

## Innovative Solutions Canada Program

### Challenge EN578-170003/11: An Innovative Platform to Facilitate Evidence-Informed Decision-Making

#### Attachment 1

#### Question and Answer #1 to #4

This document contains questions and answers related to this challenge.

##### Question #1:

What data set(s) are available? Specifically is a Question/Answer pair data set available? This is critical to understand this component of the challenge:

- “The innovation will be measured for accuracy based on the technical content communicated to users, and also measured for ease of use and clarity of communication.
- The innovation should respond to queries in a natural language format with plain language outputs, and redirection to relevant PHAC websites.”

##### Response #1:

The platform should be developed based on the comprehensive immunization guidance contained within the Canadian Immunization Guide. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/canadian-immunization-guide.html>

There is no bank of questions with answers, structuring the training data and developing an approach that will work with the available data will be done by the contractor in collaboration with PHAC. The Canadian Immunization Guide, together with complementary information available on the Canada.ca website, is an exhaustive repositories of answers.

##### Question #2:

Specifically which government of Canada online databases and applications?

- “The technology will ideally rest on the PHAC website, and should have interoperability with existing government of Canada online databases and applications.”

##### Response #2:

By “interoperability”, we mean the ability to query/read multiple sources but not write to them. Relevant sources include for example:

- The Canadian Immunization Guide. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/canadian-immunization-guide.html>
- Disease surveillance sites such as “influenza surveillance” <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/flu-influenza/influenza-surveillance.html>

##### Question #3:

Is a framework available that indicates how solutions will be evaluated? This is critical to understand these components of the challenge:

- The innovation will be measured for accuracy based on the technical content communicated to users, and also measured for ease of use and clarity of communication
- The innovation should respond to queries in a natural language format with plain language outputs, and redirection to relevant PHAC websites.
- The desired technology will respond to queries in multiple languages including, but not limited to, both official languages English and French.

The question is whether an evaluation data set to measure the performance of the model(s) has been developed. For example how will you tell that a question like "My ear just fell off is something wrong?" shouldn't be answered: "Nothing to worry about ears aren't important" and instead should be answered: "seek immediate medical attention".

**Response #3:**

There is no pre-defined evaluation data set. Once a bidder has been selected, over the course of the project phases multiple tests will be applied to evaluate these factors which may include focus group testing and validation by content experts. The testing and evaluation plan will be developed collaboratively with the successful bidder.

**Question #4:**

Are we only allowed to incorporate PHAC and other government website content into the platform, or are we able to integrate content/data from our company?

**Response #4:**

For the purposes of this challenge, only content/data from PHAC and Government of Canada websites should be integrated into the platform.