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Award

## **(NU/1804) Research Agreement between Newcastle University and Antaros Medical AB**

Newcastle University

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-023436

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0361f9

Published 23 August 2022, 11:17am

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

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

Newcastle University

Newcastle University, Procurement Services, Kingsgate

Newcastle

NE1 7RU

#### **Contact**

Dr Emma Barksby

#### **Email**

[emma.barksby@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:emma.barksby@ncl.ac.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1912086298

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKC22 - Tyneside

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

(NU/1804) Research Agreement between Newcastle University and Antaros Medical AB

Reference number

DN628672

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

- 73110000 - Research services

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

Services

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

The services required are the analysis of MRI endpoints for a natural history study in subjects with liver disease. Intention to award a research contract under UK Statutory Instrument 2015 No. 102 Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 3 Regulation 32(1)(b)(ii) and (iii) for provision of MRI analysis to support a natural history cohort study in subjects with liver disease. The contracting party will support deployment, acquisition and downstream analysis of MR imaging modalities including but not limited to 2/3D MRE and contrast enhanced MRI, including the use of their own proprietary techniques, to assess liver structure and function and support clinical research.

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

Lowest offer: £3,000,000 / Highest offer: £6,000,000 taken into consideration

### **II.2) Description**

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

- 73111000 - Research laboratory services

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

NUTS codes

- UKC22 - Tyneside

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

The services required are the analysis of MRI endpoints for a natural history study in subjects with liver disease. Intention to award a research contract under UK Statutory Instrument 2015 No. 102 Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 3 Regulation 32(1)(b)(ii) and (iii) for provision of MRI analysis to support a natural history cohort study in subjects with liver disease. The contracting party will support deployment, acquisition and downstream analysis of MR imaging modalities including but not limited to 2/3D MRE and contrast enhanced MRI, including the use of their own proprietary techniques, to assess liver structure and function and support clinical research.

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

Options: Yes

Description of options

Future option to develop proprietary PET-tracers targeting Collagen-1 and PDGFRbeta that may be relevant in a future extension of the scope of this project.

### **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:

The intention is to award a research contract under UK Statutory Instrument 2015 No. 102 Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 3 Regulation 32(1)(b)(ii) and (iii). Where (ii) is the justification for technical reasons and (iii) is the protection of exclusive rights, including intellectual property rights. Antaros Medical have established expertise and experience of deploying advanced MR methodologies in studies that seek to investigate not only liver morphology but also downstream consequences of liver fibrosis such as liver function, portal pressure (including pressure effects on the spleen and portal resistive index) and blood flow to the spleen and kidneys. A range of imaging modalities will be employed in this project including but not limited to liver and spleen stiffness using 2/3D MRE and liver function using uptake of MRI contrast agents, where Antaros Medical have developed quantitative modelling of uptake kinetics to assess liver transporter function. Antaros Medical are also developing proprietary PET-tracers targeting Collagen-1 and PDGFRbeta that may be relevant in a future extension of the scope of this project. These tracers are Antaros Medical proprietary investigational products. Antaros medical will support deployment, acquisition and downstream analysis of MR imaging modalities including but not limited to 2/3D MRE and contrast enhanced MRI to assess liver structure and function and support the research project. In addition, Antaros Medical will collaborate as required with the academic investigators to support the downstream analysis of data, sharing know-how of advanced imaging.

#### 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

### Contract No

NU/1804

**Lot No**

1

**Title**

(NU/1804) Research Agreement between Newcastle University and Antaros Medical AB

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

18 August 2022

**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**

Antaros Medical AB

Bio Venture Hub, Pepparedsleden 1

431 83 Mölndal

Country

Sweden

NUTS code

- SE - Sweden

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Lowest offer: £3,000,000 / Highest offer: £6,000,000 taken into consideration

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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

Newcastle University

Newcastle upon Tyne

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Newcastle University will incorporate a minimum 10 calendar day standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract is communicated to tenderers. This period allows unsuccessful tenderers to seek further debriefing before the contract is entered into. Applicants have 2 working days from notification of the award decision to request additional debriefing and 4 / 4 that information has to be provided a minimum of 3 working days before expiry of the standstill period. Such additional information should be requested from the address referred to in part 1.1 above. If an appeal regarding the award of a contract has not been successfully resolved, the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 provide for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland). Any such action must be brought promptly. Where a contract has not been entered into the Court may order the setting aside of the award decision or order the authority to amend any document and may award damages. If the contract has been entered into the Court may only award damages.