

1. Is the study DVHA commissioned on price variation in January 2012 publicly available? Or will you make it available to bidders? When will it be available?

This study will not be made available. However, the underlying assumptions can be shared with the successful bidder.

2. Did a vendor conduct the DVHA-commissioned study? If so, is this vendor eligible to respond to this RFP?

A vendor did conduct this study. This vendor is eligible to respond to the RFP.

3. Is the VAHHS-NSO study of price variation publicly available? Or will you make it available to bidders? When will it be available?

This study will be made available in early May.

4. Did a vendor conduct the VAHHS-NSO study? If so, is this vendor eligible to respond to this RFP?

Yes, VAHHS-NSO is the vendor that conducted this study. They are not eligible to respond to this RFP.

5. Many of the deliverables listed in the RFP are policy recommendations, and yet the Evaluation Criteria focus primarily on actuarial experience. Is the Green Mountain Care Board also seeking experience with policy analysis and development of policy recommendations? How will this experience be considered in the Board's evaluation of proposals?

The GMCB is seeking experience with policy analysis and development of policy recommendations. We have updates the evaluation criteria to reflect this.

6. What is the funding source for this RFP? If federal funds will be used, please provide the CFDA number. (The University requires this information in order to comply with its federal reporting obligations.)

The funding source for this RFP is the state's Level II Exchange grant. The CFDA number is 93.525.

7. Deliverable 1 indicates reviewing risk adjusted payment rates but the scope does not explicitly mention doing a risk adjustment analysis. Is this part of Phase I or is it part of the scope of this RFP?

This is outside the scope of this RFP.

8. Can you provide a little more detail regarding the expected output of the Phase I work soon to be completed by VAHHS-NSO?

Phase I will produce information regarding charges, costs and allowable payments related to specific clinical services. It will be indexed by payer and provider. It is expected to demonstrate variation in payments for specific services. Phases I and II together will provide a scope of work similar to that produced in both Massachusetts and Rhode Island on cost variation analysis.

9. Will the scope of work compare payments under FFS arrangements only or is it possible alternative payment arrangements will need to be analyzed and normalized in order to compare?

The scope of work will compare payments under FFS arrangements only.

10. What data will be available to do this work?
 - a. Will VHCURES be the primary source?

VHCURES was the primary source used in Phase I of the project. The Unified Hospital Discharge Dataset was also used.

- b. Is there any additional information on uninsured costs in Vermont that can be provided?

The information available on uninsured costs is the current publicly available estimates.

- c. What information will be shared from Phase I in order to assist a contractor with the requested scope of work?

The Phase I report will be available to assist the contractor with the requested scope of work. Additionally, the vendor that conducted Phase I of the project will be available for consultation.

11. Is the successful bidder expected to follow the methodology used by VAHHS-NSO?

Yes. We do not want duplicate work being performed in data analysis.

12. For work products, so we want a white paper or a powerpoint or both?

Both would be helpful as the staff need the detail provided in a white paper and a presentation can make the information and recommendations accessible to the Board.

13. Will the hospital budget information be available for use in the study?

Yes.