

**New York State Department of Health, AIDS Institute
Office of Sexual Health and Epidemiology (OSHE)**

**Laboratory Testing Services for Chlamydia trachomatis, Neisseria gonorrhoeae,
and Treponema pallidum
IFB #20043**

Questions and Answers Document: January 16, 2020

<u>Bidder's Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
<p>Question 1: We are interested in responding to the subject IFB. How do we proceed to obtain relevant information?</p>	<p>Answer 1: The announcement and documents can be found at the New York State Department of Health website: https://www.health.ny.gov/funding/ and the New York State Contract Reporter website: https://www.nyscr.ny.gov/.</p>
<p>Question 2: I took a look at the PDF for the below invitation to bid, but it does not say how many specimens to be expected. Do you have any approximation or could you point us in the right direction? We are interested in putting in a bid but need information that is not in the PDF.</p>	<p>Answer 2: The number of specimens submitted will vary from year to year and will be contingent upon the number of tests conducted by partnering providers.</p>
<p>Question 3: What test methodologies and test volumes are expected for each of these tests?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Bacteriology testing for standalone and combined CT and GC o Nucleic acid amplification tests for the purposes of CT and GC detection in both rectal and oropharyngeal specimens o Diagnostic immunology testing for <i>Treponema pallidum</i>. 	<p>Answer 3: For this procurement, expected test methodologies may include site-specific NAAT, and cultural testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea. For syphilis, both treponemal and non-treponemal test methodologies are expected. For more information, see page 6, sections 4.1.a and 4.1.b of the IFB</p> <p>For a response regarding test volumes, see Answer 2.</p>

<p>Question 4: We are requesting clarification regarding IFB #20043 laboratory Testing Services for <i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>, <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>, and <i>Treponema pallidum</i>, for the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Section 3. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS TO BID Bullet 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will “perform bacteriology testing for standalone and combined CT and GC” require culturing for CT and/or GC? ● Section 4.1.a., Bid Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One of the requirements states “The successful bidder will be able to perform testing for CT alone as well as dual testing for CT and GC.” ○ We currently perform CT/GC NAAT testing using the Hologic Panther Combo 2 assay. It is not possible to “shut off” one or the other analyte, resulting in both a CT and a GC result for all specimens tested. We would not be able to give a result for CT alone. Does this preclude us from participating in this event? 	<p>Answer 4: Bacteriology testing for standalone and combined CT and GC can include the capacity to process cultures but it is not required.</p> <p>The minimum qualifications to bid states the bidder must have the ability to perform standalone and combined testing of CT and GC, therefore the inability to “shut off” would preclude someone from applying for the IFB.</p>
<p>Question 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Section 2, Overview. Who is the current reference lab vendor? ● Section 2, Overview. What other reference labs are included in this IFB? ● Section 4.1 Bid Requirements. With respect to transporting specimens from clinic sites to laboratory for testing (item e), please provide a list of the clinic sites, with the addresses, that will require these services. 	<p>Answer 5: The current vendor providing laboratory services is Center for Disease Detection.</p> <p>Via the Contract Reporter and Agency bidders list we have invited all known entities that provide the required services the opportunity to bid.</p> <p>Please refer to the Zip Code Table at the end of the Question & Answer document.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7, Bid Submission. The instructions on page 18 state “<i>In the event that a discrepancy is found between the electronic and hardcopy bid, the original hardcopy #1 will prevail</i>”. This is inconsistent with the instructions for the requested format of the Bid Package outlined on page 17 which states this is a Paper Submission (hardcopy). Please clarify. • Section 7, Bid Submission. Regarding all hard copy bid materials be clearly page numbered on the bottom of each page with appropriate header and footer information (page 18), does this include the bid documents (ex. Attachment B – IFB Cover Sheet)? Is there specific information bidders should provide in the header and footer? • Section 9, Attachments. With respect to the Diversity Practices Questionnaire (page 20), are bidders required to submit this document with their proposal? This questionnaire is not listed as one of the required bid documents in Attachment A – Bid Package Checklist. Please clarify. • Attachment C – Cost Proposal Bid Form. Please provide an estimated annual quantity for each test. • Attachment C – Cost Proposal Bid Form. What was the total spent for the last 5-year contract period? 	<p>Bid package submissions will only be accepted in paper submission (hardcopy) as stated on page 17 of the IFB. Please disregard the sentence on page 18 of the IFB that refers to electronic submission.</p> <p>The attachments and cover sheet do not need to be numbered. Please include the bidder name in either the header or footer of the document.</p> <p>Bidders are not required to submit a response to the Diversity Practices Questionnaire. Please disregard that Attachment.</p> <p>Please refer to Answer 2 above.</p> <p>Information about total expenditures can be found at the following website: https://www.openbooknewyork.com/</p>
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ZIP code	Number of Provider Sites
10550	2
10566	1
10595	2
10607	1
10701	2
10801	1
10924	1
10970	3
10977	2
11201	1
11233	1
11235	1
11542	1
11550	1
11553	1
11590	1
11743	1
11758	1
11772	1
11787	1
11795	1
11901	1
12010	1
12043	1
12065	1

ZIP code	Number of Provider Sites
12095	1
12180	4
12201	1
12206	2
12207	3
12210	1
12211	1
12307	1
12308	1
12401	2
12534	1
12550	1
12601	2
12701	1
12804	1
12866	2
13036	1
13069	1
13114	1
13126	2
13142	1
13204	1
13210	1
13215	1
13367	1

ZIP code	Number of Provider Sites
13421	1
13440	1
13501	1
13502	1
13601	2
13617	1
13669	1
13827	1
13905	1
14020	1
14120	1
14207	1
14211	1
14214	3
14222	1
14301	1
14424	1
14604	1
14607	1
14626	1
14830	1
14843	1
14850	1
14901	1
14902	1