**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

**REFERENCE NO: 713759454**

**CUSTOMER:** Defence Medical Academy (DMA)

**START DATE:** 14th January 2025

**DATE RESPONSE REQUIRED:** 17th February 2025

Dear Potential Provider,

We would like to notify you of a future upcoming opportunity, and by doing so we are keen to understand where the market stands in terms of our requirement.

**Background & Context to the Requirement**

Deploying military surgeons and perioperative care practitioners require training to deliver military damage control surgery in austere environments. This type of surgery is not practiced in civilian UK facilities or taught through training programs.

The Military Operational Specialist Team Training (MOSTT) Course delivers contextualised cadaveric surgical skills training to deploying surgeons and perioperative care practitioners.

**Aims of MOSTT Course**

To teach whole body damage control surgery as it is delivered in the military environment.

Develop team working between surgeons and perioperative care practitioners to deliver technical surgical skills alongside complex decision making in an austere environment.

**Methodology**

MOSTT allows for the provision of cadaveric based training for surgeons and perioperative care practitioners. The course covers major cavity damage control surgery procedures, peripheral injury to the limbs, junctional injuries, head and neck trauma.

Senior military surgical faculty deliver a robust programme of technical training based on real life military cases, with aspects of assessment and feedback to improve individual and team performance.

Materiel in terms of surgical equipment and consumables reflect those of the deployed environment to improve the immersive of nature of the course.

**This Request for Information (RFI) seeks input relating to the provision of the following:**

**Basic Requirements/Our Aims/What we want to Achieve**

The Contractor shall:

1. Source, supply and maintain appropriate resources to deliver a training course aimed at preparing delegates to deliver military Damage Control Surgery, to prepare patient/s for critical care transportation in a deployed team.
2. Provide a Human Tissue Authority licensed surgical skills workshop facility to enable surgeons to undertake technical skills training on human cadavers.
3. Provide a workshop facility with capacity to deliver a 6-table cadaver course over 3 days.
4. Provide a workshop facility which can deliver a minimum of 2 courses per year with the ability to expand to 4 courses per year if operational requirement dictates. An example timetable can be found at Annex A.
5. Provide a workshop facility which must have capacity for 24 candidates (6 teams of 4 participants each), 2 surgeons and 2 Perioperative Care Practitioners per course.
6. Supply, prepare, maintain and dispose of up to 6 (fresh or thawed from frozen) full human cadavers per course in accordance with the Human Tissue Act 2004 and requirements of the UK Human Tissue Authority.
7. Provide prosected human specimens and deliver demonstrations of anatomy for surgeons and POPs, covering major cavities, head, neck and limbs.
8. Provide a prepared surgical set per cadaveric table that replicates the military Damage Control Surgery operating sets and the neurosurgical operating sets, as detailed in Annex B.
9. Provide full technical support to all provided facilities and equipment.  Ensure that any reported problems are resolved within 30 mins to prevent delay in course delivery.  If a solution is not identified within this timeframe alternative facilities/equipment should be made available immediately.
10. Facilitate receipt of delivery and storage of military specific equipment from other sites for approximately 30 boxes (approx. size of boxes shall be 1-metre-long x 0.5-metre-high), the week before each course.
11. Be prepared to provide a breakout room for delegates to relax and take breaks and receive catering.  The Contractor shall supply coffee prior to the start of each day, lunch and refreshments mid-morning and mid-afternoon.  The Contractor should be prepared to provide catering for all dietary requirements.
12. The Contractor should ensure that a Contractor’s representative attends the MOSTT Steering Group Meetings, on receipt of invite from the Authority.  These meetings shall happen after each Course via virtual means to be agreed to between the Authority and the Contractor.

**WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR**

The Authority is looking for feedback[[1]](#footnote-1) as to:

1. Whether it would be possible (or not) for a potential Contractor to provide **all** the outlined requirements.
2. If it is not possible to fulfil all the requirements of this RFI, what requirements can be fulfilled?
3. Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) costs for delivering this service or if this is not possible, ROM costs for what can be provided.
4. An understanding of potential alternative future service delivery models that could help facilitate this requirement.
5. Willingness to attend a potential virtual engagement event

Please note the following general conditions:

• This RFI will help us to refine the requirements.

