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Award

Purchase of Confocal Microscopy Device

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

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Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-058852

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05a006 ([view related notices](#))

Published 23 September 2025, 11:57am

Scope

Reference

C390176

Description

We are purchasing 1 Histolog scanner to introduce LaserSAFE at UCLH NHS Foundation Trust. We will be procuring directly with the manufacturer (Samantree Medical)

Contract 1. Purchase of Confocal Microscopy Device

Supplier

- Samantree Medical UK Ltd

Contract value

- £240,000 excluding VAT
- £288,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

26 September 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 29 September 2025 to 29 October 2025
- 1 month, 1 day

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 33000000 - Medical equipments, pharmaceuticals and personal care products

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Single supplier - technical reasons

The Histolog Scanner from SamanTree Medical is a unique medical device that currently has no alternative supplier or equivalent solution on the market to our knowledge. It is the only CE-marked and FDA-cleared technology providing real-time, histology-grade intraoperative tissue assessment directly in the operating room.

Unique functionality of the Histolog Scanner:

- 1.) Portable confocal laser microscope: the only clinical-use portable confocal scanner on the market with an objective lens large enough to scan the entire prostate gland in ~50-60 seconds.
- 2.) Remote pathology access: the only scanner with a remote viewer, enabling pathologists to assess images instantly from outside the OR, avoiding the need for specimen transport or pathologist presence in the theatre.
- 3.) Speed: high-resolution images in ~1 minute per field of view, with complete intraoperative margin assessment in 8-20 minutes.
- 4.) Non-destructive process: tissue remains intact for further routine histopathology.
- 5.) Patented technology: massively parallel confocal microscopy is proprietary to SamanTree Medical.

The Histolog® Scanner is being purchased for use in intraoperative margin evaluation during radical prostatectomy for prostate cancer. UCLH is the largest centre for radical prostatectomy in the NHS, and it is essential that the Service maintains leadership in innovation and patient outcomes.

The need is based on published data showing that intraoperative margin evaluation significantly increases the rate of nerve-sparing procedures. This directly translates into improved quality of life for patients (RCT NeuroSAFE PROOF) - better continence and potency outcomes after surgery. At the same time, published studies show that the Histolog® Scanner achieves high accuracy in detecting positive surgical margins. If present, such margins can necessitate immediate secondary resection during the same operation, thereby avoiding compromised cancer control.

In summary, the scanner enables UCLH to:

- 1.) Improve functional and potential oncological outcomes for patients.
- 2.) Avoid repeat procedures, which are costly and distressing for patients.
- 3.) Offer margin assessment without frozen section infrastructure.
- 4.) Strengthen UCLH's position as the leading NHS centre for radical prostatectomy and robotic surgery.

Supplier

Samantree Medical UK Ltd

- Companies House: 16218395

c/o Mishcon De Reya, Africa House, 70 Kingsway

London

WC2B 6AH

United Kingdom

Email: michael.hansen@samantree.com

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Purchase of Confocal Microscopy Device

Contracting authority

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

- NHS Organisation Data Service: RRV
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYRL-5371-BNMH

250 Euston Road

London

NW1 2PG

United Kingdom

Email: daniel.tagg@nhs.net

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Organisation type: Public authority - central government