

Posting Date: May 12, 2022

Closing Date: May 25, 2022 11:30 a.m. ET

Reference Number: 22-032951

To: NCI Bid Board

From: Sharon Coles-Calloway  
NCI DCEG Purchasing Agent  
[coless@mail.nih.gov](mailto:coless@mail.nih.gov)

Subject: NCI Bid Board Posting: Multi-state models for describing the progression to cancer

The Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch (OEEB) conducts studies in the United States and abroad to identify and evaluate environmental and workplace exposures that may be associated with cancer risk.

The statistical modeling of the natural history of the progression from no cancer, to precancer, and then onto cancer is important for studying etiology and screening. Modeling this progression as well as its heterogeneity across individuals poses some challenging statistical problems. Studying the natural history of the progression to cervical cancer through HPV infection, pre-cancer states, and onto cancer diagnosis is an important mission of DCEG. Specifically, examining what biological and environmental factors influences the separate transitions through the various states will help investigators reduce the burden of cervical cancer. This is made difficult since the exact timing of transitions between states is not observed; the disease status is only observed at discrete times, that in many situations, may be influenced by symptoms and not be completely random. Developing new statistical techniques that account for this discrete observation process is an important goal of the Biostatistics Branch (BB). Another important problem is in examining factors for influencing the transition from pre-cancer to cancer in a population-based setting. This is complex since most individuals diagnosed with pre-cancer undergo treatment, making those who are followed without treatment a very select population. Properly accounting for this type of selective follow-up is a challenging statistical problem whose solution will have important implications for epidemiologic investigations.

The National Cancer Institute plans to acquire this service from Lifetime Scientific Inc., Canada who is uniquely qualified to perform this task. This is not a request for competitive quotation. However, if any interested party believes it can meet the attached requirements, it may submit a statement of capabilities. The capability statement must be in writing and must contain information and material in sufficient detail to allow NCI to determine if the party can fully meet this requirement. The capability statement must be received in the contracting office by 11:30 AM on May 25, 2022 ET. A determination by the Government not to compete this requirement based upon responses to this notice is solely within the discretion of the Government. Information received will be considered solely for the purpose of determining whether to conduct a competitive procurement.

Sole Source Justification:

Statistical modeling that characterizes the progression of healthy individuals to cancer is important for both etiology and screening. Multi-state modeling is a type of statistical modeling approach for which longitudinal assessments of health can be used to describe variation in the natural history of progression to cancer in population-based studies. The work requires an individual with extensive experience in methodological development in survival analysis with competing risks. Lifetime Scientific has done much of the seminal work in this area and is therefore uniquely qualified to perform this task.

Attached Documents:

SF18

Statement of Work

FAR Clause 52.213-4 Simplified Acquisitions Terms and Conditions (AUG 2019) is applicable and available in full text upon request

<b>REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (THIS IS NOT AN ORDER)</b>	THIS RFQ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IS <input type="checkbox"/> IS NOT A SMALL BUSINESS SET-ASIDE	PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES 1
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1. REQUEST NO.	2. DATE ISSUED 5/12/2022	3. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQUEST NO. 22-032951	4. CERT. FOR NAT. DEF. UNDER BDSA REG. 2 AND/OR DMS REG. 1
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5a. ISSUED BY NCI CCR Purchasing ARC	6. DELIVER BY (Date) 12 months from receipt of order
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5b. FOR INFORMATION CALL (NO COLLECT CALLS)	7. DELIVERY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOB DESTINATION <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (See Schedule)	9. DESTINATION
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NAME Sharon Coles-Calloway, Purchasing Agent	TELEPHONE NUMBER AREA CODE NUMBER 240 276-7348	a. NAME OF CONSIGNEE NIH, NCI
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8. TO: a. NAME	b. COMPANY	b. STREET ADDRESS
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c. STREET ADDRESS	c. CITY Rockville
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d.. CITY	e.. STATE MD	f.. ZIP CODE 20850	d.. STATE e. ZIP CODE MD 20850
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10. PLEASE FURNISH QUOTATIONS TO THE ISSUING OFFICE IN BLOCK 5a ON OR BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS (Date)  
5/26/2022 11:30ET

**IMPORTANT:** This is a request for information, and quotations furnished are not offers. If you are unable to quote, please indicate on this form and return it to the address in Block 5a. This request does not commit the Government to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the submission of this quotation or to contract for supplies or services. Supplies are of domestic origin unless otherwise indicated by quoter. Any representations and/or certifications attached to this Request for Quotations must be completed by the quoter.