• The Authority reserves the right not to proceed with this procurement. Nothing shall constitute a commitment to instigating a formal procurement process.

• Any and all costs associated with the production of such a response either to an RFI or any resultant competition must be borne by the Supplier. The Authority will not contribute in any way to meeting production costs of any response.

• Information contained within this document is confidential and must not be revealed to any third party without prior written consent from the Authority.

• No down-selection of Potential Providers will take place as a consequence of any responses or interactions relating to this RFI.

• We expect that all responses to this RFI will be provided by Potential Providers in good faith to the best of their ability in the light of information available at the time of their response.

• No information provided by a Potential Provider in response to this RFI will be carried forward, used or acknowledged in any way for the purpose of evaluating the Potential Provider, in any subsequent formal procurement process that may take place.

• Should a Potential Provider fail to respond to this RFI, it will not affect any further participation in any possible future procurement for this capability.

**OUR TIMETABLE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **ACTIVITY** |
| 14/01/25 | Publication of the Request for Information |
| 14/01/25 | Clarification period starts |
| 28/01/25 | Clarification period closes |
| 29/01/25 | Deadline for the publication of responses to RFI Clarification questions (if received) |
| 17/02/25 | RFI Response Period Closure (Please submit RFI Responses to [katie.boorer100@mod.gov.uk](mailto:katie.boorer100@mod.gov.uk)) |
| 18/02/25 onwards | Analysis of RFI responses |

**POTENTIAL PROVIDER QUESTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS**

* Suppliers may raise questions or seek clarification regarding any aspect of this RFI document at any time prior to the Clarification Period Closure, as detailed in 'Our Timetable'. Questions must be submitted to [katie.boorer100@mod.gov.uk](mailto:katie.boorer100@mod.gov.uk) .
* To ensure that all Potential Providers have equal access to information regarding this Procurement, responses to questions raised by Suppliers will be published (**if questions have been received**) in a questions and answers document, which will be available as an attachment on Contracts Finder on 29/01/25.
* Responses to questions will not identify the originator of the question.
* If a Potential Provider wishes to ask a question or seek clarification without the question and answer being published in this way, then the Potential Provider must notify us (as per the above email address) and provide its justification for withholding the question and any response. If the Authority does not consider that there is sufficient justification for withholding the question and the corresponding response, the Potential Provider will be invited to decide whether:
  + the question/clarification and the response should in fact be published; or
  + It wishes to withdraw the question/clarification.

