



# MESOTHELIOMA UK

## Mesothelioma UK Invitation to Tender

Title: National Mesothelioma Audit

Deadline for receipt of tender proposals: 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021

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## Background

Mesothelioma UK is a national specialist resource centre, specifically for the asbestos-related cancer, mesothelioma. The charity is dedicated to providing specialist mesothelioma information, support, and education, and to improving care and treatment for all UK mesothelioma patients and their carers.

The UK has the highest incidence of mesothelioma in the world. It is therefore necessary to conduct quality research and audit to ensure we continue to strive to improve treatment options, care and experience and outcomes of those patients affected by mesothelioma.

The charity integrates into NHS front line services to ensure specialist mesothelioma nursing is available at the point of need. This is achieved through a growing network of specialist mesothelioma nurses, regionally based in NHS hospitals but funded by Mesothelioma UK. The aim of their work is to enhance and support patient experience throughout their care.

Since 2016 the National Mesothelioma Audit (NMA) has been commissioned and funded by Mesothelioma UK. Prior to this, mesothelioma was included in the National Lung Cancer Audit.

Going forward Mesothelioma UK has aspirations to broaden the inclusion and content and augment the NMA with patient reported experience and outcomes.

## Section 1: Specification

### Introduction

Mesothelioma UK is seeking a suitably qualified supplier to produce the National Mesothelioma Audit.

Mesothelioma UK wish to enhance and expand the current remit of the NMA and are inviting proposals from teams who can provide a robust audit service.

The NMA has previously been provided by the Royal College of Physicians who have produced three full audits and one spotlight audit to date. These can be viewed here <https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/national-mesothelioma-audit>.

The successful applicant will have documented experience of working with the relevant data sources and will understand the need for robust governance when handling health data.

The final report should make reference to currently available clinical guidelines on the management of mesothelioma including the following:

BTS Guidelines <https://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk/quality-improvement/guidelines/mesothelioma/>

NHS England Quality Dashboard <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Mesothelioma-quality-dashboard-2021.pdf>

Scottish Quality Performance Indicators <https://www.scottishmesotheliomanetwork.scot.nhs.uk/quality-performance-indicators/>

**Please email your application to [research@mesothelioma.uk.com](mailto:research@mesothelioma.uk.com) by the closing date 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021.**

Detailed requirements are listed below.

### Requirements

Requirement	Details	Rating
An annual national audit report	<p>An annual report including all available data from a period of either 1, 2 or 3 years.</p> <p>The report must be designed using Mesothelioma UK's brand guidelines.</p> <p>The final version should be supplied ready for distribution online and a print ready version.</p> <p>Print copies of the report are not required.</p>	Essential

<p>A summary report</p>	<p>A summary report, 1-2 A4 pages comprising the main data from the audit.</p> <p>The final version should be supplied ready for distribution online and a print ready version.</p> <p>This should be very visual as it will be shared online and with patients. Please see the accompanying MORE report for examples of the type of visual representation we require.</p> <p>This report should make recommendations and have an introduction and conclusion by a senior clinician.</p>	<p>Essential</p>
<p>Data from all the nations</p>	<p>Including England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands.</p>	<p>Desired in years 1 and 2</p> <p>Essential by year 3</p>
<p>Summary report for each Cancer Alliance and equivalent in the devolved nations</p>	<p>A short report summarising the data available for each cancer alliance in England and equivalents in the devolved nation.</p> <p>The final version should be supplied ready for distribution online and a print ready version.</p> <p>The report should be fact driven and does not need to include specific recommendations for each cancer alliance.</p>	<p>Essential</p>

A lead clinician	A lead clinician with suitable expertise in mesothelioma.	Essential
Handling of outliers	A process for the sensitive handling of reports that publicly identify outlying health care organisations	Desirable in year 1 Essential by year 2
Snapshot Audit	Standalone audits may be required, such as the Mesothelioma Organisational Audit (included in the tender pack for reference).  The subject of the audits might include palliative care, histological diagnosis rate variation, or a detailed peritoneal mesothelioma review as examples.	Desirable  An indicative price should be given for this type of audit in addition to the annual national audit.
A named audit manager and quarterly meetings	To enable ongoing appraisal of the development and performance of the audit, we would expect there to be a named audit manager who would meet with representatives of Mesothelioma UK at least on a quarterly basis.  Such meetings would, in addition to reviewing progress, include finance reports.	Essential
Quality Assurance Measures	A process in place to check the quality of the data received directly with the centres	Desirable

