QUESTIONS FROM BIDDERS AND RESPONSES FROM NDOH FOR BID NDOH 02/2025-2026: APPOINTMENT OF A SERVICE PROVIDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF RAPID DIAGNOSTIC TESTS (RDT's) TO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS

No	Question from bidder	Response from NDOH
1.	We are in the process of submitting our application to your de- partment and would like to kindly ask for clarification regarding the ICASA certification requirement.	The Bid document has been revised in this regard replacing the ICASA requirement.
	Could you please confirm which specific ICASA certificate is re- quired as part of the application process? Your guidance will help us ensure that we submit the correct documentation.	
2.	We have three queries concerning tender NDOH- 02(2025/2026).	The Bid document has been revised in this regard.
	<ol> <li>What is the duration? The documents state both 2-years &amp; 3-years. Which is correct?</li> </ol>	
	2. The quantity is shown as 817,300 kits. Is this per annum or for 2-years or 3-years?	
	<ol> <li>The bidders are asked to provide proof that they are ICASA certified. This must be a mistake as ICASA (Inde- pendent Communications Authority of South Africa) re-</li> </ol>	
	lates to the electronic communications, broadcasting & postal industries. It has no relevance for medical goods.	
3.	I wish to clarify the following regarding the above-mentioned tender (NDoH-02(2025/2026) advertised for RDT Malaria tests.	The Bid document had been revised in this regard.
	The tender states that a company needs to prove that it is <b>ICASA certified</b> .	
	Stage 1: Mandatory requirements	

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	<ul> <li>Submit 1 box of minimum of 25 RDTs for Quality Assurance (QA) tests to the National Department of Health</li> <li>Please attach certificate as proof that the company is ICASA certified.</li> </ul>	
	Please confirm this, as ICASA is the Independent Communica- tions Authority of South Africa - a regulatory body responsible for the telecommunications, broadcasting, and postal indus- tries in South Africa? Should it not be SAHPRA certified - South African Health Products Regulatory Authority? Can you kindly also confirm whether the quantity of tests stated (817 300) is the quantity per year or for the full tender period (3 years).	
4.	We are currently reviewing the bid documentation for <b>Tender</b> <b>No. NDoH-02 (2025/2026):</b> Appointment of a Service Provider for the Supply and Delivery of Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs) and would appreciate your kind assistance in clarifying the following points:	The Bid document has been revised in this regard replacing the ICASA requirement.
	<ol> <li>ICASA Certification Requirement         We noticed a reference to ICASA certification as part of the         compliance requirements.         As Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Tests are manual, non-elec-         tronic medical devices with no wireless or radio frequency-         emitting components, could you kindly confirm whether this</li> </ol>	

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Q	uestion from bidder	Response from NDOH
	requirement is applicable in this context, if so, please ex- plain how, or if it may have been included in error?	
2.	<b>VAT Rate on pp.49 and pp.35</b> The VAT rate listed appears to be stated as 14% on pp.49, and 15% on pp.35, whereas the VAT rate at tender closing is 15.5%. Please clarify.	
3.	<b>Quantity</b> Is the quantity of 817300 test kits an annual quantity or the total quantity over the tender period, i.e. 3 years?	
4.	<b>Training</b> "The supplier must train health care workers on how to use tests in the various provinces using RDT tests. Provincial training on using the RDT's is required on an annual basis for Doctors and Nurses at districts chosen by the provincial co- ordinators." Please advise: Is the training required once yearly for each (1) district that is chosen Approx. how many districts are chosen to be trained across the 9 provinces each year. For instance, there are a total of 52 districts in SA.	

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5.	May we please ask a question concerning this tender.	"Thank you for your inquiry and interest in supplying malaria test kits.
	It relates to point 13 of the product specification.	We appreciate your engagement and the effort to ensure your offer aligns with the required specifications.
	"The test kit must be WHO pre-qualified as a Malaria RDT prod- uct".	However, we must inform you that offers for malaria test kits that are not WHO prequalified will unfortunately be automatically rejected.
	If we make an offer of a malaria test kit, complying exactly with	
	the specification, but not WHO pre-qualified, will our offer be automatically rejected.	WHO prequalification is a mandatory requirement for several important reasons:
	As you will be aware there are relatively few companies manu- facturing malaria kits that are WHO pre-qualified. We are in- volved with test kits and would like to make a suitable offer but do not wish to waste your & our time, with an offer that will be rejected. Your response would be greatly appreciated.	<ol> <li>Quality Assurance: WHO prequalification ensures that the product has met rigorous international standards for safety, efficacy, and quality through an independent and transparent evaluation process.</li> <li>Programmatic Suitability: Prequalified tests are assessed not only for technical performance but also for their suitability in field conditions, including stability, ease of use, and compatibility with existing systems in malaria-endemic settings.</li> <li>Global Health Standards: In alignment with</li> </ol>
		national and global malaria strategies, including procurement regulations set by major donors and partners (e.g., the Global Fund, WHO, and other health authorities), only WHO-prequalified kits

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		<ul> <li>are eligible for public sector use in many countries, including ours.</li> <li>4. Risk Mitigation: Using non-prequalified kits introduces a significant risk of misdiagnosis, which could have serious public health consequences and undermine malaria control and elimination efforts.</li> </ul>
		While we understand the limited number of prequalified suppliers poses a challenge, the requirement is in place to uphold the integrity, reliability, and safety of malaria diagnostics provided to communities. We hope this clarifies the criteria and encourages future consideration of WHO prequalification should you wish to pursue opportunities in this space."