

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

**Justification for Single Source Awards IAW [FAR 13.106-1](#)
For
Over Micro-Purchase Threshold but Not Exceeding the SAT (\$250K)**

Acquisition Plan Action ID: [VA260-18-AP-5519 / 663-18-3-8141-0230](#)

1. Contracting Activity:

Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 20, VA Puget Sound Health Care System (VAPSHCS), Research & Development. IAW FAR13.104, COs must promote competition to the maximum extent practicable to obtain supplies and services from the source whose offer is the most advantageous to the Government, considering the administrative cost of the purchase. When competition is not practicable, IAW FAR13.106-1(b), COs solicit from a single source for purchases not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold. This requirement will be funded by purchase request 663-18-3-8141-0230. This will be a new Firm-Fixed Price contract with a total estimated value of \$47,404.70.

2. Brief Description of Supplies/ Services required and the intended use/Estimated Amount:

The contract with the University of Washington, School of Medicine's Bio-Molecular Imaging Center (BMIC) will be to perform MRI brain scans on veterans who are suffering from progressive multiple sclerosis.

The MRI brain scans are part of a research project headed by Dr. Haselkorn, VA Principle Investigator to track how the "lipoic acid" treatment of progressive multiple sclerosis is working on the veterans.

3. Unique characteristics that limit availability to only one source, with the reason no other supplies or services can be used:

The University of Washington's BMIC has the most advanced imaging equipment and experienced staff to perform these very detailed MRI brain scans. To maintain consistency with the on-going imaging of the veteran's brain scans, they need to be done at the same facility to minimize discrepancies in the various images.

This research will be funded by VA Program 822 Research and Development allocation for FY 2018 and future (option) years where the University of Washington's BMIC is specifically listed in the grant.

4. Description of market research conducted and results or statement why it was not conducted:

There is a Medical Affiliation Agreement between the Department of Veterans Affairs, Puget Sound VA Healthcare System and the University of Washington, School of Medicine. Per OSDBU Small Business Policy Memo, dated 22 June 2016, and VA Directive 1663, para 6.h. dated 10 August 2006, OSDBU authorizes an exception to the small business

requirement when research is in conjunction with an authorized affiliate. Because of the OSDBU waiver, no other market research was performed.

5. Contracting Officer's Certification:

Purchase is approved in accordance with [FAR13.106-1\(b\)](#). I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. IAW FAR 13.106-3(2)(ii) the pricing is based on established industry standards in this field of expertise for MRI imaging of brains. The hourly rate plus overhead, is the same as what University of Washington's Department of Radiology would charge any other non-profit or for-profit organization. Therefore, the pricing quoted by the University of Washington is fair and reasonable and in the best interest of the Federal Government.

Approved By:

Lisa Spiral O'Neil
Contracting Officer
VISN 20, Services 2, Acquisition Team

Date