



**Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI)  
Department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals (IVB)  
Family, Women's and Children's Health (FWC)  
World Health Organization (WHO)**

**Call for Expressions of Interest for a Vaccine-Preventable Disease Surveillance Expert**

Deadline for application: 17 February 2016

**Background:**

Vaccine-preventable disease (VPD) surveillance is critical to guide policy decisions on vaccine introduction, monitoring VPDs after vaccines are in use, documenting elimination and eradication of VPDs, and guiding vaccination response during VPD outbreaks. WHO recommends that countries conduct VPD surveillance for all vaccines in the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI). The recommended methodologies for VPD surveillance differ by disease, from sentinel site surveillance for pneumococcus and rotavirus to national surveillance for measles, meningococcus, and polio. [WHO standards](#) on how to conduct surveillance were last updated in 2003. New vaccines have been/will be introduced, lab diagnostics have advanced, and case definitions have changed. Additionally, there has been a demand for global outbreak investigation and response standards for priority VPDs. Surveillance, outbreak investigation, and response are a continuum, and all need to be considered in parallel in order to update the standards.

To this end, WHO is seeking surveillance experts with expertise in surveillance systems at global and country level with strong English writing skills to help draft these updated standards. The selected expert will help develop the draft with input from various disease surveillance subject matter experts.

**The Terms of Reference for the contract are as follows:**

- Draft chapters related to general VPD surveillance systems, such as types of surveillance, why surveillance is conducted, and components of a surveillance system.
- Draft chapters related to general outbreak investigation activities, such as enhanced or active surveillance, contact tracing, and epidemiologic analysis.
- Draft chapters related to disease-specific surveillance systems and outbreak response. Disease-specific chapters will require coordination with disease-specific experts to build consensus.
- Coordinate and participate in small disease-specific working groups that will be created to ensure the optimal information is put into the disease-specific surveillance and outbreak chapters.
- Participate in a Surveillance Experts meeting to be held from 14-15 March in Geneva, Switzerland. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the current global gaps in guidance and to draft an outline for the updated VPD surveillance and outbreak/response standards.
- Participate in any other meetings that might be conducted to advance development of the drafts.

WHO/EPI is inviting proposals for the performance of the above work by a reputable individual.

**Requirements:**

- Proven expertise on surveillance, preferably at the global level as well as working in both developing and developed country settings.
- Proven experience working in the field of immunizations and/or vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Prior work on developing guidance documents.

- Strong writing skills in English as documented by multiple peer-reviewed publications and/or the writing of guidance documents.
- Ability to coordinate and engage with multiple stakeholders to build consensus.

**Deliverables on the end project:**

- A draft document covering surveillance and outbreak overview chapters, as well as disease-specific surveillance outbreak response chapters.

**Timeline:**

- The working drafts should be completed by the end of December 2017. It is estimated to take approximately 124 working days to complete this work spread between March to December 2017.
- Continued work might be required in 2018 to finalize the drafts, but a separate contract for this will be undertaken if this is needed.

The proposal and all correspondence and documents shall be prepared and submitted in the English language.

The proposal should be concisely presented and structured to include the following information:

Curriculum Vitae (CV)-

Description of prior experience: Paragraph describing prior experience in surveillance and development of global guidance.

Proposed cost estimate.

The bidder shall submit the complete proposal to WHO in writing no later than 17:00 hrs Geneva time on 17 February 2016, by email, to the following address: patelm@who.int and cohena@who.int in copy to cruzca@who.int.