

Memorandum

TO: Brian Smith, DCM Purchasing Manager
FROM: Vanetta Abdellatif
SUBJECT: Request for Contract-Specific Special Procurement
DATE: October 3rd, 2018

The Health Department requests a Contract-Specific Special Procurement with Quest Diagnostics, for lab testing and provision of a Lab Medical Director. The request is being made under PCRB rule 47-0285.1.a – Special Procurements, Contract Specific Special Procurement.

Background

The Multnomah County Health Department currently contracts with Quest Diagnostics to perform lab testing for the patients of our Primary Care clinics, Student Health Clinics, Corrections Health clinics, Communicable Disease clinics, Occupational Infectious Disease clinic, STD clinic, Harm Reduction clinic, and HIV/Hepatitis clinic. Quest Diagnostics also provides a Lab Medical Director through the contract allowing for a greater complexity of on-site testing for our patients to meet their needs in an efficient manner as well as offering support to the various labs throughout the Multnomah County Health Department. We have used contracted Quest Diagnostic services since at least 1999. So that patient safety and patient services are not compromised by a disruption in this agreement with Quest Diagnostics, it is requested that we seek an extension of our contract.

During the Fiscal Year 2017, Quest Diagnostics performed 200,669 diagnostic tests for patients seen in Multnomah County Health Department clinics. Testing ranges from HIV screens, PAP smears to Lipid Panels, as well as many more tests. In the future, if another lab vendor were identified through a competitive procurement process, it will take a significant amount of time, money, and labor to unwind existing workflows built between Quest Diagnostics, Multnomah County, and OCHIN/EPIC. Through a contract specific special procurement it is the desire of the Health Department to extend the existing contract long enough to complete a well thought out solicitation with all impacted parties as well as build in time for a comprehensive transition process if it is needed.

Basis of Special Procurement

Below are the Departments findings as outlined in PCRB 47-0285 Special Procurements.

The latest contract with Quest Diagnostics (44000000702) was originally awarded under a Request for Proposal (4000001576) in 2013 ending in June 2018. Due to transitions of new leadership in regards to lab management, and realizing there was some level of complexity surrounding this procurement the Health Department procurement team requested a P-100 contract extension request (4000006576) in hopes that a new competitive solicitation could be developed, advertised, and awarded prior to the end of calendar year 2018. When meeting with both the Pharmacy &

Clinic Support Services Director and Lab Manager to plan for the procurement the following was determined:

- Lab tests require hours of coding in the background to streamline and operationalize the communication between Multnomah County Healthcare providers and Quest Diagnostics in the Electronic Health Record (OCHIN/EPIC).
- The coding requires the cooperation of multiple entities spending thousands of dollars to ensure that accurate, timely sensitive patient information makes it to the Healthcare provider.
- It is estimated that following a Request for Proposal (RFP) resulting in a new lab contract, it would take a minimum of two years to build the interface, write codes, update lab procedure lists, perform validation testing and retrain staff.

It was clear that the Health Department would need to build in significant transition time in regards to any solicitation. The Health Department would also need to include partners from DCA-IT as well as our OCHIN/EPIC system team in the development of the new RFP which adds additional complexity to the procurement process. With this in mind, the Health Department is requesting a 4 year contract specific special procurement with a start date of 12/25/2018 and an end date of 12/24/2022. With this contract extension the Health Department will include any necessary language in the current contract to allow for transition services in the case that a new bidder is awarded in the subsequent RFP.

Lab management will begin procurement planning in January 2019 with a desired RFP advertisement date of around March 2020 if not earlier. A new contract will be executed by 7/1/2020 allowing for 2 and half years of transition time if required.