

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval

For

Other Than Full and Open Competition

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 11, Ann Arbor Medical Center

Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 11, Ann Arbor Medical Center proposes to enter into a contract on a basis of other than full and open competition for the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research (506-14-3-1384-0632).

2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:**

The requirement is to provide statistical estimation services for VA funded research study (IIR 12-411), *Promoting Veteran-Centered Colorectal Cancer Screening*, that aims to develop a Veteran-centered performance measure of colorectal cancer (CRC) screening that takes into account patient preferences and quality of the screening discussion. This request is for a new contract.

3. **Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:**

Building on previous work with the VA and using the MISCAN-Colon model, the contractor shall be responsible for estimating the risks and benefits of CRC screening for study participants at an individual patient level. These estimates will be presented to Veterans in a decision aid booklet that will provide educational material about the pros and cons of colon cancer screening at different stages of life.

The total cost of the contract is \$75,000. The dates for the base period are July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014.

4. **Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:**

- (X) (1) Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1;
() (2) Unusual and Compelling Urgency per FAR 6.302-2;
() (3) Industrial Mobilization, Engineering, Developmental or Research Capability or Expert Services per FAR 6.302-3;
() (4) International Agreement per FAR 6.302-4
() (5) Authorized or Required by Statute FAR 6.302-5;
() (6) National Security per FAR 6.302-6;
() (7) Public Interest per FAR 6.302-7;

5. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):**

The VA must purchase from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center because the VA Health Services Research and Development Office of Research Oversight (HSR&D ORO) has recently awarded research funding to modify and test a decision aid tool based on the data from the MISCAN-Colon Model, one of two models that was used by the U.S.

Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) to determine the appropriate strategies and starting/stopping ages for CRC screening in its 2008 guideline, the very guideline upon which VHA CRC screening policy (and its associated performance management systems) are based. Without statistical estimation using the MISCAN Model, the research cannot be conducted.

6. Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:

Only one source is acceptable. The Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center developed and owns the MISCAN-Colon Model. This model was used by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) to determine the appropriate strategies and starting/stopping ages for CRC screening in its 2008 guideline, and the VHA based its CRC screening policy (and its associated performance management systems) on these data. Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center is willing and able to serve as a contractor to the VA HSR&D Center for Clinical Management Research.

7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:

Based on the independent government estimate contained in the 2237, the Contracting Officer has determined the anticipated cost to be fair and reasonable.

8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted:

Only Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center can provide statistical estimation using the MISCAN Model.

9. Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:

None.

10. Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:

Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research
1275 York Ave
New York, NY, 10065-6007

11. A Statement of the Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to Remove or Overcome any Barriers to Competition before Making subsequent acquisitions for the supplies or services required:

Should a requisition of this nature recur, the market will be surveyed to locate possible new vendors.

- 12. Requirements Certification:** I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a Bona Fide Need of the Department of Veterans Affairs and that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in the justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.



Tina Mainieri
Research Health Science Specialist
VA Center for Clinical Management Research
VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System

April 29, 2014

Date

13. Approvals in accordance with FAR 6.304

- a. **Contracting Officer's Certification (required):** I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name

Title

Facility

Date

- b. **NCM/PCM (Required \$3K and above):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

Name

Network Contract Manager

VISN/PCA X

Title

Facility

Date

- c. **SAO (If over 650K):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

Name

Director

Service Area Office, East

Date

- d. **VHA HCA Review and Approval:** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and recommend approval (if over \$12.5 million) or approve (\$650K to 12.5 million) for other than full and open competition.

Name

Chief Procurement and Logistics Officer
VHA Head of Contracting Activity (HCA)

Date

- e. **VA Deputy Senior Procurement Executive Approval (over \$12.5 million but not exceeding \$50 million):** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and approve for other than full and open competition.

C. FORD HEARD

Deputy Senior Procurement Executive (DSPE)
Office of Acquisition and Logistics
Department of Veterans Affairs

Date

- f. **VHA Senior Procurement Executive Approval (over \$50 million):** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and approve for other than full and open competition.

Jan R. Frye

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Logistics
Senior Procurement Executive (SPE)
Department of Veterans Affairs

Date