

**NEUROIMAGING SERVICE FOR PERFORMING BRAIN MRI SCANS TO HEALTHY
NEWBORNS FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL EPIDEMIOLOGY STUDY**

(File 23/2019)

I. OBJECT

The present document is intended to contract a center with a neuroimaging acquisition service for research to perform neonatal brain MRI to healthy newborns participating in an epidemiologic study.

All the technical specifications contained in this document are considered to be part of the minimum requirements and do not exclude any other needs for compliance with the purpose of the service contracted.

II. CONTENT OF THE WORK

The consultant will make a collaboration with our project “Pre-natal exposure to urban AIR pollution and pre- and post-Natal Brain Development – AIR-NB (ERC -2017-ADG; 785994)”. Specifically with the task 1.2.2 described in the Grant Agreement “Neonatal brain MRI”. The neonatal brain MRI will be performed during first weeks of live to assess brain development. The image processing and analysis should be performed using mainly standard automatic procedures combined with specific probability maps for neonatal tissue, customized software, and manual delineation to reconstruct region delineations.

Scope of work

ISGlobal – Barcelona Institute for Global Health is a research center in international health whose ultimate goal is to help close the gaps in health disparities between and within different regions of the world. For this, we leverage on knowledge generation (research), transmission (training), and application (policy and global development).

ISGlobal is looking for an experienced center with a neuroimaging acquisition service for research studies to perform during first weeks of life, neonatal brain MRI to healthy newborns participating in a research study about air pollution during pregnancy and neurodevelopment. The center should (i) design the acquisition protocol of neonatal MRI (this should be design to last no more than 30 minutes), (ii) take care to protect neonatal welfare during the MR acquisition, including minimization of the noise, and (iii) achieve sufficient immobilization and handling of the infant’s head without compromising optimal signal-to-noise ratio. The center will not analyze and interpret

the date, and will not communicate the results to the volunteers. MRI images will be transferred to AirNB investigators for processing, analyzing and interpreting the data.

III. PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTRACT

ISGlobal will appoint a person responsible for relations with the consultant group (the "Contract Responsible"), who will coordinate with the staff of the entity and who will channel communications between the two parties.

IV. MANAGEMENT OF WORK AND QUALITY CONTROL

ISGlobal and the consultant will establish by common agreement a calendar of communications that will consist of weekly or bi-weekly progress calls. Regardless of these scheduled calls, the Contract Responsible and the consultant may meet at any time if any of the two parties considers it appropriate, depending on the progress of the work hired. At any meeting the responsible person may choose to bring additional participants from ISGlobal if considered convenient.

V. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- The center should have a MRI machine used exclusively for research studies, not for clinical purposes.
- The center should have high experience in neuroimaging studies in large population samples.
- High output infrastructure for more efficient processing and management of large-scale data.
- The center should have a highly specialised staff.

VI. PERIOD OF EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE REPORT

The execution of the work will be carried from June 2019 to July 2021.

VII. ESSENTIAL CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

The following will be considered as essential obligations of the successful bidder:

a) Guarantee absolute confidentiality of the documentation received, taking the due diligence not to disclose it, or use it in any way other than the purpose of this contract. Failure to comply with this obligation will automatically imply termination of the contract and will result in a claim by ISGlobal for damages that may have been inflicted.

b) Guarantee and take responsibility for the technical quality of the works and services developed as well as for the consequences that may occur, for ISGlobal or for third parties, due to omissions, errors, inadequate methods, or incorrect conclusions in the execution of the contract.

c) Strict follow-up of the report audits.

d) Deliver the works and reports hired in the manner and terms provided in the Bidding Document.

VIII. CONTRACT PERIOD

The estimated start date of the contract is June 2019.

The duration of the contract will be of 2,5 years.

IX. BUDGET, PRICE AND ESTIMATED VALUE OF THE CONTRACT

The contract budget amounts to the maximum amount of 300€ per each hour of MRI machine booking (excluding VAT).

The maximum number of acquisitions will be 400 scans. The minimum will depend on the AirNB project volunteers' participation.

The award amount will not exceed this budget in any case. The price of the contract, consequently, will be that to which it rises plus the corresponding Value Added Tax, in the case of non-exempt bidders, which must be included in the separate item.

X. ADVERTISING

The present contract will be published by announcement in the Contracting Profile of the entity on the website: www.isglobal.org

XI. PLACE AND DATE OF SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

The economic proposals must be submitted by email to the address licitaciones@isglobal.org

The deadline for submitting proposals will end on 28 June, at 12:00.

XII. LEGAL SYSTEM OF THE CONTRACT

The contract is considered a private contract and is subject to private law, ruling by this Schedule, by the contract and documentation attached, and in everything not provided by the applicable civil and commercial legislation.

XIII. EXPENDIENT OF RECRUITMENT, AWARD PROCEDURE OF THE CONTRACT AND DOCUMENTATION TO BE PROVIDED TENDERS

The contracting of the reference services will be awarded by the procedure envisaged in Section IX of the Internal Contracting Instructions of the entity. From the day of publication of the tender notice, interested companies can obtain the necessary documentation to prepare their proposals through the contractor's profile on the website www.isglobal.org.

XIV. PAYMENT METHOD

Payment will always be made under invoice and 30 days invoice date by bank transfer once the services have commenced and in accordance with the contractual agreement. Periodicity of payments will be agreed with the selected consultant or institution.

Barcelona, June 14th, 2019