



CITY OF HOUSTON
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SUBJECT: Letter of Clarification No. 1
REFERENCE: RFP Invitation No. S55-T25244
TO: All Prospective Respondents:

This Letter of Clarification is issued for the following reasons:

- **The following questions and City of Houston responses are hereby incorporated and made a part of the RFP:**

1. **Vendor Question:**

Are there pharmacies licensed as inpatient pharmacies?

COH Answer:

All of our pharmacy activity is out patient with the EXCEPTION of the two correctional facilities which are in-patient.

2. **Vendor Question:**

Do any of the pharmacies bill for inpatient prescription?

COH Answer:

Currently we do not bill for prescriptions. The pharmacies are class C and D but we would like the capability in the future

3. **Vendor Question:**

Do they bill unit of use, and do they charge at dispense or administration?

COH Answer:

See above response.

4 Vendor Question:

How many pharmacy locations are there? For how many retail outpatient Pharmacies you need a new system and for how many inpatient Pharmacies?

COH Answer:

There are eight (8) locations; none of which are inpatient.

5. Vendor Question:

We need a total count of Pharmacies inquiring about the system, further we need to know how many workstations or users are at each site and an estimated volume of how many prescriptions a day are filled at each location.

COH Answer:

All locations are in-scope. Any system connected to our Electronic Health Record System and/or the Correctional facilities can initiate a prescription. There would be approximately 100 users that would need to have access.

6. Vendor Question:

This information is needed in order to provide the correct price estimate or server recommendation. What data needs to be interfaced with EPIC?

COH Answer:

Patient demographic data needs to be interfaced with EPIC. We would also like to effectively manage inventory without having to double enter data where possible

7. Vendor Question:

Is it bi-direction or uni-directional? What HL7 interface pieces are required?

COH Answer:

We are open to exploring options regarding the interface. At the least we need DIU (demographic) data for the patients that are in EPIC. However, for corrections – these patients do not reside in the EPIC system.

8. Vendor Question:

What needs to be interfaced with SAP?

COH Answer:

Currently we provide SAP a flat file. We would like to be able to supply inventory information at this point.

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9. **Vendor Question:**

Do you need a physician to be able to log in and ePrescribe from our solution, ie write an ePrescription, or do you need a solution to just receive in ePrescriptions written by physicians.

COH Answer:

We use EPIC, which has ePrescribe capabilities. We are open to a solution that would utilize EPIC in the most efficient way if possible; otherwise we would like to explore options. NO e-prescribing or billing these are class C and D pharmacies but would like the capability in the future.

10. **Vendor Question:**

What is the current Jail workflow? What is the workflow in your jail for medication administration, and what is the workflow for any dispensing from clinics? Do you also provide services for treatment with IVs (such as chemotherapies) in your outpatient clinicals?

COH Answer:

We do not provide services for treatment with IVs. The jail dispenses pre-packaged prescriptions at this time. We are open to changing our processes to meet best practices.

11. **Vendor Question:**

Do you have a barcode scanned pill line? Are the jail prescriptions inpatient prescriptions for unit of use, or outpatient prescriptions that are only administered at a unit dose (but billed for a larger quantity)?

COH Answer:

We do not currently use barcode technology and we do not bill. Jail prescriptions are pre-packaged and dispensed in the jail.

12. **Vendor Question:**

Do you need a MAR to use at the point of care to barcode administer meds, or do you just need the pharmacy system to be able to provide MAR data (printed or interfaced to a 3rd party electronic MAR)?

COH Answer:

We want the system to interface with EPIC and do need any additional MAR. Bar code is for medication inventory control only and would like all meds to be scanned in and out by pharmacy and clinical staff. We do not bar code currently.

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13. **Vendor Question:**

Which Pyxis machine do you want the system to interface to?

COH Answer:

We currently do not have a Pyxis machine but are exploring the opportunity to purchase. We would select the best machine that would work well with the system selected and encourage recommendations.

14. **Vendor Question:**

What are TB Machines, and what data needs to be exchanged with them

COH Answer:

The TB machines are fast pack machines that repackages bulk medications into patient specific unit dose packs. Jail meds are pre-packed using a hot press machine and blister packed, stored in med carts and dispensed per dose by clinic staff.

15. **Vendor Question:**

What devices are being monitored for temperature that needs to be reported on (2f page 17)

COH Answer:

We do not have any devices being monitored for temperature that need to be reported.

When issued, Letter(s) of Clarification shall automatically become a part of the proposal documents and shall supersede any previous specification(s) and/or provision(s) in conflict with the Letter(s) of Clarification. All revisions, responses, and answers incorporated into the Letter(s) of Clarification are collaboratively from both the Strategic Purchasing Division and the applicable City Department(s). It is the responsibility of the proposers to ensure that it has obtained all such letter(s). By submitting a proposal on this project, proposers shall be deemed to have received all Letter(s) of Clarification and to have incorporated them into this proposal.

If you have any questions or if further clarification is needed regarding this Request for Proposal, please contact me.

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END OF LETTER OF CLARIFICATION 1

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