

**Questions and Answers Form**

**Questions submitted to National Coalition of STD Directors (NCSO)**

Question No.	Vendor Question	Answer
1.	Regarding the RFP, in section 2.1, where it mentions 'distribute full panel', are you looking for a test that includes all the listed biomarkers, or can the collection kits be separate?	At NCSO we embrace variation in test kits that screen for different biomarkers. We do not require a single kit that includes a full screening panel for the five biomarkers mentioned (HIV, Syphilis, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Trichomoniasis).
2.	Do you have a breakdown of monthly volumes and percentages split by kit option?	Previous clients have had a few tests per month to several hundred tests per month. We do see the value in our larger clients and hope this partnership will provide a cost-effective option that leads to new contracts and jurisdiction.
3.	Question 33 mentions 'Check Yourself feature requirements'. Are there any additional requirements beyond those listed in the scope of work, in pages 5 &6 of the RFP?	At this time, we do not have additional requirements beyond those listed in the scope of work. If there are additional features to propose, please document them in the RFP proposal.
4.	Please clarify what you mean by advocacy-implementation readiness assessment/guide (question 59)?	NCSO is seeking an established toolkit readiness guide/assessment that can be utilized by accounts for implementing at-home testing in program activities. This tool should ensure that our accounts are set up for success, provided with best practices with blood collection, useful information that can promote kit return/response and achieve desired metrics.
5.	What type of supporting documentation were you looking for regarding the following question: "25. ELR supporting documentation"?	We are requesting validation documentation to ensure data integrity, regulatory compliance, and quality assurance. Examples of this include but are not limited to validation reports, accreditation certificates, proficiency testing results and documented quality control procedures.

6.	Can you provide more specifics on Question 38, “1-2-day test kit delivery”, does this refer to ‘delivered within 1-2 days of order being placed’, or a shipping time of 1-2 days?	Delivered within 1-2 days of ordered being placed.
7.	On Question 17 “If applicable, please list national partners” is this referring to partners that we currently partner with to supply at-home testing or referring to coalitions or organizations that we are a part of?	Question 17 inquires of organizations or entities that the vendor has partnerships with and is offering non-clinic, self-collect testing services.
8.	Are all test requests for “at-home” testing?	We are requesting test kits that are suitable in diverse settings including at home, in non-traditional environments including within the clinic. Our goal is to provide flexibility and convenience to the patient population.
9.	Is NCSO requesting whole blood tests for at-home or for in-clinic follow-up?	We are requesting whole blood collection for the detection of HIV and Syphilis that can be administered both at home and in clinic.
10.	Can NCSO provide historical volumes for this program?	The volume for Check yourself is diverse, varying across rural, local, and state levels. Typically, volumes are smaller for rural and local health departments and other health serving agencies whereas at the state level, volumes are influenced by funding accessibility and funding streams.
11.	What were the final negotiated prices for the last vendor that fulfilled testing for this program? (This information will assist in volume planning.)	We are unable to disclose specific negotiated prices due to confidentiality agreements with vendors. However, we ensure competitive pricing through evaluation and negotiation processes for all vendors involved in fulfilling testing for our program.
12.	Will NCSO award multiple vendors for this RFP?	Currently, awarding multiple vendors is still under consideration. We are evaluating various factors to determine the most suitable approach to fulfill the program’s needs effectively.

13.	If awarding multiple vendors, can you guarantee some percentage of program involvement as vendors will utilize resources building programs and supplies?	NCS D does want vendors who might have products that satisfy various niche needs from our members or clients. While the decision to award multiple vendors is still under consideration, we are actively evaluating options to optimize program involvement and resource utilization with a focus on fostering successful partnerships.
14.	Is it possible to bid on some, not all, parts of the RFP?	Currently, we are still evaluating our options. If bidding is set for consideration, we will provide clear guidance on bidding options in the RFP documentation.
15.	Will a vendor be disqualified if unable to test in all 50 states?	No. In the RFP proposal form, please specify any states where services are not currently provided, along with the reasons such as age restrictions or external factors.
16.	On SurveyMonkey, how do we provide cost for screening vs. confirmatory as there is only one field?	Thank you for highlighting this concern. We will update the form to allow separate input fields for the cost of screening and confirmatory tests.
17.	We just want to flag that the survey limits the ability to select assigned female at birth (AFAB) and assigned male at birth (AMAB) for Chlamydia, Trich and Gonorrhea- will this affect our application as we can do 3-site testing for both AFAB and AMAB.	Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We will update the form to allow separate input fields for testing assigned AFAB and AMAB for Chlamydia, Trichomoniasis and gonorrhea.
18.	Is the treatment and prescription a requirement for this RFP?	No. Offering this feature is desirable and would be beneficial for our rural accounts where it is a sought-after resource.