

## Request For Proposal (RFP)

Development of a Standardized Instrument to Assess  
Oncology Medication Availability in Healthcare Facilities



April 2025

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# 1. City Cancer Challenge overview

City Cancer Challenge Foundation (C/Can), launched in 2017 by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), became a standalone foundation in 2019. C/Can's mission is to support cities around the world as they work to improve access to equitable, quality cancer care.

C/Can's support at city level is delivered through a City Engagement Process undertaken by local stakeholders (e.g., local and regional authorities, health service providers, civil society organisations) who form a City Executive Committee (CEC), supported by a locally-based C/Can City Manager and global team.

Today, C/Can is operating in 15 cities in 4 continents (Cali - Colombia, Asunción - Paraguay, Yangon - Myanmar, Kumasi - Ghana, Kigali - Rwanda, Porto Alegre - Brazil, Tbilisi - Georgia, León - Mexico, Greater Petaling - Malaysia, Arequipa - Perú, Nairobi - Kenya, Rosario - Argentina, Phnom Penh - Cambodia, Abuja - Nigeria and Concepción - Chile).

## 2. Background and context

The Readiness for Access to Breast Cancer Medicines Project in Paraguay was launched in 2022. The project engaged five public institutions, responsible for cancer care provision to approximately 80% of the uninsured population in the region. These institutions were: Instituto Nacional del Cáncer (INCAN), Hospital Nacional de Itauguá (HNI), Hospital Materno Infantil San Pablo (HSP), Hospital de Clínicas de la Universidad Nacional de Asunción (HC-UNA) and Laboratório Central de Anatomia Patológica (LCAP).

Catalyzed by a donation of essential medicines (via Amgen Inc. and Direct Relief), the project combined product access with strategic health system interventions in critical cancer care services of the participating healthcare institutions with the view to accelerate readiness and enhance the quality of care.

Building on the lessons from the project in Paraguay, C/Can is launching the Readiness for Access to Oncology Medicines Programme ("Readiness Programme") in other C/Can cities. To fully realize the potential of the Readiness Programme, key methodologies must be further developed to guide its implementation, ensure alignment with C/Can's core principles, enable effective scale-up, and generate actionable insights for the broader global oncology community.

As part of the Readiness Programme, C/Can has prioritized the development of a city-level instrument to assess the actual availability of oncology medicines at health facilities and support cities, local institutions and health authorities in the prioritization of access initiatives to oncology medicines.

This RFP seeks proposals to design, validate, and support the local implementation of a practical and scalable methodology to assess oncology medication in healthcare facilities in C/Can cities tailored to low- and lower middle-income countries (LMIC) contexts and aligned with C/Can's local stakeholder engagement model.

### **3. Scope of work**

C/Can is inviting proposals from global health consultancy groups or independent global health consultants (i.e. not affiliated to an institution) to develop, test, and document a methodology to assess oncology medication in key healthcare facilities in a group of up to two C/Can cities through a combination of document review, stakeholder consultations and field assessment.

The selected contractual partner, in consultation with C/Can is expected, but not limited to:

- Conduct a targeted literature review of existing tools, indicators, and data sources (e.g., WHO, ESMO) to assess oncology medicine availability.
- Draft the initial version of the instrument, including methodology for evaluating oncology medicine availability, data collection tools (e.g., surveys, checklists) and analysis framework for quantitative/qualitative data.
- Supporting stakeholder mapping (e.g., healthcare providers, supply chain actors, policymakers) and engagement in selected C/Can cities for pilot implementation.
- Trace oncology medicine circuits to health facilities and patients in pilot cities and document potential bottlenecks and enablers in the supply chain.
- Deploy the instrument in selected health facilities.
- Conduct up to two field missions to selected C/Can cities to support data collection and key informant interviews.
- Perform regular interim data analysis and validate findings with local stakeholders and relevant C/Can project teams.
- Produce a final technical report per city, including summary of findings on medicine availability and supply chain barriers as well as tailored recommendations for improving access.
- Support the planning and preparation of materials for meetings throughout the assignment, including during dissemination of results to stakeholders.

