

## 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: VA256-18-AP-0739

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 16, Central Arkansas Medical Center, NCO 16 Contracting Jackson Supply Team A. 2237 # 598-19-1-105-0037. Estimated \$49,942.20.
2. **Brief Description of Supplies/ Services required and the intended use/Estimated Amount:** One-year supply of Cepheid Reagents to perform clinical laboratory testing by PCR for Clostridium difficile/Epi (C. difficile), MRSA next generation, MTB/RIF, Flu, Chlamydia trachomatis (CT) and Neisseria gonorrhoeae (NG), and Factor II & Factor V.
3. **Unique characteristics that limit availability to only one source, with the reason no other supplies or services can be used:** The Central Arkansas VAHCS owns and uses a Cepheid Infinity and will add a GeneXpert Analyzer to perform clinical laboratory testing by PCR for Clostridium difficile/Epi (C. difficile), MRSA next generation, MTB/RIF, Flu, Chlamydia trachomatis (CT) and Neisseria gonorrhoeae (NG), and Factor II & Factor.

The Cepheid GeneXpert Reagent Test Cartridges are proprietary to Cepheid and are solely approved for use on the Cepheid Infinity & GeneXpert systems. Proprietary methods are used by Cepheid to design and synthesize oligonucleotide primers, probes, and dyes specific for each test cartridge. The GeneXpert System can only be used with a GeneXpert cartridge- no other cartridge is acceptable. Reagents and supplies are equipment specific and are compatible with existing equipment currently used in the laboratory. In order to use other reagents brand the Government would need to purchase new equipment, re-trained employees, terminate multiple service contracts in place for convenience, and delaying the care for veterans patients, which is not economically feasible nor advantageous to the VA.

4. **Description of market research conducted and results or statement why it was not conducted:**  
While distributors identified as available for the private sector and outside the United States, correspondence with the manufacturer indicated that no distributors were authorized for Government (VA) sales. Existing equipment is state of the art and no other vendor could provide all the test required by CAVHS.  
Sources sought was performed for FY18 trying to identify SDVOB, VOSB and/or SB vendors that could potentially provide the requirement. However, there we no positive responses since the reagents and tests analysis are proprietary to Cepheid, and is the sole distributor. Continue market research will be accomplished to verify if future opportunities can be placed for competition.

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.*

CLAY K JONES 685130  Digitally signed by CLAY K JONES  
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