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Award

Ultrasound Neuromodulation Device (Transducer)

University of Plymouth

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-023484

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-051980 ([view related notices](#))

Published 20 May 2025, 5:18pm

Scope

Reference

MW/UoP/Ultrasound_Neuromodulation/102/25

Description

The University of Plymouth requires a ultrasound neuromodulation device which is designed for human use, specifically for non-invasive brain modulation.

It is not a High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) device and is not intended for surgery or tissue ablation. The system will utilize a multi-phased array transducer with 256 elements, with 128 elements positioned on each side of the head, targeting the temples. Acoustic simulation is included to optimize targeting and effectiveness. An MR-compatible version of the device is available for precise positioning and integration with imaging. Additionally, the system incorporates facial recognition to facilitate individualized device registration and setup for each participant.

Contract 1

Supplier

- Attune Neurosciences Inc

Contract value

- £337,000 excluding VAT
- £337,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

30 May 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 30 May 2025 to 30 May 2026
- 1 year, 1 day

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 33124120 - Diagnostic ultrasound devices

Contract locations

- UKK41 - Plymouth

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

- Prototypes and development
- Defence and security - necessary to enhance or maintain operational capability, effectiveness, readiness for action, safety or security of the armed forces

This supplier is the sole owner and manufacturer of a multi-phased array system for human transcranial focused ultrasound research with 256 elements, with 128 elements positioned on each side of the head, targeting the temples.

Acoustic simulation is included to optimize targeting and effectiveness. An MR-compatible version of the device is available for precise positioning and integration with imaging.

Additionally, the system incorporates facial recognition to facilitate individualized device registration and setup for

each participant.

This device is a prototype designed for human use, specifically for non-invasive brain modulation. It is understood to be a prototype/novel good to be used for the purposes of research, experiment, study or development.

This allows for a direct award to a supplier under the Procurement Act 2023, Schedule 5, Paragraph 2 (c)

The device will be used by the University as part of the Advanced Research + Invention Agency (ARIA) funded research programme.

Further details;

<https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/news/6-5m-project-aims-to-revolutionise-mental-health-treatment-using-ultrasound>

Additional Information:

No Preliminary Market Engagement Notice (UK2) has been issued due to the prototype nature of this goods.

Internal Conflict Assessment has been completed.

The Supplier is not understood to be an Excluded Supplier as defined by the Procurement Act 2023, Section 57

Supplier

Attune Neurosciences Inc

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDPC-6183-TQJP

2325 3rd Street, Suite 424

San Francisco

94107

United States

Email: sales@attuneneuro.com

Website: <http://www.attuneneuro.com>

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

Contracting authority

University of Plymouth

- UK Register of Learning Providers (UKPRN number): 10007801
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQHL-4825-PGGL

Drakes Circus

Plymouth

PL4 8AA

United Kingdom

Email: supplier@plymouth.ac.uk

Website: <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/>

Region: UKK41 - Plymouth

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government