

D.9**VA263-16-R-0748****Interventional Radiology Physicians
Solicitation - Questions and Answers**

Question 1: Does this requirement involve teleradiology services in order to perform Consultations? If so would the Contractor be required to provide secure lines of communication or specialized software in order to effectively facilitate the review of radiological documents (i.e. X-Rays/Sonograms)? In addition, would the contractor be responsible for ensuring that consultations are in compliance with all Hippocratic laws such as standards for information transactions and data elements (42 U.S. Code § 1320d-2)?

Answer 1:

No teleradiology services are required. All services will be performed on-site at Minneapolis VA Medical Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The Contractor must comply with documentation requirements and ensure that all consultations comply with all Hippocratic laws such as standards for information transactions and data elements.

Question 2: What activities are involved in the two, half-day consultation clinics?

Answer 2: Interviewing and examining referred patients to determine if they are candidates for Interventional Radiology procedures.

Question 3: What are the diagnostic radiologist responsibilities in regards to vascular ultrasound (ex. UEV for DVT, LEV for DVT) and CTA?

Answer 3: Diagnostic Radiologists are responsible for Vascular ultrasound for DVT, carotids, AAA screening, and shared responsibility for venous studies; CTA for PE and cardiac studies. The IR Physicians are responsible for all other vascular ultrasound and CTAs.

Question 4: Does the call include any Diagnostic Radiology responsibilities? Does the call include diagnostic radiology procedures, for example CT or ultrasound guided procedures?

Answer 4: Interventional Radiology call includes everything requiring a needle (including paracentesis, thoracentesis, abscess drainage, chest tube placement, G-tube replacement, joint aspiration, and lumbar punctures under fluoro guidance).

Question 5: All of our IR doctors treat stroke. Treatment of intracranial aneurysms and intracerebral tumors is not performed by IR doctors. Can you please clarify this?

Answer 5: See Revised PWS Section 4.3.6.1. Treatment of Intracerebral Thrombosis, Intracerebral AVM, Intracerebral Aneurysm and Intracerebral Tumors have been removed from Scope of Care.

Question 6: Surgeons perform percutaneous cholecystectomy (removal of gallbladder). IR doctors perform percutaneous cholecystostomy. Can you please clarify? Please clarify the specific type and number of CME hours required for each doctor.

Answer 6: See Revised PWS Section 4.3.6.1. correcting Cholecystectomy to Cholecystostomy.

15 hours of CME are required for each physician in vascular US every 3 years to maintain departmental accreditation with the IAC.

75 hours of CME are required for each physician in IR every 3 years to maintain personal MOC in IR with the ABR.

Question 7: If we deliver a hardcopy and a .pdf version of our response, do you still require a copy on CD-ROM?

Answer 7: Yes, a CD-ROM is required with the hard copy proposals. See 52.212.1 Proposal Preparation Instructions requiring a CD-ROM.

Question 8: Can you provide the following for each of the past two years?

- a. IR volumes by CPT
- b. Overnight call volume
- c. Weekend call volume

Answer 8:

- a. See Reports following Answer 19 below.
- b. Approximately 2-3 times per year. Note: In 2016, one GI bleed and one emergent nephrostomy placement (PNT) occurred.
- c. 50% of weekends, but these are frequently simple cases such as thoracentesis (very rarely both days unless a lytics case is going).

Question 9: COVERAGE FOR VA PROVIDER:

At the top of page 11, it talks about the VA provider working Thursdays and Fridays. Then, it indicates she has 83.2 hours of leave. Please clarify. Does that mean we are expected to provide (per page 18) 2 MDs every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday plus another 10 or 11 days on Thursdays or Fridays to cover her leave?

Answer 9: Yes, that means the Contractor is expected to provide 2 MDs every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, plus another 10 or 11 days on Thursdays or Fridays to cover her leave.

