



ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE (ACAN)

Title: Strengthening Public Health Surveillance through Primary Care Insights

Solicitation Number: 1000253613

1. The Purpose and Explanation of an ACAN

An Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) allows the Public Health Agency of Canada to post a notice for no less than fifteen (15) calendar days, indicating to the supplier community that a goods, services or construction contract will be awarded to a pre-identified contractor. If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a Statement of Capabilities that meets the minimum requirements identified in the ACAN, the Contracting Authority may then proceed to award a contract to the pre-identified contractor.

2. Rights of Suppliers

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services or goods described in this ACAN may submit a Statement of Capabilities demonstrating how they meet the advertised requirement. This Statement of Capabilities must be provided via e-mail only to the contact person identified in Section 12 of the Notice on or before the closing date and time of the Notice. If the Bidder can clearly demonstrate they possess the required capabilities, the requirement will be opened to electronic or traditional bidding processes.

3. Proposed Contractor

Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network (CPCSSN)
220 Bagot St, Kingston, ON, K7L 3G2

4. Definition of Requirements or Expected Results

The adoption of Electronic Medical Record (EMR) systems in Canadian primary care settings is widespread, and their potential benefits for disease surveillance are well-acknowledged. Pan-Canadian primary care EMR data is recognized as valuable for federal public health surveillance programs. The recently released Pan-Canadian Health Data Strategy emphasizes the importance of primary care research moving towards real-time data sharing and person-centric data. The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) needs access to timely and high-quality primary care EMR data, covering all Canadian provinces and territories, in a secured environment. This access should also include supporting documentation, training, and analytical work services. PHAC aims to expand its capacity in risk assessment and trend analysis in priority areas such as long covid, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and mental health. This involves the use of innovative, validated tools and expertise from primary care researchers and practice-based research networks. The PHAC expects to engage with a Contractor and their team, seeking access, support, advice, and intelligence derived from the Contractor's tools or platforms as outlined in the Statement of Work.

The contract's primary objectives involve granting the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) access to primary care Electronic Medical Record (EMR) data in a secure environment. This access requires regulatory documentation, including Research Ethics Board (REB) approvals and training certifications. PHAC aims for comprehensive access, including system documentation, data dictionaries, user support, and the ability to communicate with providers. Additionally, the contract involves developing new extraction tools to include full charts and clinical encounter notes.

5. Minimum Requirements

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a Statement of Capabilities that it meets the following minimum requirements:

- 1) The Contractor must have a minimum of ten (10) years of data holdings for primary care electronic medical records of doctors and/or nurse practitioners a minimum of eight (8) provinces and one (1) territory.
- 2) The Contractor must have data sharing agreements in place with doctors and/or nurse practitioners in eight (8) provinces and one (1) territory.
- 3) The Contractor must have a minimum of 1.75 million patient records within their environment.
- 4) The Contractor must have information technology (IT) systems and infrastructure in operation to house data and provide immediate access to data including IT infrastructure, IT security, privacy, procedures, and policies in place to ensure protection and privacy.
- 5) The Contractor must meet Information Standards Organization (ISO) 27001/2 [WS1] which governs information system security and the Tri-Council Policy Statement of the Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans (TCPS2) [WS2] that governs the use of health information for research purposes.
- 6) The Contractor must have user authentication in place to allow access a secured environment thereby ensuring only appropriate data can be accessed and to prevent downloading, copying and pasting, etc. of data stored within the environment.
- 7) The contractor must have a minimum of ten (10) years' experience providing responses to ethical and privacy questions for pan-Canadian primary care EMR data collection.
- 8) The Contractor must be able to provide services in one of Canada's official languages (French or English)

6. Reason for Non-Competitive Award

6d) Only one person or firm is capable of performing the contract.

7. Applicable trade Agreements and Justification for Limited Tendering or the Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business

N/A

8. Ownership of Intellectual Property

The ownership of intellectual property will rest with Canada.

9. Period of the Proposed Contract

The contract period shall be from date of contract award until March 14, 2025 with option to extend the term by 1 additional 1-year periods.

10. Estimated Value of the Proposed Contract

The total estimated value of the proposed contract should not exceed \$2,817,368.34, including travel and living expenses (if applicable), and all applicable taxes.

11. Closing Date and Time

The Closing Date and Time for accepting Statements of Capabilities is March 26, 2024, 2 p.m. ET.

12. Contact Person

All enquiries must be addressed by e-mail to:

Name: Sayed Abedi

E-Mail: sayed.abedi@hc-sc.gc.ca