11. SCHEDULE (Include applicable Federal, State and local taxes)

ITEM NO. (a)	SUPPLIES/SERVICES (b)	QUANTITY (c)	UNIT (d)	UNIT PRICE (e)	AMOUNT (f)
1	Multi-state models for describing the progression to cancer.			\$	\$

12. DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT	a. 10 CALENDAR DAYS (%)	b. 20 CALENDAR DAYS (%)	c. 30 CALENDAR DAYS (%)	d.. CALENDAR DAYS NUMBER PERCENTAGE
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NOTE: Additional provisions and representations  are  are not attached.

13. NAME AND ADDRESS OF QUOTER	14. SIGNATURE OF PERSON AUTHORIZED TO SIGN QUOTATION	15. DATE OF QUOTATION
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a. NAME OF QUOTER	16. SIGNER	
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b. STREET ADDRESS	a. NAME (Type or print)	b. TELEPHONE AREA CODE
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c. COUNTY	e. STATE	f. ZIP CODE	c. TITLE (Type or print)	NUMBER
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8. TO:				a. NAME OF CONSIGNEE NIH, NCI			
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c. COUNTY				a. NAME (Type or print)		AREA CODE	
d. CITY			e. STATE	f. ZIP CODE		c. TITLE (Type or print)	
						NUMBER	

**STATEMENT OF WORK,  
re: CONTRACT WITH DR. RICHARD COOK**

**A. TITLE**

Multi-state models for describing the progression of cancer

**B. BACKGROUND**

The statistical modeling of the natural history of the progression from no cancer, to precancer, and then onto cancer is important for studying etiology and screening. Modeling this progression as well as its heterogeneity across individuals poses some challenging statistical problems. Studying the natural history of the progression to cervical cancer through HPV infection, pre-cancer states, and onto cancer diagnosis is an important mission of DCEG. Specifically, examining what biological and environmental factors influences the separate transitions through the various states will help investigators reduce the burden of cervical cancer. This is made difficult since the exact timing of transitions between states is not observed; the disease status is only observed at discrete times, that in many situations, may be influenced by symptoms and not be completely random. Developing new statistical techniques that account for this discrete observation process is an important goal of the Biostatistics Branch (BB). Another important problem is in examining factors for influencing the transition from pre-cancer to cancer in a population-based setting. This is complex since most individuals diagnosed with pre-cancer undergo treatment, making those who are followed without treatment a very select population. Properly accounting for this type of selective follow-up is a challenging statistical problem whose solution will have important implications for epidemiologic investigations.

The work requires an individual with extensive experience in multi-state modeling methodology with a strong knowledge and experience with epidemiologic data. Dr. Richard Cook is uniquely qualified to perform this task.

**C. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROCUREMENT**

The tasks of this contract will address the following questions

- 1) Develop new multi-state modeling techniques that incorporate non-random observation processes.
- 2) Develop new causal inference approaches that provide estimation of the progression rates from cancer pre-cursors to cancer diagnosis accounting for selection due to treatment of most individuals.

**D. TYPE OF ORDER**

This is a firm fixed price purchase order, totaling \$24,800

**E. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

September 25, 2022 – September 24, 2023

**F. PLACE OF PERFORMANCE**

Work from home

**G. DELIVERABLES**

All written draft and final deliverable products shall be submitted in electronic copy for review and comment. If requested, final deliverable products shall be submitted in hard copy. Electronic copies shall be submitted in Microsoft Office of 2010 or Word format or more recent version, unless prior approval for another format has been obtained from the COR.