## 4. Stakeholders

The key stakeholders in the are as follows:

- The **Contractual partner** is responsible for co-developing, testing, and documenting a methodology to assess oncology medication in key healthcare facilities in a group of up to two C/Can cities.
- The **C/Can Project Team** will guide the contractual partner in the assessment and ensure he/she has access to relevant documents, stakeholders and institutions.
- The **C/Can Technical Cooperation and Capacity Development Team (TCCD)** is responsible to guide and provide technical support to the contractual partner, in accordance with the relevant C/Can policies and procedures.

## 5. Required information

Interested bidders should build a proposal addressing all sections below, in the order in which they appear.

### A. Institutional information (if applicable)

In addition to the basic institutional information, kindly include the following information and references to published work as much as possible:

- What is the experience of your institution working with international organisations and nonprofit sectors?
- Include a list of organizations with who your institution and/or research group worked with.
- What is your experience in oncology care in LMICs?

Please include a list of similar or relevant published work by your institution.

**NOTE:** For bidders that are independent consultants (i.e. not affiliated to an institution) please provide the same information.

### B. Technical approach

Please provide a detailed description of the proposed solution to the RFP.

Please include a timeline for development with associated budget and resource implications for the key stages of the engagement including, but not limited to, the following:

- Literature review
- Development of the initial instrument
- Testing and validating the instrument in up to two cities
- Reporting

### **C. Team (if applicable)**

Please provide:

- Team structure.
- Provide a role description and biography of each team member.
- Outline your preferred way of working between the team and C/Can.

**NOTE:** For bidders that are independent consultants (i.e. not affiliated to an institution) please provide a copy of your *Curriculum Vitae*.

### **D. References**

List two current references from other institutions including a contact name, contact information and a brief description of the collaborations between you / your institution and them.

## **6. Evaluation and selection criteria**

C/Can is committed to selecting the most competitive offer out of proposals received. The evaluation of proposals will be geared to identify those that offer the best combination of expertise and value, considering the following:

- Understanding and provision of all items requested in the RFP.
- Subject matter expertise: expertise in oncology, health systems research, familiarity with medicine access challenges in LMICs.
- Suitability for the project execution: , fluency in English, location, current workload, and demonstrated effectiveness with similar projects.
- Demonstrated ability to assess project performance and produce high-quality, actionable reports.
- Budget approach.

The proposal that will include these elements in the most comprehensive manner will be selected. C/Can will not, however, base its evaluation solely on price and reserves the right to make an award to a proposer who may not necessarily be the lowest bidder.

## 7. Contact for bid inquiries

All inquiries concerning this RFP shall be addressed to the following contacts. No telephone questions will be answered.

- [neves@citycancerchallenge.org](mailto:neves@citycancerchallenge.org)

## 8. RFP calendar/timeline

Date	Element
30 April 2025	RFP posting
9 May 2025	Proposals due
12-16 May 2025	Internal selection
16 May 2025	Announcement of selection
21 May 2025	Service agreement signature and start of work with selected contractual partner
31 December 2025	Expected completion of work

## **9. Other terms and conditions**

### **A. Withdrawal of RFP**

Proposals may be withdrawn before the RFP submission deadline by submitting a written request to the Contact Person. Re-submittal before the RFP submittal deadline can be made; however, they may not be re-submitted after the deadline.

### **B. RFP costs**

All costs incurred in the preparation and presentation of proposals to the RFP shall be completely absorbed by the responding party to the RFP. All documents submitted as part of the RFP will become property of C/Can. Any material submitted that is confidential must be clearly marked as such.

### **C. Award basis**

C/Can reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals, to waive any irregularities in any proposal process, and to make an award of contract in any manner in which C/Can, acting in the sole and exclusive exercise of its discretion, deems to be in C/Can's best interest.