wishes to commence a formal procurement process and is seeking to engage with suppliers and understand the market.

### Business Requirements

- The quality of the stored cells and tissue grafts in the cryopreservation bag must be maintained and the Supplier must refrain from any activity which may adversely affect the quality of the manufactured product.
- The cost-effectiveness of the packaging must be maintained or improved.
- The system must meet current Health and Safety legislation (Health and Safety at Work Act 1974)
- The supplier must be able to hold a contingency stock of a minimum of two months' supply.
- Detailed specification will be shared while scheduling the premarket engagement call.

It is NHSBT's intention to hold pre-procurement supplier engagement meetings the week of 11th July to 9th August 2024. The meetings will be held remotely, the dates are to be confirmed. To enable NHSBT to finalise arrangements (e.g., send meeting details and agree time slots) for the meeting's, interested organisations are required to send an expression of interest via email to Sahithi Bandi [sahithi.band@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:sahithi.band@nhsbt.nhs.uk) by no later than 17:00 hrs (GMT) on 06/08/2024. This should include a list of your potential attendees and a brief overview (or a website link) of the Goods / Services which might be offered. Please include options, if available, for a managed service contract.

No business whatsoever is guaranteed under any resulting framework agreement or contract, and there is no guarantee that any framework agreement or contract will be put in place in relation to this notice. No compensation etc. will be paid if a tender or resulting framework agreement is withdrawn for any reason. Bidders should take part in this process only on the basis that they fully understand and accept this position.

It should be noted that this procurement exercise may allow other Health authorities to use any agreements awarded.

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

10 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: Yes