Question 10: - STROKE RELATED CARE:

A. Please describe in more detail the VA's desire for stroke related neuro-interventional procedures as listed in the PWS:

- Diagnostic Cerebral and Extracranial Angiography
- Treatment of Intracerebral Thrombosis
- Treatment of Intracerebral Aneurysm
- Treatment of Intracerebral AVM
- Treatment of Intracerebral Tumor

B. What is the volume of these procedures performed for Mpls VA veterans?

C. Does the VA expect 24/7 coverage for each of these procedures?

D. Does the VA expect clinic hours related to these patients?

E. Does the VA expect a provider to perform these services at any day/time or can we propose a designated day/time for them?

F. Please speak to the acuity of the patients.

G. Please describe the coverage available from other key providers who would be involved in the care of these patients including:

- Neurosurgery and OR availability

- Neurology
- Neuro Critical Care

H. Is the stroke-related coverage part of the 3,827 hours or in addition to them?

Answer 10: See Answer to Question 5.

Question 11: Would the VA entertain any exceptions to having 2 providers on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays? During three weeks of the year (known well in advance), it may be difficult for us to provide 2 providers.

Answer 11: Yes, only during those three weeks, with the concurrence of the Contracting Officer Representative and Contracting Officer.

Question 12: The training referenced on page 14 section 2.1.6 - are these hours part of the 3,827 and billable?

Answer 12: Yes, if on-site and patient care duties allow. Otherwise, it must be done off-site and, therefore, not billable.

Question 13: Is prostate artery embolization a procedure that the VA desires/expects?

Answer 13: Yes.

Question 14: Is the VA willing to entertain a proposal for call which has 2 providers covering 3 sites, the VA being 1 of the 3? On page 20, section 3.1.4.3, it indicates call may not be taken concurrently with another site.

Answer 14: Call must be dedicated to the VA. Proposals with providers covering call concurrently with another site will not be accepted.

Question 15: Neuro IR: How many cases are done annually?

- a. What type and number of each case is done at the VAMC?
- b. If we don't provide Neuro Interventional Service will our proposal not be considered?

Answer 15: See Answer to Question 5.

Question 16: Is there any possibility the March 1st start date will not be possible?

Answer 16: The March 1, 2018 date is firm. It is the VA's intention and desire to avoid a break in IR Physician Services.

Question 17: If our proposal is accepted can we back out before signing the agreement?

Answer 17: Your signature on a proposal binds your company to perform (See FAR Part 2 "Offer" defined). However, you may provide written notice to withdraw your proposal at any time before you receive notice from the Contracting Officer that your proposal has been accepted for award (See FAR Parts 15.208(e) and 15.504).

Question 18: What are the ramifications if we breach the contract during the 4 year commitment?

Answer 18: It depends on the circumstances related to the "breach". See FAR Part 49 that establishes the policies and procedures relating to the complete or partial termination of contracts for convenience of the Government or for default.

Question 19: Is a hard copy proposal submittal required?

Answer 19: A hard copy proposal with CD-ROM is required. An electronically submitted proposal will be accepted in addition to the hard copy proposal with CD-ROM.

