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Award

LIONNS-D2 Project – Production of T3S API, IMP and FDF

Cardiff University

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-067987

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05d2df ([view related notices](#))

Published 23 October 2025, 5:25pm

Scope

Reference

CU.1623.RR

Description

Cardiff University's School of Medicine is procuring the manufacture of a novel investigational medicinal product (IMP), Triiodothyronine sulphate (T3S), for use in a Phase 2b clinical trial. The service includes the production of the active pharmaceutical ingredient (API), the IMP, and the finished drug formulation (FDF) in blister packs. This bespoke drug is intended for hypothyroid patients with a specific genetic variation affecting thyroid hormone metabolism. The supplier will manufacture the product to GMP standards, using a validated Route of Synthesis supported by existing preclinical and toxicology data.

Contract 1. LIONNS-D2 Project – Production of T3S API, IMP and FDF

Supplier

- Ardena Holding NV

Contract value

- 953600.00 EUR excluding VAT
- 953600.00 EUR including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

28 October 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 29 October 2025 to 29 October 2027
- 2 years, 1 day

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 33600000 - Pharmaceutical products

Contract locations

- UKL - Wales

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Prototypes and development

T3S is not commercially available and must be manufactured to GMP standards using a specific Route of Synthesis (RoS) supported by existing preclinical and toxicology data.

Following extensive market engagement, Ardena NV has been identified as the only supplier capable of delivering the full scope of requirements: sourcing raw materials, manufacturing the Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API), producing the IMP, and

packaging the Finished Drug Formulation (FDF) in blister packs. Other CDMOs approached were unable to meet the technical and regulatory requirements.

The direct award is justified under the following provisions of Schedule 5 of the Procurement Act 2023:

- The contract concerns the supply of novel goods for research and development purposes.
- Due to technical reasons and absence of competition, only one supplier can meet the requirement.
- There are no reasonable alternatives available.

Supplier

Ardena Holding NV

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PRMH-6467-WRPY

Kleimoer 4

Gent

9030

Belgium

Email: info@ardena.com

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. LIONNS-D2 Project - Production of T3S API, IMP and FDF

Contracting authority

Cardiff University

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHVT-4343-HWYR

Procurement Services

Cardiff

CF24 4HQ

United Kingdom

Contact name: Jamie Jones

Email: jonesj156@cardiff.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/business/why-work-with-us/for-suppliers>

Region: UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Wales