

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR  
ADULT EXPERT CENTRES TO TREAT PATIENTS WHO HAVE HYPOPHOSPHATASIA WITH  
THE DRUG ASFOTASE ALFA**

**Description of service**

On 2 August 2017, NICE published guidance on the use of the drug asfotase alfa to treat patients with paediatric-onset hypophosphatasia<sup>1</sup>. The guidance sets out that the drug should only be made available to people who meet the criteria for treatment under the associated Managed Access Agreement (MAA).

NHS England is looking to invite potential providers to express interest in delivering a service for **adults** who might benefit from treatment with asfotase alfa. Providers will need to demonstrate that they are suitably qualified and can meet the agreed service requirements.

NHS England is establishing a National Panel whose role it will be to confirm that a patient meets the criteria set out in the MAA and to confirm on an annual basis that the patient should continue to receive the drug. The Panel will only be able to receive applications from those adult expert centres selected by NHS England.

Providers will need to take a set of baseline measures for each patient and submit an application to the Panel. If the Panel agrees that the patient should be initiated on the drug, the provider will need to assess the patient at three-month intervals for the first year of treatment and at six-month intervals thereafter.

**Estimated contract value, contract period**

The total estimated contract value until 1 August 2022 is £132k (excluding drug costs). Providers will charge NHS England through appropriate outpatient tariffs via their usual contract arrangements.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/hst6>

The MAA runs until 1 August 2022. The initial duration will be until 31 March 2019 with an option to extend until the end of the MAA.

### **Number of providers required**

NHS England will be seeking up to six providers across England, most likely two in London and one or two providers in each of its North, Midlands & East and South Regions.

### **Service requirements**

Potential providers will need to be able to meet the following criteria:

- Proven expertise in the treatment of patients with rare bone diseases, including patients with hypophosphatasia (evidenced for example by, number and range of patients on caseload, multi-disciplinary team experienced in the care of patients with rare bone diseases, published research papers, active involvement in clinical trials)
- A contract with NHS England for metabolic medicine, specialised endocrinology or orthopaedics or ability to secure a contract/delivery of any of these products/services
- Rapid access to a specialist pain management service with a formal memorandum of understanding if this service is not within the provider's own organisation
- Sufficient clinical and administrative infrastructure to:
  - undertake an assessment of the patient (who may be referred from elsewhere);
  - confirm or otherwise a diagnosis of hypophosphatasia, including access to appropriate laboratory facilities;
  - undertake baseline tests to confirm or otherwise eligibility for treatment of the patient with asfotase alfa;
  - ensure the patient is aware of the terms of the managed access agreement;
  - submit an application for initiation to the National Panel for consideration;
  - if initiation is agreed, undertake monitoring tests in line with the managed access agreement at the required intervals and submit this information to the National Panel;

- have information governance processes that permit the entry of patient data onto the national registry and onto Blueteq;
- engage positively with associated patient support groups
- cease treatment in the event that the patient meets the stopping criteria and put in place appropriate ongoing treatment arrangements (which may mean referral back to the patient's original provider)

As the treatment of hypophosphatasia will become a highly specialised service for the purposes of managing the managed access agreement, the provider will need to comply with highly specialised commissioning processes, including:

- Participating in annual audit days
- Identifying activity associated with this patient group separately to other activity
- Submitting monitoring data through agreed information templates

It is highly desirable that the provider is a member of the European Reference Network for Rare Bone Diseases.

### **How to express interest**

If you wish to express interest please:

a) Register on <https://ardengemcsu.bravosolution.co.uk>. The Bravo project reference number is project\_852 - ADULT EXPERT CENTRES TO TREAT PATIENTS WITH HYPOPHOSPHATASIA WITH ASFOTASE ALFA

b) Complete and submit the questionnaire with number pqq\_436 - ADULT EXPERT CENTRES TO TREAT PATIENTS WHO HAVE HYPOPHOSPHATASIA WITH THE DRUG ASFOTASE ALFA

Deadline for expressing an interest in delivering the service: **2 October 2017 at 5pm.**

If you experience any technical issues, please contact BRAVO HELPDESK:

- The Bravo Helpdesk is manned from 08:00 to 18:00 weekdays
- Emails can be sent at any time of the day but responses will only be sent between 08:00 and 18:00 weekdays

- The Bravo eTendering system is available 24/7
- Bravo Helpdesk Tel No: 0800 069 8630
- Bravo Helpdesk email address: [help@bravosolution.co.uk](mailto:help@bravosolution.co.uk)

**Where to find further information regarding this procurement?**

Any further procurement relating to this information notice will be advertised on Contracts Finder (<https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Search>) and administered/conducted via the Arden & GEM CSU's e-Tendering portal known as Bravo solutions (<https://ardengemcsu.bravosolution.co.uk>).

Full details regarding this procurement opportunity will be available there. Please note that this information notice is not a call for competition. Registering interest in delivering the service will not automatically entitle involvement in any future procurement exercise as interested providers will need to respond to the formal call for competition.