Inclusion of all types of mesothelioma	Aim to include data on pleural, peritoneal, testicular and pericardial mesothelioma in the main audit	Desirable
Work with the Clinical Expert Panel	<p>Mesothelioma UK convenes a Clinical Expert Panel of mesothelioma experts from across all disciplines.</p> <p>The successful audit team will be required to work with this panel on the defining the initial core dataset, defining the appropriate quality indicators and the development of any new data requirements.</p>	Essential
Work with the Patient Advisory Board	<p>Mesothelioma UK has a well-established Patient Advisory Board consisting of patients, carers and bereaved family members. This board meets quarterly to discuss plans and proposals for Mesothelioma UK.</p> <p>The successful audit team will be required to present to the Board and to work with them to ensure that patient and carer voices are heard in the continuing development of the audit.</p>	Essential
Willingness to collaborate with other external partner organisations	Mesothelioma UK is developing a platform to link PREMS and PROMS to the national audit. Please see the additional details section for more detail.	Essential

Publications	Publication based on the main audit to be submitted to an appropriate peer reviewed journal	Desirable
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## Demonstrable skills and experience

<b>Skill / experience</b>	<b>How demonstrated</b>	<b>Rating</b>
Understanding of relevant data sources and expertise in the secure handling, analysis and reporting of health care data	Publications, staff qualifications and experience, both in documentation provided at application and at interview	Essential
Ability to work across organisations and professional groups	Publications and at interview	Essential
Robust project management skills with the ability to meet key timelines	Information in application documentation and at interview	Essential
Experience of successful working with senior clinicians	Publications and at interview	Desirable
Robust data protection systems and processes and clear line of accountability for any breaches	Application stage and interview	Essential
Robust financial systems and reporting mechanisms	Application stage and interview	Essential
Experience of working with a non-profit organisation	Application stage and interview	Desirable

## Section 2: Terms and Conditions

### Contract Value and Duration

The initial contract duration will be 3 years with an option to extend to an additional 2 years without repeating the tender process if performance meets the required standard.

We have not specified a contract value however we are accepting proposals that give options for more than one value e.g., a proposal will be accepted that identifies elements that can be added or removed to alter the cost. However, this is not a requirement.

The previous budget was approximately £55,000 per audit but we recognise that in order to fulfil our ambitions this will have to be increased.

### Data Protection

Robust procedures for data protection will be required by the successful applicant.

Please include details of your GDPR process in your application making specific reference to the following questions:

1. Please identify your appointed Data Protection Officer and their specific responsibilities.
2. Describe your schedule for reviewing and updating your policies for processing data on behalf of your data controllers.
3. Where does your organization store the digital personal information you are managing on our behalf? If stored with a third-party sub processor, please identify them and where data is stored.
4. What processes and methods are you using to properly anonymize and encrypt personal data?
5. Please describe your processes for detecting and communicating data breaches.
6. What tools are in place to manage the identification, tracking, and destruction of personal data associated with an individual?

7. Are there clear instructions in your contracts detailing what happens to the data at the end of the contract period?
8. Explain the data privacy and security training employees in your organization receive, and on what schedule.

Please include any other information that is relevant.

The successful applicant will be required to complete a Data Protection Impact Assessment which should be shared with Mesothelioma UK prior to beginning the audit to ensure that risks are being identified and adequately managed.

## Section 3: Evaluation

### Timelines

Deadline for submission: 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Applicants invited to interview: 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021

Interviews take place: Week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021

Tender awarded: 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Contract commences: 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria will be used to assess the tender applications

1. Ability to deliver the core service
2. Innovation / forward thinking
3. Governance and data protection
4. Collaboration with Mesothelioma UK and others
5. Value for money

The unsuccessful applicants will be given the score of the successful applicant in each category as well as their own score. No further feedback will be given to unsuccessful applicants.