**Annex A – Example Timetable**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | | | **Program** | | | | **Instructor** |
| 0730-0745 | | | Registration Entrance to Vesalius Clinical Training Centre | | | | **TBC** |
| 0745-0755 | | | Course Introduction | | | | **TBC** |
| 0755-0800 | | | Put on PPE and move to lab | | | |  |
| 0800-1200 | | **LAB ONE TABLE ASSIGNMENTS** | | | | | |
|  | |  | |  |  | | |
|  | | **TABLE 1** | | **TABLE 2** | **TABLE 3** | | |
| Surg Instructor | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | **TBC** | | |
| Ortho Instructor | | **TBC** | | | **TBC** | | |
| Surg Student | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | **TBC** | | |
| Ortho Student | | **TBC** | |  |  | | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#1** | | **PCP#3** | **PCP#5** | | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#2** | | **PCP#4** | **PCP#6** | | |
|  | | **TABLE 4** | | **TABLE 5** | **TABLE 6** | | |
| Surg Instructor | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | **TBC** | | |
| Ortho Instructor | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | | | |
| Surg Student | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | **TBC** | | |
| Ortho Student | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | **TBC** | | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#7** | | **PCP#9** | **PCP#11** | | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#8** | | **PCP#10** | **PCP#12** | | |
| **0800-0825** | **Difficult Airway**   * Escalation of the difficult Airway (M) * Cricothyroidotomy (A) * Tracheostomy (M) | | | | | Moderator | |
| **TBC** | |
| **0825-0900** | **Neck Trauma**   * 0825-0844 Carotid exposure (A) * 0844-0852 Exposure of Oesophagus (A) * 0852-0900 Exposure of Trachea via collar incision (A) | | | | | **TBC** | |
| **0900-1040** | **Upper Extremities Trauma**   * 0900-0915 Exposure of Axillary/Subclavian below the clavicle (A) * 0915-0930 Exposure of Subclavian artery above the clavicle (A) * 0930-0945 Exposure of Brachial artery (A) | | | | | **TBC** | |
| * 0945-1005 Upper Extremity Fasciotomy (A/M) * 1005-1040 Upper Limb ex-fix (M) | | | | | **Ortho/Plastics** | |
| **1040-1105** | **Break** | | | | | | |
| **1105-1245** | **Lower Extremity Trauma**   * 1105-1120 Exposure of the Femoral Artery (A) * 1120-1130 Exposure of The SFA (M) * 1130-1140 Exposure of Above Knee Popliteal (A) * 1140-1150 Thigh Fasciotomy (A) * 1150-1215 Below Knee Popliteal Exposure and LE Fasciotomies (A/M) * 1215-1230 Retroperitoneal Exposure of Iliacs (Hockey stick) (A) * 1230-1245 Pelvic Packing (A/M) | | | | | **TBC** | |
| **1245-1330** | **Lunch** | | | | | | |

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| 1330-1700 | | **LAB TWO TABLE ASSIGNMENTS** | | | |
|  | | **TABLE 1** | **TABLE 2** | **TABLE 3** | |
| Surg Instructor | | **TBC** | **TBC** | **TBC** | |
| Ortho Instructor | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | |
| Surg Student | | **TBC** | **TBC** | **TBC** | |
| Ortho Student | | **TBC** |  |  | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#1** | **PCP#3** | **PCP#5** | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#2** | **PCP#4** | **PCP#6** | |
|  | | **TABLE 4** | **TABLE 5** | **TABLE 6** | |
| Surg Instructor | | **TBC** | **TBC** | **TBC** | |
| Ortho Instructor | | **TBC** | **TBC** | | |
| Surg Student | | **TBC** | **TBC** | **TBC** | |
| Ortho Student | | **TBC** | **TBC** | **TBC** | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#7** | **PCP#9** | **PCP#11** | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#8** | **PCP#10** | **PCP#12** | |
| **1330-1500** | **Orthopaedics Practicum**   * 1330-1400 Pelvic Skeletal Stabilization (M) * 1400-1425 Femoral X-fix (M) * 1425-1450 Lower Extremity Spanning X-fix (M) | | | | Moderator |
| **Ortho Instructor** |
| **1450-1510** | Break | | | | |
| **1510-1600** | **Complex Wound Management**   * 1510-1535 Wound Excision (M) * 1535-1600 Soft Tissue Coverage (M) | | | | **Ortho/Plastics Instructor** |
| **1600-1640** | **Management of Ophthalmic Trauma**  1600-1620 Lateral Canthotomy (M)  1620-1640 Open Globe Injury/ocular trauma protocols (M) | | | | **TBC** |
| **1640-1655** | Summary of Day 1/Adjourn | | | |  |
| **1655-1715** | Faculty Meeting | | | |  |