All deliverables shall be sent electronically, unless approved by the COR per the following deliverable schedule:

<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Description of deliverable</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Task 1 : Multi-state model for the natural history of cervical cancer progression under a non-random followup process	A draft manuscript with the results of this investigation.	9 months after award
Task 2: Multi-state model for estimating the progression from cancer-precursors to cancer under intervention.	A draft manuscript	12 months after award

**H. INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA**

Pursuant to FAR clause 52.212-4, all work described in the SOW to be delivered under this contract is subject to final inspection and acceptance by an authorized representative of the Government. The authorized representative of the Government is the Contracting Officer’s Representative (COR), who is responsible for inspection and acceptance of all services, materials, or supplies to be provided by the Contractor.

Regardless of format, all digital content or communications materials produced as a deliverable under this contract, shall conform to applicable Section 508 Standards to allow Federal employees and members of the public with disabilities to have access to and use of information and data that is comparable to the access to and use of information and data by Federal employees or by members of the public who are not individuals with disabilities. Remediation of any materials that do not comply with the applicable Section 508 requirements as set forth below, shall be the responsibility of the Contractor.

HHS guidance regarding accessibility of documents can be found at:

<http://www.hhs.gov/web/section-508/making-files-accessible/index.html>;

Federal Government-wide guidance regarding accessibility of documents can be found at:

<https://www.section508.gov/best-practices>, including the documents describing the preferred method of authoring and testing documents produced in Microsoft Word 2013 or later, Microsoft Excel, and files formatted as PDF.

## I. PAYMENT

Payment authorization requires submission and approval of invoices to the COR and NIH OFM, in accordance with the attached payment provisions listed below:

The following clause is applicable to all Purchase Orders, Task or Delivery Orders, and Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) Calls: **Prompt Payment** (Jan 2017) FAR 52.232-25. Highlights of this clause and NIH implementation requirements follow:

### I. Invoice Requirements

- A. An invoice is the Contractor's bill or written request for payment under the contract for supplies delivered or services performed. A proper invoice is an "Original" which must include the items listed in subdivisions 1 through 12, below, in addition to the requirements of FAR 32.9. If the invoice does not comply with these requirements, the Contractor will be notified of the defect within 7 days after the date the designated billing office received the invoice (3 days for meat, meat food products, or fish, and 5 days for perishable agricultural commodities, dairy products, edible fats or oils) with a statement of the reasons why it is not a proper invoice. (See exceptions under II., below.) Untimely notification will be taken into account in the computation of any interest penalty owed the Contractor.
  1. Vendor/Contractor: Name, Address, Point of Contact for the invoice (Name, title, telephone number, e-mail and mailing address of point of contact).
  2. Remit-to address (Name and complete mailing address to send payment).
  3. Remittance name must match exactly with name on original order/contract. If the Remittance name differs from the Legal Business Name, then both names must appear on the invoice.
  4. Invoice date.
  5. Unique invoice #s for all invoices per vendor regardless of site.
  6. NBS document number formats must be included for awards created in the NBS: Contract Number; Purchase Order Number; Task or Delivery Order Number and Source Award Number (e.g., Indefinite Delivery Contract number; General Services Administration number); or, BPA Call Number and BPA Parent Award Number.
  7. Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) or DUNS + 4 as registered in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR).
  8. Federal Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN). In those exceptional cases where a Contractor does not have a DUNS number or TIN, a Vendor Identification Number (VIN) must be referenced on the invoice. The VIN is the number that appears after the Contractor's name on the face page of the award document.
  9. Identify that payment is to be made using a three-way match.

10. Description of supplies/services **that match** the description on the award, by line billed.\*
11. Freight or delivery charge must be billed as shown on the award. If it is included in the item price do not bill it separately. If identified in the award as a separate line item, it must be billed separately.
12. Quantity, Unit of Measure, Unit Price, Extended Price of supplies delivered or services performed, as applicable, and that **match** the line items specified in the award.\*

\* NOTE: If your invoice must differ from the line items on the award, please contact the Contracting Officer before submitting the invoice. A modification to the order or contract may be needed before the invoice can be submitted and paid.

B. Shipping costs will be reimbursed only if authorized by the Contract/Purchase Order. If authorized, shipping costs must be itemized. Where shipping costs exceed \$100, the invoice must be supported by a bill of lading or a paid carrier's receipt.