### Clinical Oversight

The tender process is overseen by a clinical group comprised of members of Mesothelioma UK's Clinical Expert Panel and the Research and Audit Scientific

Committee. The members of these groups come from a range of clinical specialities and all are significantly experienced with mesothelioma.

Applications will be scored by these specialists against the criteria as set about above. The top 2-3 applications will then be invited to interview. No new material is required for the interview, but the tender application should be presented again and there will be detailed questioning by the interview panel.

The interview panel will be chosen from the clinical group overseeing the tender process.

The tenders will also be reviewed by the senior management team of the charity and a member or members of the management team may be present at the interviews.

## Section 4: Additional Details

### Commercial Partnership

Mesothelioma UK is ambitious to augment the National Mesothelioma Audit with the routine collection of patient reported experience measures (PREMS) and patient reported outcomes measures (PROMS). The charity has been working with a commercial partner to develop a platform called Digital Assessment Xchange in Mesothelioma (DAXin Meso) to achieve this.

DAX in Meso is a new connected digital platform & service that has the capability of collecting longitudinal "community based" PROMs and PREMs, outside the routine health care consultations. The platform has been positively received by patients that have tested it and the vision is to connect the data of those that participate with their NMA data via their NHS number.

Mesothelioma UK anticipates that the NMA successful tender holder will work collaboratively to achieve the above.

## Current Dataset

Total number of cases
Cases by age
Cases by sex
Median number by age and sex
Socioeconomic status by age
Performance status by age
Morphology
Primary Diagnosis
Laterality
Distribution of performance status
Distribution of performance status by country
Distribution of performance status by cancer alliance
Distribution of performance status by trust
Distribution of stage
Distribution of stage by country
Distribution of stage by cancer alliance
Distribution of stage by trust
Data completeness for performance status and stage
Data completeness for performance status and stage by country
Data completeness for performance status and stage by cancer alliance
Data completeness for performance status and stage by trust
Patients discussed at an MDT
Patients discussed at an MDT by country
Patients discussed at an MDT by cancer alliance
Patients discussed at an MDT by trust
Patients assessed by a clinical nurse specialist, including data completeness, CNS assessed and CNS present at diagnosis
Patients assessed by a clinical nurse specialist by country
Patients assessed by a clinical nurse specialist by cancer alliance
Patients assessed by a clinical nurse specialist by trust
Patients receiving histological diagnosis nationally
Patients receiving pathological diagnosis by Country
Patients receiving pathological diagnosis by cancer alliance
Patients receiving pathological diagnosis by trust
Patients receiving active treatment nationally
Patients receiving active treatment by country
Patients receiving active treatment by cancer alliance
Patients receiving active treatment by trust

Patients receiving surgery nationally
Patients receiving surgery by country
Patients receiving surgery by cancer alliance
Patients receiving surgery by trust
Patients receiving chemotherapy nationally
Patients receiving chemotherapy by country
Patients receiving chemotherapy by cancer alliance
Patients receiving chemotherapy by trust
Patients with PS 0–1 receiving chemotherapy nationally
Patients with PS 0–1 receiving chemotherapy by country
Patients with PS 0–1 receiving chemotherapy by cancer alliance
Patients with PS 0–1 receiving chemotherapy by trust
Patients receiving chemotherapy nationally (using SACT dataset) - ENGLAND ONLY
Patients receiving different types of chemotherapy by cancer alliance - ENGLAND ONLY
Patients receiving radiotherapy nationally
Patients receiving radiotherapy by country
Patients receiving radiotherapy by cancer alliance
Patients receiving radiotherapy by trust
Percent surviving to three months after 'diagnosis' nationally
Percent surviving to three months after 'diagnosis' by country
Percent surviving to three months after 'diagnosis' by cancer alliance
Percent surviving to three months after 'diagnosis' by trust
Percent surviving to one year after 'diagnosis' nationally
Percent surviving to one year after 'diagnosis' by country
Percent surviving to one year after 'diagnosis' by cancer alliance
Percent surviving to one year after 'diagnosis' by trust
Percent surviving to three years after 'diagnosis' nationally
Percent surviving to three years after 'diagnosis' by country
Percent surviving to three years after 'diagnosis' by cancer alliance

## Section 5: Submission Checklist

- Tender proposal
- Detailed Costings
- GDRP Procedures
- CV and publications list for senior staff

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