

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SPECIFIC AND TECHNICAL CONDITIONS FOR THE CONTRACTING OF A LABORATORY FOR ANALYSES OF MELATONIN AND CORTISOL IN SALIVA SAMPLES OF THE EPHOR PROJECT

(FILE NUM. 50-2025)

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Request for Proposals is to invite suppliers to submit proposals for the contracting of a laboratory to carry out the analysis of protein biomarkers with the Olink Explore 384 inflammation and cardiometabolic panels in 702 plasma samples as part of the “The early-life chemical exposome” 1 R01 ES035773-01 project.

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. Scope

Background

Experimental and epidemiological evidence shows that exposure to chemical toxic compounds, in particular during early life, may be associated with a wide range of common non-communicable diseases, including cardiovascular diseases and major metabolic disorders (obesity and type 2 diabetes). It is a priority to understand which biological pathways drive these associations and to create population and individual prevention policies.

ISGlobal's (Barcelona Institute for Global Health) mission is to improve global health and promote health equity through excellence in research and the translation and application of knowledge. To achieve this goal, we are examining how the chemical exposome affects child's health and the underlying molecular mechanisms. Because several chemical compounds can produce inflammation and affect the cardiometabolic system, we will be measuring protein biomarkers indicative of inflammation and cardiometabolic alterations and associate them with chemical exposure levels and health outcomes in children.

In particular, in the framework of the “The early-life chemical exposome” ¹ R01 ES035773-01 project, ISGlobal aims to analyze the impact of the early life chemical exposome on inflammatory and cardiometabolic markers in children.

Object of the procurement

ISGlobal is looking for a laboratory to analyze the levels of protein biomarkers using the Olink Explore 384 inflammation and cardiometabolic panels in 702 children from the Human Early Life Exposome (HELIX) study.

The key considerations are:

1. To determine the levels of the protein biomarkers included in the Olink Explore 384 inflammatory panel in 702 plasma samples from the HELIX project;
2. To determine the levels of the protein biomarkers included in the Olink Explore 384 cardiometabolic panel in 702 plasma samples from the HELIX project;
3. To ensure the quality and robustness of the results by including all the necessary controls and calibration samples;
4. To prepare a traceable database containing the relative concentration obtained;
5. To prepare a report with a summary of the methods, controls and calibration samples used in the study;
6. To help in the methodological interpretation of the results, if needed.

III. Contract Responsible

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

IV. Management of work and quality control

ISGlobal and the laboratory will establish by common agreement a calendar of communications that will consist of monthly progress reports (by email or calls).

Regardless of these scheduled reports, the Contract Responsible and the project management team 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 laboratory should meet these requirements;

- Service Provider Certificate for the Olink Explore 384 platform

VI. Period of execution and delivery of reports

The execution of the work will be carried out over a period of 6 months. The current agreement would cover the 6 months, provided ISGlobal is successful in delivering the samples to be analyzed.

VII. Essential contractual obligations

The following will be considered as essential obligations of the awarded supplier:

- Ensure all samples are kept in a safe place
- Report any problems encountered during analyses
- Monthly report on progress of the work
- Delivery of final results
- Provide batch analysis protocol
- Provide QC/QA documentation

VIII. Duration and start date

The duration of the contract will be of 6 months.

The estimated start date of the contract is August 1st, 2025.

IX. Estimated value

The contract budget is set to a maximum amount of 179.712 euros (EUR), excluding taxes. The amount will not exceed this budget in any case. Consequently, for non-exempt

suppliers, the final price of the contract will be the budget amount plus the corresponding Value Added Tax (VAT).

X. Method of payment

The laboratory will periodically provide reports on the number of samples analyzed. Payment will always be made upon invoice, within 30 days of invoice date, by bank transfer:

- First payment: 40%
- Second payment (3 months): 30%
- Final payment upon completion of work: 30%

XI. Advertising

The present Request for Proposals document will be published in the Suppliers section of the contracting entity's website: <https://www.isglobal.org/en/contrataciones>.

XII. Procurement procedure:

The selection procedure will be made complying with the internal procurement regulations of the contracting entity, as provided in sections VIII and IX of the Procurement Manual.

XIII. Nature of the contract

This contract is considered a private contract and is subject to private law, governed by the contract and attached documentation, and by the applicable civil and commercial legislation.

XIV. Submission of proposals

Interested applicants are invited to submit a comprehensive proposal, addressing the needs described in the Request for Proposals document, to the following e-mail address: contrataciones@isglobal.org.

Proposals must be sent in one single consolidated document in PDF format.

The deadline for the submission of proposals is set on July 24th, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

Barcelona, June 30th, 2025