

November 24, 2017

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - RFP No. RP331-2017-02 - For Cancer Guidelines Database

CLARIFICATION – QUESTION & ANSWER

Please see the answer below regarding any questions raised in relation to this RFP.

1. Question:

Based on past experience, does CPAC have an idea of expected annual volumes of cancer guidelines that the vendor will be required to review/appraise/upload?

Answer:

The expected annual volumes of published cancer guidelines should be based on the Proponents expertise and proposed approach to the literature search and review. The Partnership encourages the inclusion of any assumptions made in deriving resource estimates in the Proponents proposal submission.

2. Question:

What are the expectations around Canadian French language guidelines? Specifically, is it the intention to begin reviewing/maintaining these guidelines as of January 2018, or is there a desire to perform a retrospective review of Canadian French language guidelines?

Answer:

It is not an expectation for the successful Proponent to retrospectively search, review and index French Language Canadian cancer guidelines. The Partnership is interested in understanding the process and work effort required to prospectively (from January 2017) include French language cancer guidelines in its Cancer Guideline Database as it considers whether it will be included in the scope of work.

3. Question:

What is the current size and types of guidelines/content in the database?

Answer:

The Cancer Guideline Database will be maintained with a 5 year history of records. For the upcoming launch, there will be approximately 2200 english language guidelines available in the database. Guidelines are defined as: documents that provide explicit recommendations, include a search of the relevant literature and are developed by a medical/health organization, professional society, government agency or expert panel at the international, national, provincial/territorial, regional or organizational level.

To identify guidelines for inclusion in the Cancer Guidelines Database, the Partnership searches biomedical databases such as MEDLINE, as well as specialized database repositories such as CPG Infobase, National Guidelines Clearing House and G-I-N databases. We examine websites of Canadian territorial and provincial cancer agencies or networks to identify cancer guidelines.

4. Question:

What are the current parameters of the appraisal and guideline records assets? Can we have a representative sample of the current database items; including current appraisal document & guideline record, indexing results to support understanding of parameters?

Answer:

The following information about each guideline in the database is included.

Each entry in the Cancer Guidelines Database includes:

1. details about the guideline and the developer
2. a short description of the guideline's contents
3. AGREE II quality appraisal scores, if available
4. Each guideline is tagged with characteristics of the guideline to enable search function
5. links to the full-text version of the guideline, the National Guideline Clearinghouse quality assessment and/or MEDLINE abstract, if available

5. Question:

How are costs associated with attainment of content (if any) accounted for within the process outlined in the RFP?

Answer:

Costs associated with attaining content are the responsibility of the successful Proponent. The Partnership will not provide funds to support a Proponents access rights to online journals, libraries, databases. Costs associated with one off article ordering as required can be included in the pricing; but, should be a distinct line item.

End of Q&A