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**CPSU 0281/20**

**RFP Publication Ref: 015-4798/20**

**7<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

### **Request for Participation (Negotiated)**

#### **Provision of General Practitioner Services by Private General Practitioners for the follow up of patients with Psychiatric Illness**

The Office of the Director General Health Care Services within the Department of Health, hereunder referred to as the Client, needs to contract the services of professional and qualified General Practitioners not employed in the public sector to provide follow up of patients who had episode/s of psychiatric illness (affective illness or psychosis) that required long-term follow-up mainly for preventive reasons. The General Practitioner should be registered as a Specialist in Family Medicine on the Malta Medical Council Specialist Register. The General Practitioner shall exercise in the performance of the services the standard of skill, care and diligence to be expected of a properly qualified General Practitioner.

This scheme is meant to involve private family doctors in the follow up of patients of psychiatric patients who would have been treated for acute episodes by the Mental Health Services and followed up by them for at least two years. Follow-up would be once every three to six months and would liaise with referring consultants in presence of indicators of possible relapse. The remuneration for this will be of €20 per visit.

Patients who fulfill the required criteria according to the protocol laid out by the Department of Psychiatry may choose to be followed up by the family doctor. (The family doctor must have applied for the scheme and has officially been registered as a participant and attended the relevant training). The psychiatry department will deliver a mandatory training programme of 5 sessions with provision of CME points as a refresher programme, and in order to familiarise family doctors that will be engaged through this request for participation with the protocol that has to be followed. Family doctors are obliged to keep accurate records of the visits done under this scheme and to submit the relevant invoice to the Department of Health. The family doctor will submit records of the visits to the Mental Health Services to be filed in the Mater Dei file. In the performance of his/her obligations, the General Practitioner shall be accountable to the Clinical Chairperson of the Department of Psychiatry and the CEO of Mental Health Services or their representatives.

The General Practitioner shall treat as confidential all information of whatsoever kind s/he comes across in the course of his/her duties related to the provision of this service or any material which is provided by the Client. This includes all documents prepared by the General Practitioner as part of or in connection with the performance of his/her obligations under this agreement. No information may be divulged at any time to any third party other than is strictly necessary for the performance of the General Practitioner's obligations under this agreement, unless with the specific written consent of the Client. The processing of personal data shall be carried out in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

Successful bidders will be required to enter into a 12 month contract for services which may be renewed for a further 12 months with the agreement of both parties concerned.

## **Benefits of the proposed Partnership Private General Practitioner –Department of Health, Mental Health Scheme**

### **Patients:**

Care from personal GP's they know well and trust, and who know them well within their personal, past, family and community contexts

Continuity of care

### **General Practitioner / Family Doctor:**

Continuity of care for more vulnerable and needy patients, increasing and supporting the doctor-patient relationship and doctor-family relationship

Support provided to the Family Doctor by a Multi-Disciplinary Team of professionals with immediate access

Support from the Consultant Psychiatrist or his or her delegate when necessary

Development of professional networks which will have a generalizable effect on the care of other patients

Further training in the care of persons with mental health problems, with increasing professional development

generalizable also to other patients, and giving a sense of increased competency to the Family Doctor

Access to relevant investigations

Access to the autonomy of flexible dosing of treatment

Access to rapid implementation of changes to treatment

## **Information about the bidder's technical eligibility**

### **Minimum Qualifications required by service provider are the following:-**

General Practitioner has to be duly registered as a Specialist in Family Medicine with the Specialist Accreditation Committee according to the laws of Malta. The General Practitioner is to be registered with the Medical Council of Malta and licensed to practice.

### **Instructions to tenderers:**

#### **Request for Participation should include the following information:**

- Full name
- Postal Address
- Contact Telephone Number / Mobile Number,
- Email Address,
- Medical Registration number,
- Detailed Curriculum Vitae

#### **Request for Participation can be downloaded from:**

[https://deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/cpsu/Pages/Procurement/Published-Calls/Negotiated-Procedure-without-Prior-Publication/Negotiated\\_Procedure.aspx](https://deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/cpsu/Pages/Procurement/Published-Calls/Negotiated-Procedure-without-Prior-Publication/Negotiated_Procedure.aspx)

**Clarifications can be sought up to THREE WORKING DAYS before the closing date.**

**Please note that it is entirely the bidder's responsibility to ascertain that the application is received BEFORE the deadline for submission of Request for Participation. Thus, the government cannot be held responsible for applications which are not recorded on the Schedule of Offers sheet after the opening session because these were received after the expiry of the above deadline.**

**Request for participation should be sent via email**

**[negotiation.cpsu@gov.mt](mailto:negotiation.cpsu@gov.mt) ONLY by not later than 10:00am on Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020**

**ANY REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION SUBMITTED AFTER THIS DATE AND TIME AND THROUGH OTHER MEANS WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY REJECTED.**

**Central Procurement and Supplies Unit**

Ministry for Health