C. Mail an original and 1 copy of the itemized invoice to:

National Institutes of Health  
Office of Financial Management,  
Commercial Accounts  
2115 East Jefferson Street, Room 4B-432, MSC 8500  
Bethesda, MD 20892-8500

*For inquiries regarding payment call: (301) 496-6088*

To facilitate the prompt payment of invoices, it is recommended that the vendor submit a photocopy of the invoice to the "Consignee" designated for the acquisition in blocks 6A – 6E of the face page of the Order/Award document.

## **II. Invoice Payment**

- A. Except as indicated in paragraph B., below, the due date for making invoice payments by the designated payment office shall be the later of the following two events:
  1. The 30th day after the designated billing office has received a proper invoice.
  2. The 30th day after Government acceptance of supplies delivered or services performed.
- B. The due date for making invoice payments for meat and meat food products, perishable agricultural commodities, dairy products, and edible fats or oils, shall be in accordance with the Prompt Payment Act, as amended.



### **III. Interest Penalties**

- A. An interest penalty shall be paid automatically, if payment is not made by the due date and the conditions listed below are met, if applicable.
  - 1. A proper invoice was received by the designated billing office.
  - 2. A receiving report or other Government documentation authorizing payment was processed and there was no disagreement over quantity, quality, or Contractor compliance with a term or condition.
  - 3. In the case of a final invoice for any balance of funds due the Contractor for supplies delivered or services performed, the amount was not subject to further settlement actions between the Government and the Contractor.
- B. Determination of interest and penalties due will be made in accordance with the provisions of the Prompt Payment Act, as amended, the Contract Disputes Act, and regulations issued by the Office of Management and Budget.

### **IV. PROVIDING ACCELERATED PAYMENT TO SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTORS, FAR 52.232-40 (December 2013)**

- A. Upon receipt of accelerated payments from the Government, the Contractor shall make accelerated payments to its small business subContractors under this contract, to the maximum extent practicable and prior to when such payment is otherwise required under the applicable contract or subcontract, after receipt of a proper invoice and all other required documentation from the small business subContractor.
- B. The acceleration of payments under this clause does not provide any new rights under the prompt Payment Act.

Include the substance of this clause, include this paragraph c, in all subcontracts with small business concerns, including subcontracts with small business concerns for the acquisition of commercial items.

**52.204-24 Representation Regarding Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.**

As prescribed in 4.2105(a), insert the following provision:

REPRESENTATION REGARDING CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT (AUG 2019)

(a) Definitions. As used in this provision—

Covered telecommunications equipment or services, Critical technology, and Substantial or essential component have the meanings provided in clause 52.204-25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

(b) Prohibition. Section 889(a)(1)(A) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115-232) prohibits the head of an executive agency on or after August 13, 2019, from procuring or obtaining, or extending or renewing a contract to procure or obtain, any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. Contractors are not prohibited from providing—

- (1) A service that connects to the facilities of a third-party, such as backhaul, roaming, or interconnection arrangements; or
- (2) Telecommunications equipment that cannot route or redirect user data traffic or permit visibility into any user data or packets that such equipment transmits or otherwise handles.

(c) Representation. The Offeror represents that—

It [ ] will, [ ] will not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services to the Government in the performance of any contract, subcontract or other contractual instrument resulting from this solicitation.

(d) Disclosures. If the Offeror has responded affirmatively to the representation in paragraph (c) of this provision, the Offeror shall provide the following information as part of the offer—

- (1) All covered telecommunications equipment and services offered (include brand; model number, such as original equipment manufacturer (OEM) number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number; and item description, as applicable);
- (2) Explanation of the proposed use of covered telecommunications equipment and services and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible under the prohibition in paragraph (b) of this provision;
- (3) For services, the entity providing the covered telecommunications services (include entity name, unique entity identifier, and Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code, if known); and
- (4) For equipment, the entity that produced the covered telecommunications equipment (include entity name, unique entity identifier, CAGE code, and whether the entity was the OEM or a distributor, if known).

(End of provision)