



## **Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)**

**Title:** National Pharmacy Syndromic Surveillance Prospective Data

### **Introduction:**

The Centre for Immunization and Respiratory Infectious Diseases (CIRID), on behalf of the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), manages the pharmacy-based surveillance system. From the pharmacy-based surveillance system, PHAC receives a weekly transmission of pharmacy sales data.

The system supports real-time national surveillance of respiratory syndromes at various geographic levels: national/provincial/territorial (N/P/T) and health regions. Users of the system include health officials in the following: PHAC, seven provincial/territorial (P/T) Health Ministries, and 63 health regions across Canada. With continued pharmacy-based surveillance it contributes to a comprehensive influenza surveillance system. The system provides a near real-time signal to the start of the influenza season and earlier signals to changes in the circulating influenza virus. This enhances seasonal influenza/respiratory pathogen surveillance and pandemic preparedness. Monitoring pharmacy sales supports surveillance of other non-influenza pathogens [e.g., respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)] and provides access to other indicators [e.g., respiratory over-the-counter (OTC) and vaccines].

PHAC does not collect this data but will require an outside source to collect this data. To ensure the continuity and stability of aberration detecting algorithms, historical pharmacy sales data in the form of an aggregated dataset from August 30, 2015 to contract award date will be provided by the Contractor to PHAC within one week of contract award date. Throughout the duration of the Contract, the Contractor will provide to PHAC a weekly transmission of pharmacy sales

**Solicitation Number: 1000177152**

### **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**

Rx Canada

6711 Mississauga Road, Suite 706

Mississauga, Ontario

L1X 2T2

Canada

### **4. Definition of Requirements or Expected Results**

The objectives of this project are to:

Provide historical data on national weekly pharmacy and OTC sales for the period starting August 30, 2015 to contract award date. This data will be used to calculate baseline rates for both weekly prescriptions sales and OTC .

Provide weekly data on national weekly pharmacy and OTC sales for the period starting from the date of contract award to August 27, 2016.

Throughout the duration of the Contract, the Contractor will provide to PHAC a weekly transmission of pharmacy sales data.

### **5. Minimum Requirements and deliverables**

Deliverable1:

Historical Data from August 30, 2015 to contract award date.

Antiviral prescription data sets will include counts of prescription sales and divided into two categories: other and antiviral. The antiviral category includes: Tamiflu (oseltamivir) and Relenza (zanamivir). The other category includes all other prescription medications excluding Tamiflu and Relenza.

OTC data sets will include counts of OTC sales, standardized by store, by two categories. The two categories are respiratory and other.

Deliverable 2:

To provide the following data at the beginning of each new contract period.

1. dictionary for prescription sales with Drug Identification Numbers (DIN)
2. List of OTC respiratory drugs in the respiratory category
3. Data dictionary for Universal Product Codes (UPC) for respiratory syndrome category

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4. The number of retail pharmacy chains and the number of pharmacies in each chain contributing to prescriptions sales, OTC sales and influenza vaccine distribution/administration.
  5. The number of pharmacies contributing to vaccine administration, prescription sales and OTC sales divided by health region

Deliverable 3:

Proportion of prescription sales for influenza antivirals by age-group and week, Canada, 2015-2016

Antiviral prescription data sets will include counts of prescription sales and divided into two categories: other and antiviral. The antiviral category includes: Tamiflu (oseltamivir) and Relenza (zanamivir). The other category includes all other prescription medications excluding Tamiflu and Relenza.

Deliverable 4:

Weekly sales volumes of respiratory and all other OTC medications

OTC data sets will include counts of OTC sales, standardized by store, by two categories. The two categories are respiratory and other.

Deliverable 5:

Weekly volumes of pharmacy influenza vaccine dispensing reported by age group.

Deliverable 6:

Weekly Summary of OTC Quality Assurance Metrics.

## **6. Reason for Non-Competitive Award**

In accordance with the Government Contracts Regulations (GCR) exception, part 1, section 6(d), 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**

This procurement is subject to the following trade agreements:

\* Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT): Subject to limited tendering procedures under Article 506 (12) a, exclusive rights

\* North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and World Trade Organization (WTO):

Data Services excluded from NAFTA and WTO under classification D317B Data Services.

This requirement is not subject to CLCA because no procurement is conducted in the area of land claims.



## SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION:

Historical competitive contracting strategies have established that Rx Canada is the only provider of weekly pharmacy and OTC sales data required by PHAC..

Rx Canada, the original data supplier is the only one with demonstrated ability to provide pharmacy sales data with the temporal and spatial resolution required for an early-warning system. There is no other company that can provide weekly data of both sales of prescription and OTC medications.

### **8. Ownership of Intellectual Property**

Any intellectual property created during the course of the contract will rest with the contractor.

### **9. Period of the Proposed Contract**

The contract period shall be from date of contract award to August 31, 2016

**Options:** The contractor shall grant Health Canada, irrevocable and unconditional option to extend the contract period for additional period of one year under the same prices, terms and conditions as follows:

Option year: September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017

### **10. Estimated Value of the Proposed Contract**

The total estimated value of the proposed contract including the option year: \$768,000.00 HST excluded.

### **11. Closing Date and Time**

The Closing Date and Time for accepting Statements of Capabilities is January 21, 2016.

### **12. Contact Person**

All enquiries must be addressed by e-mail to:

Arif Hussain

Senior Procurement Officer

Health Canada

Room C1120, 11th Floor Jeanne Mance Bldg.

200 Eglantine Driveway

Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario

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