



**DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES
OFFICE OF STATE PROCUREMENT
ACTION AGENDA
April 1, 2026**



SUPPLEMENTAL

*Contact: Alison Barry 667-203-9095
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**100-EX. EXPEDITED PROCUREMENT
*Maryland Department of Health, MDH Healthcare System***

Recommendation: The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) on behalf of the MDH Healthcare System, is requesting approval to use the Expedited Procurement method as per the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 21.05.06.03 to procure Pharmaceutical services for six (6) of the Maryland Department of Health's (MDH) Healthcare System

Contract Description: Pharmaceutical services vendor that integrates with MDH's new Electronic Health Records (EHR) system for six (6) of Maryland Department of Health's (MDH) Healthcare System hospitals and facilities:

- Deer's Head Hospital Center
- Holly Center
- Potomac Center/SETT
- Regional Institute for Children & Adolescents – Baltimore
- Regional Institute for Children & Adolescents – John L. Gildner/Rockville
- Western Maryland Hospital Center

Reason for Request: By October 1, 2026, MDH is required to have an EHR system that integrates with an Electronic Medication Administration Record (eMAR) that replaces paper charts to track, document, and manage patient medications and reduces errors and improves patient safety. To ensure the EHR and eMAR integration occurs by the EHR go-live date, MDH requires the award of the pharmaceutical contract before the current contract expires on November 11, 2026. Failure to obtain a new pharmaceutical contract and integrate with the EHR would result in the following impacts:

Patient Care – MDH treats medically complex patients who require prescription medication. Without a pharmaceutical contract in place, MDH will be required to discharge patients and not admit new patients until pharmaceutical services are reinstated.

Patient Safety – Integration between an eMAR and EHR greatly reduces medication errors through accurate and legible documentation. eMAR systems help ensure the right patient, medication, dosage, route, and time.

MDH facilities are subject to the standards set forth by the Code of Maryland Regulations, Life Safety Codes, The Joint Commission, Office of Health Care Quality, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and other laws and standards to ensure patient safety and health. CMS specifically requires that skilled nursing facilities use EHR technology that supports standardized data collection, patient assessment, and interoperability to ensure proper care coordination and reimbursement. If the EHR does not have an integrated eMAR, MDH will not be in compliance with federal law, jeopardizing the accreditation of the facilities.



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100-EX. EXPEDITED PROCUREMENT (cont'd)
Maryland Department of Health, MDH Healthcare System

Reason for Request (cont'd):

MDH attempted twice to utilize competitive sealed bids to effectuate a replacement contract, which yielded no replacement contract. The first solicitation was posted to eMaryland Marketplace Advantage (eMMA) on September 17, 2025. The solicitation closed on October 8, 2025, resulting in one offer. Upon evaluation, it was determined that the bid exceeded available funds and that it would not be appropriate to adjust quantities to come within the available funds to award a contract. Subsequently, per COMAR 21.06.02.02.C.(1)(d), the solicitation was cancelled. The second solicitation was posted on December 22, 2025. The second solicitation closed on January 19, 2026, resulting in one bid. Upon evaluation, the bidder was determined to be non-responsive. The bid was rejected per COMAR 21.06.02.03, and no award was made. MDH has conducted additional market research and updated the requirements for this procurement. Extending the timeline to award a contract will jeopardize the facilities' operations and directly impact patient care.

Pursuant to Maryland State Finance & Procurement Article (SFP) § 13-108 (d)(1), MDH's Procurement Officer, with approval of the Agency Head, has determined that this procurement should be expedited because: (1) urgent circumstances require prompt action; (2) an expedited procurement best serves the public interest; and (3) the need for the expedited procurement outweighs the benefits of making the procurement on the basis of competitive sealed bids or competitive sealed proposals. However, the procurement officer shall attempt to obtain as much competition as reasonably possible per SFP § 13-108(d)(2).

MBE/VSBE Participation: 17% / 1%

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

THIS ITEM WAS:

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

DEFERRED

WITHDRAWN

WITH DISCUSSION

WITHOUT DISCUSSION