Division: MINNEAPOLIS VA HCS

Imaging Type: ANGIO/NEURO/INTERVENTIONAL

Run Date: NOV 15, 2017 15:56

of Procedures selected: All

For period: 10/01/16 to 09/30/17

CPT	PROCEDURE	# DONE	(%)
10022	IR FINE NEEDLE ASPIRATION WITH IMAGING	26	2
10160	IR ASPIRATION, VIA PUNCTURE	14	1
20220	BIOPSY BONE SUPERFICIAL	8	1
20501	IR INJECTION FOR SINOGRAM DIAGNOSTIC	27	2
32550	IR PERCUTANEOUS PLACEMENT CHEST TUBE	51	4
32551	IR CHEST TUBE PLACEMENT	1	0
32555	IR THORACENTESIS W IMAGING GUIDANCE	106	8
36002	IR PERC. INJ. FOR PSEUDOANEURYSM (EG.	3	0
36014	IR CATH PLACEMENT LEFT OR RIGHT PULM A	1	0
36200	IR CATH PLACEMENT, AORTA	1	0
36216	IR CATH PLACEMENT, 2ND ORDER BRACHIOCE	1	0
36221	IR ANGIO AORTA THOR/ABD	5	0
36245	IR CATH PLACEMENT, 1ST ORDER ABD/PELVI	14	1
36247	IR CATH PLACEMENT, 3RD ORDER ABD/PELVI	1	0
36556	IR CENTRAL LINE PLACEMENT, NON-TUNNELE	15	1
36558	IR CENTRAL LINE PLACEMENT, TUNNELED	38	3
36571	IR INSERTION PERIPHERAL CENTRAL ACCESS	32	3
36584	IR REPLACEMENT OF PICC LINE	1	0
36589	IR REMOVAL OF TUNNELED CV ACCESS CATH	16	1
36901	INTRO CATH DIALYSIS CIRCUIT	1	0
36902	INTRO CATH DIALYSIS CIRCUIT W/BALLOON	3	0
37183	IR REVISION OF TIPS	1	0
37191	IR INSERTION INTRAVASCULAR VENA CAVA F	5	0
37193	IR RETRIEVAL OF INTRAVASCULAR VENA CAV	4	0
37213	IR TRANSCATHETER PLACEMENT FOLLOW-UP	6	0
37220	IR ANGIOPLASTY ILIAC, PERCUTANEOUS	9	1
37221	IR ILIAC STENT/PTA	5	0
37236	IR TRANSCATH STENT(S) PLACEMENT INITIA	8	1
37238	IR TRANSCATH STENT PLACEMENT INITIAL V	2	0
37242	IR ARTERIAL EMBOLIZATION OTHER THAN HE	1	0
37244	IR EMBOLIZATION, LYMPHATIC OR BLEED	1	0
37249	TRILUM BALO ANGIOP ADDL VEIN	2	0
38505	IR BIOPSY LYMPH NODES	1	0
43752	IR NG TUBE PLACEMENT W/ FLUORO INCL S&	4	0
44500	IR LONG GI TUBE PLACEMENT	1	0
47000	IR BIOPSY LIVER, NEEDLE	12	1
47531	IR CHOLANGIOGRAM THROUGH EXISTING CATH	6	0
47532	IR CHOLANGIOGRAM, TRANS HEPATIC	2	0
47533	IR BILIARY DRAINAGE CATH, PERC PLCMT	4	0
47534	IR BILIARY DRAIN INTERNAL-EXTERNAL	1	0
47536	IR EXCHANGE BILIARY DRAINAGE CATH	1	0
49083	IR ABDOMINAL PARACENTESIS WITH IMAGING	119	9
49406	IR PERITONEAL/RETROPERITONEAL PERUCTAN	7	1
49418	IR TUNNELED PERITONEAL CATH PLACEMENT	2	0
49440	IR PLACE GASTROSTOMY TUBE, PERC INCL S	61	5
49446	IR CONVERSION OF G-TUBE TO GJ-TUBE INC	5	0
49450	IR REPLACE GASTROSTOMY TUBE INCL S&I G	17	1
49452	IR REPLACE GASTROJEJUNOSTOMY, PERC INC	22	2
49460	IR REMOVE OBSTRUCTION FROM ANY TUBE IN	4	0
50200	IR BIOPSY KIDNEY NEEDLE, PERC	4	0
50384	IR REMOVE URETERAL STENT VIA SNARE, PE	1	0

