Invitation to Quote:

Specification

Service development; Point of Care Cholesterol Testing to support a programme of Child parent screening for Familial Hypercholesterolaemia in primary care

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| **Background and Introduction**  |
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| Familial hypercholesterolemia (FH) is an autosomal dominant condition affecting an estimated 1 in 500 people. Affected individuals have high blood cholesterol and are at very high risk of coronary heart disease (CHD) at a young age; before age 40 they have about a 100-fold excess risk of a fatal or non-fatal myocardial infarction. Cholesterol lowering drugs (statins) reduce this risk, so screening for the disorder would be worthwhile if an effective means of distinguishing individuals with and without FH were available. The Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) has been asked to adopt and spread a new clinical service that is based upon the evidence provided in a recent MRC Funded research project. Child-parent screening is a means of identifying those with FH. It involves measuring cholesterol in children (aged 1 - 2 years) when they undergo immunisation. Child-parent screening has been shown to be feasible and acceptable in general practice research studies. (<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1602777> https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0969141318796856)There are about 115,000 people with FH in the UK, but only 15,000 are known. Identifying the remaining cases, so that preventive treatment can be offered, has been recognised in the NHS Long Term Plan. Child-parent screening is the only screening strategy that could achieve the necessary coverage to identify most cases in the population. We plan to implement a similar service to that used in previous research studies in a number of primary care pilot sites. These sites will be set up in partnership with the local AHSN and overseen by the AHSN Network. These pilot sites will screen 25,000 children over the next 18 months with a view to a national roll out across the whole AHSN Network over the subsequent 12 months.  |
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**Aims**A supplier is needed to support the delivery of the cholesterol point of care testing system that underpins this new clinical service. This will involve delivering the point of care testing systems and associated training required to allow efficient and timely cholesterol measurement as part of this 18 month initial pilot phase:The work is expected to last at least 18 months, with the potential for extension should the relationship and work prove effective. The work is needed to commence Q4 20/21.**Objectives**1. To provide sufficient capacity and capability within upto 7 AHSN regions who have expressed an interest in participating in this pilot phase (Imperial, Innovation Agency (NWC), West of England, Eastern, West Midlands, Oxford, North East & North Cumbria), to ensure the establishment of a new clinical pathway to identify those with FH.
2. To ensure that point of care systems are set up in a manner that is consistent with good practise (meeting ISO standards) and that processes are in place to provide internal and external quality assurance.
3. To provide appropriate and timely training of the use of the equipment and associated materials
4. To have point of care system that is easy to use, robust and provides results rapidly

**Outputs**The following outputs are expected to meet quality standards of the hosting team, which will be agreed at the start of the work* Appropriately quality assured system that allows consistent and robust measurement of cholesterol within primary care comparable to a laboratory based method. (co-efficient of variation <3%)
* Fully trained and competent work force to deliver the pilot programmes in the 7 AHSN regions who have expressed an interest.

**Outcome**A fully executed novel clinical pathway that includes point of care testing of cholesterol levels.  |
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| **SThe Standards and Service Specifications** |
| We require an organisation that can undertake the work within the timescale stated (commencing Q4 2021), meeting the deliverables detailed above. Ideally in order to achieve this evidence of an existing install base would be advantageous to reduce costs and allow rapid development They must have thorough understanding of:Working in primary care settings and the logistics of delivering a quality assured and effective point of care service in a fast moving environment A cost effective approach to delivery recognising that this is a pilot project Experience training and supporting a diverse primary care workforce Logistical experience that will allow delivery of point of care systems to a standardised process across 7 Academic Health Science Networks in England with the ultimate aim of screening 25,000 children within 18 months. A point of care system for measurement of serum total cholesterol that requires minimal blood is quality assured, robust, easy to use and provides results in under ten minutes and records the results into a system that will allow retrieval in an electronic format. Quality control systems in place that meet ISO standards and evidence of external quality assurance processes. Systems that ensure consistent measurement and a competent workforce able to operate the system including evidence of parity across multiple sites . The company should have previous experience of, and be able to undertake the following tasks:* Designate appropriate personnel to undertake the work, both in terms of number of people assigned to the project and portfolio of skills they possess
* Get a good understanding quickly of a complex and evolving context, and delivering insights early on
* Deliver outputs that meet the brief, even where the brief is complex and multifaceted
* Work at a fast pace, meeting tight deadlines without compromising quality
* Agile project delivery
* Excellent stakeholder skills, including 1:1 interactions and making presentable outputs for senior stakeholders
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**Evaluation Criteria**

The purpose of evaluation in the procurement process is to establish which supplier(s) have submitted the best quotation; ensuring that the assessment of quotes is undertaken in a transparent, fair and consistent manner so that an effective comparison can be made.

Quotes will be evaluated on Quality and Costs basis. A weighted scoring system will be applied to the response, the high-level evaluation criteria are given below:

**Quality**

The evaluation system is based on the familiar “weighted scoring approach”, in which the officer scores responses to the quality questions according to a pre-agreed scoring system 0-100% (see table below). The scores for the sections are then added together to give a total quality score for the quotation response.

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| **Score (% of total weighting**  | **Classification** |
| **100%** | Clear and detailed response that fully meets all expectations, standards or requirements |
| **80%** | Clear and detailed response that fully meets most of the expectations, standards or requirements but not all |
| **60%** | Clear and detailed response that fully meets most of the expectations, standards or requirements but not all and has insufficient detail |
| **40%** | Response covers most of the expectations, standards or requirements but the response is limited or has insufficient detail |
| **20%** | Response meets very few of the expectations, standards or requirements |
| **0%** | No response submitted or response meets none of the expectations, standards or requirements |

**Cost**

Cost will be evaluated based upon: Value for money proposal within the budget.

**Scoring Criteria (100%)**

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| Description | % Awarded on each section | Weighting of question | Overall percentage score |
| Quality | 50% | 20% | (20/10)\*X =% |
| Experience  | 50% | 20% | (20/10)\*X =% |
| Cost | 100% | 60% | (60/10)\*X =% |
| **Total** |  | **100%** | **%** |

**Example of evaluation scoring table**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Description | % Awarded on each section | Weighting of question | Overall percentage score |
| Quality | 80 | 30% | (30/10)\*8 = 24% |
| Experience | 40 | 20% | (20/10)\*4 = 8% |
| Cost | 100 | 50% | (50/10)\*10 =50% |
| **Total** |  | **100%** | **82%** |