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| **Time** | | | **Program** | | | | | **Instructor** |
| 0745-8:00 | | | Assemble and change into scrubs/PPE | | | | |  |
| 0800-1200 | | **LAB THREE TABLE ASSIGNMENTS**  **NOTE CHANGE OF TABLE ASSIGNMENTS** | | | | | | |
|  | | **TABLE 1** | | **TABLE 2** | | **TABLE 3** | | |
| Surg Instructor | |  | |  | |  | | |
| Ortho Instructor | | **TBC** | | | | **TBC** | | |
| Surg Student | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | | |
| Ortho Student | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#7** | | **PCP#9** | | **PCP#11** | | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#8** | | **PCP#10** | | **PCP#12** | | |
|  | | **TABLE 4** | | **TABLE 5** | | **TABLE 6** | | |
| Surg Instructor | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | | |
| Ortho Instructor | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | | | | |
| Surg Student | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | | **TBC** | | |
| Ortho Student | |  | | **TBC** | |  | | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#1** | | **PCP#3** | | **PCP#5** | | |
| Periop Care Pract | | **PCP#2** | | **PCP#4** | | **PCP#6** | | |
| **0800-0920** | **Thoracic Exposures and Cardiac repair**   * 0800-0820Pericardial window and Median Sternotomy (A) * 0820-0900 Management of Cardiac injuries (A) * Ventricle; Atrium; Closure of Sternum * 0900-0915 Resuscitative (Left Anterolateral) Thoracotomy (A) * 0915-0945 Clamshell Thoracotomy & Pulmonary Tractotomy (A) * 0945-1000 Control of Arch Vessels (A/M) | | | | | | Moderator | |
| **TBC** | |
| **1000-1020** | Break | | | | | | | |
| **1020-1110** | **TABLES 1-3** | | | | **TABLES 4-6** | | | |
| Management of the Mangled Extremity  Moderator (Ortho Instructor) | | | | Temporary Vascular Shunting and Graft on Cadaver and Simulator (Surgical Instructors) | | | |
| **1110-1230** | **Head Injury/ Damage Control Neurosurgery**   * 1110-1135 Burr holes (M) * 1135-1230 Craniectomy (M) | | | | | | **TBC** | |
| **1230-1315** | LUNCH | | | | | | | |
| **1315-1405** | **TABLES 1-3** | | | | **TABLES 4-6** | | | |
| Temporary Vascular Shunting and Graft on Cadaver and Simulator (Surgical Instructors) | | | | Management of the Mangled Extremity  Moderator (Ortho Instructor) | | | |

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| **Time** | | **Program** | **Instructor** | |
| 1405-1630 | | **LAB FOUR** |  | |
| **1405-1555** | **Exposures in the Abdomen**  1405-1420 Trauma Laparotomy/Splenectomy(A)  1420-1445 Supra-celiac control of the aorta & L-R Visceromedial rotation (Mattox) (A)  1445-1500 Expose aorta root of mesentery & R-L VM rotation (Cattell-Braasch) (A)  1500-1520 Control and repair of IVC injury (A)  1520-1540 Management of Liver Injuries  1540-1555 Temporary Abdominal Closure techniques | | | Moderator |
| **TBC** |
| **1555-1655** | Course Discussion, Evaluation, and Post test | | |  |
| **1655-1700** | Course Summary/Closure | | |  |
| **1700-1730** | Faculty Meeting | | |  |