50389	IR REMOVE NEPHROSTOMY TUBE, INCL S&I	1	0
50430	IR NEPHROSTOGRAM OR URETEROGRAM W/IMAG	1	0
50431	IR NEPHROSTO OR URETEROGRAM, INJ EXIST	7	1
50432	IR PLCMT NEPHROSTOMY CATHETER	7	1
50433	IR PLCMT NEPHROURETERAL CATHETER	1	0
62270	IR LUMBAR PUNCTURE, DIAGNOSTIC	31	2
74340	IR PLACE LONG GI TUBE S&I	2	0
74425	IR UROGRAPHY/PYELOGRAPHY S&I	30	2
74485	IR DILATATION NEPHROSTOMY/URETERS/URET	3	0
75625	IR AORTOGRAPHY ABDOMINAL W/O RUNOFF	5	0
75630	IR AORTOGRAPHY ABDOMINAL W/ RUNOFF	51	4
75710	ANGIOGRAPHY EXTREMITY UNILAT S&I	1	0
75726	ANGIOGRAPHY VISCERAL INCLUDING AORTOGR	3	0
75743	ANGIOGRAPHY PULMONARY BILAT S&I	1	0
75820	IR VENOGRAPHY EXTREMITY UNILAT	1	0
75822	IR VENOGRAPHY EXTREMITY BILAT	3	0
75825	IR VENOGRAPHY INFERIOR VENA CAVA S&I	19	2
75885	IR TRANSHEPATIC PORTOGRAPHY, PERC S&I	2	0
75894	IR TRANSCATH EMBOLIZATION W/ANGIO S&I	8	1
75898	IR ANGIOGRAPHY THROUGH EXIST CATH F/U	53	4
75962	ANGIOPLASTY, PERIPHERAL ARTERY S&I	20	2
75970	IR TRANSCATHETER BIOPSY S&I	16	1
75978	IR ANGIOPLASTY VENOUS S&I	4	0
75989	IR DRAIN ABSCESS S&I	49	4
76000	FLUORO HYBRID OR, LESS THAN 1 HR	105	8
76080	IR FISTULOGRAM OR SINOGRAM	20	2
76499	NON VA IR INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURE	1	0
76937	IR US GUIDANCE VASCULAR ACCESS	40	3
76942	IR US GUIDE FOR NEEDLE PLACEMENT	15	1
77002	IR FLUORO GUIDE FOR NEEDLE PLACEMENT S	32	3
77002	PM&R/PAIN NON-SPINAL INJECTION	16	1
99213	IR OFFICE VISIT FOR TUBE REMOVAL (OUT	5	0
99231	IR OFFICE VISIT - TUBE REMOVAL (INPATI	2	0
C1729	IR DRAINAGE CATHETER SUPPLY	2	0
C1750	CATH, HEMODIALYSIS, LONG-TERM	1	0
C1769	GUIDE WIRE	1	0
B4087	GASTRO/JEJUNO TUBE STD	19	2
	Total for this imaging type -->	1261	

Division: MINNEAPOLIS VA HCS
Imaging Type: ANGIO/NEURO/INTERVENTIONAL
Run Date: NOV 15, 2017 15:56
of Procedures selected: All