**Annex B**

**Damage Control Set – Module 567**

| **SERIAL** | **DESCRIPTION** | **ADDITIONAL INFO** | **UOM** | **TOTAL QTY PER SET** | **TOTAL QTY PER COURSE (Based on 7 Sets)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Aorta clamp, Debakey, curved, 315/130mm | . | EA | 2 | 14 |
| 2 | Aorta clamp, Debakey, 70°, 250/75mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 3 | Doyen straight clamp | . | EA | 5 | 35 |
| 4 | Vascular clamp, Dardik, 90°, 135/58mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 5 | Vascular clamp, Cooley, 60°, 160/35mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 6 | Vascular clamp, Dardik, 45°, 160/58mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 7 | Vascular clamp, Satinsky, 240/63mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 8 | Artery forceps, Dunhill, curved, 125mm | . | EA | 5 | 35 |
| 9 | Dissecting forceps, Debakey, straight, 200mm | . | EA | 2 | 14 |
| 10 | Dissecting forceps, Debakey, straight, 150mm | . | EA | 2 | 14 |
| 11 | Sponge forceps, Rampley, 240mm | . | EA | 2 | 14 |
| 12 | Cholecystectomy forceps, Lahey, curved, 200mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 13 | Dissecting forceps, Gillies, toothed |  | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 14 | Tissue forceps, Littlewood, 2 in 3 teeth, 190mm | . | EA | 2 | 14 |
| 15 | Haemostatic forceps, Roberts, curved, 230mm | . | EA | 5 | 35 |
| 16 | Handled bone saw, Gigli, 6.5cm, pair | . | PR | 1 | 7 |
| 17 | Depressor, scleral, sterile x 20 | Fits blades incl 6, 9, 10, 10A, E/11, 11, 11P, 12, 12D, 13, 14, 15, 15A, 15C, 15T, 16, 40, SG3 | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 18 | Handle, Surgical Knife | Fits Blades Incl - 6, 9, 10, 10A, E/11, 11, 11P, 12, 12D, 13, 14, 15, 15A, 15C, 15T, 16, 40, SG3 | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 19 | Scalpel handle, Bard Parker, size No 4, stainless steel | Fits Blades Incl - 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 22A, 23, 24, 25, 25A, 26, 27 and 36 | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 20 | Instrument holder, Mayo, 115mm | Mayo pin, Mayo clip | EA | 5 | 35 |
| 21 | Needle holder, Mayo-Hegar, 200mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 22 | Needle Holder, Crilewood 150mm |  | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 23 | Needle holder, Castroviejo, 180mm | . | EA | 2 | 14 |
| 24 | Needle holder, Debakey, 300mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 25 | Retractor, Langenbeck, 210mm (42 x 13mm blade) | . | EA | 2 | 14 |
| 26 | Retractor, Morris, 230mm, blade 20 x 50mm | . | EA | 2 | 14 |
| 27 | Retractor, Norfolk & Norwich, 220mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 28 | Abdominal retractor, Kelly, 270mm, blade 190 x 40mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 29 | RONGEUR | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 30 | SAW,BONE,WIRE | . | EA | 5 | 35 |
| 31 | Dissecting scissors, Mayo, curved on flat bevelled blades, 190mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 32 | Dissecting scissors, McIndoe, curved on flat rounded tips, 180mm | . | EA | 2 | 14 |
| 33 | Dissecting scissors, Metzenbaum, straight, slim, 150mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 34 | Clothing/bandage scissors, 180mm | Tufcut, Toughcut | EA | 3 | 21 |
| 35 | Vascular scissors, Potts-Smith, 45° angled on flat blades, 190mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 36 | Kidney dish 12 inch plastic, sterile |  | EA | 2 | 14 |
| 37 | Steel container for storage of set | . | EA | 1 | 7 |

**Damage Control Set (Neurological) – Module 567-2**

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| **SERIAL** | **DESCRIPTION** | **ADDITIONAL INFO** | **UOM** | **TOTAL QTY PER SET** | **TOTAL QTY PER COURSE (Based on 7 Sets)** |
| 1 | Cranial brace, Hudson, 25.5cm, Elcon system | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 2 | Cranial bur, conical, 14mm, Elcon system | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 3 | CABLE,BIPOLAR | fuw ERBE, Martin, Aspen, Valleylab & Eschmann Systems (NOT TD300, TD20) | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 4 | Conductor, De Martel for wire saws | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 5 | Cranial drill bit, flat, 12mm, Elcon system | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 6 | Bone raspatory, Adson, blunt, 5mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 7 | Diathermy forceps, bipolar, fine tips, 200mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 8 | Rongeur, Jansen-Middleton, bone nibbler, curved, 180mm | . | EA | 1 | 7 |
| 9 | SAW,BONE,WIRE |  | EA | 5 | 35 |
| 10 | Steel container for storage of set | . | EA | 1 | 7 |

1. Answers should be limited to a maximum of one side of A4 per question using font Ariel size 11. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)