For period: 10/01/16 to
09/30/17

CPT	PROCEDURE	# DONE	(%)
10022	IR FINE NEEDLE ASPIRATION WITH IMAGING	143	3
10160	IR ASPIRATION, VIA PUNCTURE	6	0
20220	BIOPSY BONE SUPERFICIAL	13	0
20501	IR INJECTION FOR SINOGRAM DIAGNOSTIC	54	1
22510	VERTEBROPLASTY CERVICOTHORACIC - 1 LE	1	0
22512	VERTEBROPLASTY EA ADDL LEVEL C/T AND L	1	0
32550	IR PERCUTANEOUS PLACEMENT CHEST TUBE	6	0
32555	IR THORACENTESIS W IMAGING GUIDANCE	58	1
35875	IR THROMBECTOMY, ART OR VEIN GRAFT	1	0
36010	IR CATH PLACEMENT, SUP OR INF PLACE VE	1	0
36200	IR CATH PLACEMENT, AORTA	15	0
36221	IR ANGIO AORTA THOR/ABD	10	0
36222	IR ANGIO CAROTID/NECK	2	0
36223	IR ANGIO CAROTID/CEREBRAL	1	0
36224	IR ANGIO INT CAROTID/INTRACRANIAL	1	0
36245	IR CATH PLACEMENT, 1ST ORDER ABD/PELVI	18	0
36247	IR CATH PLACEMENT, 3RD ORDER ABD/PELVI	3	0
36251	IR CATH PLACE, 1ST ORDER MAIN RENAL AR	2	0
36252	IR CATH PLACE, 1ST ORDER MAIN RENAL ART	1	0
36556	IR CENTRAL LINE PLACEMENT, NON-TUNNELE	2	0
36558	IR CENTRAL LINE PLACEMENT, TUNNELED	34	1
36569	IR PICC LINE PLACEMENT	1	0
36571	IR INSERTION PERIPHERAL CENTRAL ACCESS	97	2
36576	IR REPAIR CENTRAL VENOUS SUBQ ACCESS P	1	0
36589	IR REMOVAL OF TUNNELED CV ACCESS CATH	20	0
36590	IR REMOVAL OF TUNNELED DEVICE FOR SUBQ	3	0
36901	INTRO CATH DIALYSIS CIRCUIT	18	0
36902	INTRO CATH DIALYSIS CIRCUIT W/BALLOON	45	1
36905	THRMBC/NFS DIALYSIS CIRCUIT W/BALLOON	1	0
37183	IR REVISION OF TIPS	2	0
37191	IR INSERTION INTRAVASCULAR VENA CAVA F	2	0
37193	IR RETRIEVAL OF INTRAVASCULAR VENA CAV	7	0
37212	IR TRANSCATHETER PLACEMENT VENOUS INFU	1	0
37214	IR REMOVAL INFUSION CATHETER	1	0
37220	IR ANGIOPLASTY ILIAC, PERCUTANEOUS	9	0
37221	IR ILIAC STENT/PTA	5	0
37230	IR TIBIAL/PERONEAL STENT	2	0
37236	IR TRANSCATH STENT(S) PLACEMENT INITIA	8	0
37242	IR ARTERIAL EMBOLIZATION OTHER THAN HE	16	0
37246	TRLUML BALO ANGIOP 1ST ART	10	0
37247	TRLUML BALO ANGIOP ADDL ART	6	0
38505	IR BIOPSY LYMPH NODES	3	0
43760	IR CHANGE OF GASTROSTOMY TUBE W/O IMAG	10	0
44372	IR JEJUNOSTOMY TUBE PLACE OR REPLACE	3	0
47000	IR BIOPSY LIVER, NEEDLE	46	1
47382	IR RF ABLATION LIVER TUMOR(S) PERC	3	0
47531	IR CHOLANGIOGRAM THROUGH EXISTING CATH	13	0
47532	IR CHOLANGIOGRAM, TRANS HEPATIC	3	0
47533	IR BILIARY DRAINAGE CATH, PERC PLCMT	3	0
47534	IR BILIARY DRAIN INTERNAL-EXTERNAL	2	0
47535	IR CONVERSION EXT BIL DRG CATH	2	0

47536	IR EXCHANGE BILIARY DRAINAGE CATH	21	0
49083	IR ABDOMINAL PARACENTESIS WITH IMAGING	403	8
49180	IR BIOPSY, ABD/RETROPERITONEAL MASS	3	0
49406	IR PERITONEAL/RETROPERITONEAL PERUCTAN	1	0
49418	IR TUNNELED PERITONEAL CATH PLACEMENT	1	0
49440	IR PLACE GASTROSTOMY TUBE, PERC INCL S	7	0
49450	IR REPLACE GASTROSTOMY TUBE INCL S&I G	67	1
49451	IR REPLACE JEJUNOSTOMY PERC, INCL S&I	1	0
49452	IR REPLACE GASTROJEJUNOSTOMY, PERC INC	20	0
49460	IR REMOVE OBSTRUCTION FROM ANY TUBE IN	5	0
50200	IR BIOPSY KIDNEY NEEDLE, PERC	30	1
50382	IR REPLACE URETERAL STENT PERC, INCL S	2	0
50384	IR REMOVE URETERAL STENT VIA SNARE, PE	4	0
50387	IR EXCHANGE URETERAL STENT W\FLUORO	2	0
50430	IR NEPHROSTOGRAM OR URETEROGRAM W/IMAG	4	0
50431	IR NEPHROSTO OR URETEROGRAM, INJ EXIST	8	0
50432	IR PLCMT NEPHROSTOMY CATHETER	3	0
50433	IR PLCMT NEPHROURETERAL CATHETER	3	0
50435	IR EXCHANGE NEPHROSTOMY CATH	11	0
50688	IR CHANGE URETEROSTOMY TUBE	5	0
50693	IR PLCMT URETERAL STENT PRQ	2	0
50694	IR PLCMT URETERAL STENT, W CATH, NEW A	1	0
60100	IR BIOPSY THYROID	2	0
62270	IR LUMBAR PUNCTURE, DIAGNOSTIC	17	0
64483	NON VA SPINE INJECTION	39	1
72240	NON VA MYELOGRAM CERVICAL S&I	5	0
72265	NON VA MYELOGRAM LUMBAR	1	0
72265	IR MYELOGRAM LUMBAR S&I	1	0
74175	NON VA IR ANGIO ABDOMEN	4	0
74340	NON VA GI TUBE	1	0
74425	IR UROGRAPHY/PYELOGRAPHY S&I	92	2
74485	IR DILATATION NEPHROSTOMY/URETERS/URET	1	0
75605	NON VA IR ANGIO CHEST	5	0
75625	IR AORTOGRAPHY ABDOMINAL W/O RUNOFF	4	0
75625	NON VA IR ANGIO ABD-PELV	4	0
75630	IR AORTOGRAPHY ABDOMINAL W/ RUNOFF	58	1
75710	ANGIOGRAPHY EXTREMITY UNILAT S&I	1	0
75710	NON VA IR ANGIO UPPER EXTREMITY	3	0
75716	NON VA IR ANGIO LOWER EXTREMITY	8	0
75726	ANGIOGRAPHY VISCERAL INCLUDING AORTOGR	1	0
75791	IR ANGIOGRAPHY AV SHUNT	26	1
75820	IR VENOGRAPHY EXTREMITY UNILAT	1	0
75822	IR VENOGRAPHY EXTREMITY BILAT	1	0
75825	IR VENOGRAPHY INFERIOR VENA CAVA S&I	13	0
75885	IR TRANSHEPATIC PORTOGRAPHY, PERC S&I	2	0
75894	IR TRANSCATH EMBOLIZATION W/ANGIO S&I	42	1
75898	IR ANGIOGRAPHY THROUGH EXIST CATH F/U	2	0
75962	ANGIOPLASTY, PERIPHERAL ARTERY S&I	24	1
75970	IR TRANSCATHETER BIOPSY S&I	219	5
75978	IR ANGIOPLASTY VENOUS S&I	41	1
75984	IR CHANGE OF PERC DRAIN CATH S&I	7	0
75989	IR DRAIN ABSCESS S&I	15	0
76000	FLUORO HYBRID OR, LESS THAN 1 HR	9	0
76001	NON VA ERCP	4	0
76080	IR FISTULOGRAM OR SINOGRAM	42	1
76499	NON VA IR INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURE	59	1
76937	IR US GUIDANCE VASCULAR ACCESS	44	1
76940	NON VA IR RF ABLATION	1	0
76942	IR US GUIDE FOR NEEDLE PLACEMENT	103	2
77002	IR FLUORO GUIDE FOR NEEDLE PLACEMENT S	17	0
77002	PM&R/PAIN NON-SPINAL INJECTION	2427	51

77003	IR FLUORO GUIDE FOR PARASPINAL NEEDLE/	1	0
77003	NON VA NERVE ROOT INJECTION	19	0
77003	NON VA FACET BLOCK	5	0
77003	PM&R/PAIN SPINAL INJECTION	1	0
93454	NON VA IR CADIAC CATH	9	0
99213	IR OFFICE VISIT FOR TUBE REMOVAL (OUT	20	0
99231	IR OFFICE VISIT - TUBE REMOVAL (INPATI	2	0
J0690	CEFAZOLIN SODIUM INJECTION	1	0
C1729	IR DRAINAGE CATHETER SUPPLY	6	0
C1769	GUIDE WIRE	5	0
C1881	DIALYSIS ACCESS SYSTEM	1	0
B4087	GASTRO/JEJUNO TUBE STD	9	0
	Total for this imaging type -->	4745	