Blue-button Integrated Clinical Trial Matching Application IT Support Provider

Call for Interest

Background and Program Overview

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is planning to invite proposals to support our pilot of an integrated cancer clinical trial screening functionality, to evaluate its impact on the overall number and demographic makeup of cancer clinical trial referrals and enrollments.

Increasing cancer clinical trial opportunities and enrollments requires increasing the number of patients screened and/or the number of trials they are screened against. Our prior work showed that the time and effort for providers to screen patients for clinical trials, and a lack of knowledge about available trials in the region (beyond the provider's institution), are barriers to screening and enrollment. To address these challenges, we developed the Blue-button tool, which quickly identifies comprehensive trial availability within a specified distance from where the patient is located.

Additional resources, including links to publications and the source code repository, can be found at www.fightcancer.org/blue-button-clinical-trial-matching-cancer-patients

To create the tool's functionality, ACS CAN partnered with MITRE, a not-for-profit organization working in the public interest, through CodeX, one of the HL7® Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®) Accelerators. With just a few clicks in a medical record, the Blue-button tool automatically extracts and sends limited, deidentified single-patient data elements to existing trial matching services which return potential trial matches. The patient data elements are extracted and sent to partner clinical trial matching services using FHIR and the open standard language for cancer data, minimal Common Oncology Data Elements (mCODE). The partner clinical trial matching services receive the patient data in the mCODE FHIR format, analyze the data, and return the results using the FHIR ResearchStudy resource.

After successful feasibility testing, we launched a clinical trial to assess the effectiveness of the Blue-button tool with patients in a healthcare setting. We awarded two site grants and the clinical trial is underway. We expect patient enrollment to continue through part or all of 2025.

Goals

MITRE's commitment to the project will end in 2024, so **we are seeking a partner to provide operational and maintenance support through the end of the project.** MITRE personnel will be available during the transition period to clarify details of the support needed, which are listed below.

Scope of work

We are seeking technical support for the operation and maintenance of the Blue-button software tool at the two trial sites, as well as the tool's interface functionality with trial matching services, for the duration of the clinical trial. The infrastructure itself is managed by the health sites. Minimum required support (approximately 0.5 FTE) includes maintenance of code for rapid troubleshooting and repair of

any bugs or other software failures and occasional updates to the tool or matching service wrappers to accommodate things like changes in data element mapping. The infrastructure itself is managed by the health sites.

Additionally, an IT representative will join a 30-60 minute weekly check-in call with each of the two research sites to stay apprised of progress and emerging challenges. These meetings are expected to become biweekly once the trial is further along. Occasional additional meetings may be requested. All activities will happen during normal business hours.

Possible future directions

While the current project is intended to demonstrate the impact of integrated clinical trial matching on enrollment to clinical trials by diverse populations in select target geographies represented by pilot sites, the overall goal is to scale this intervention so that this functionality is available to cancer patients throughout the country, including in rural and underserved areas. While additional future projects are not guaranteed, the Blue-button IT support provider would be a candidate to continue support in these (and potentially other) new initiatives.

Project timeline

We would like the new IT provider to begin during the last quarter of 2024 to interact with MITRE to ensure a smooth transition; engagement would continue through the end of the current clinical trial at or before the end of 2025. Any new initiatives (described above in Possible Future Directions) would begin during 2025 and continue through 2026.

Call for Interest

If you are interested in learning more and potentially responding to an RFP on this project, please respond to Sharon Shriver at sharon.shriver@cancer.org **by June 14, 2024.**

In your response, please include the following information:

- Organization website, key personnel, and other contact information.
- Describe your interest in Blue-button and reasons for reaching out.
- Your organizational capabilities and resources, including staffing levels available for this project.
- Any previous related or similar projects, including project scope and your organization's role.
- List specific information you would want to see in the RFP to facilitate your response.

About ACS CAN

ACS CAN makes cancer a top priority for policymakers at every level of government. ACS CAN empowers volunteers across the country to make their voices heard to influence evidence-based public policy change that saves lives. We believe everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to prevent, find, treat, and survive cancer. Since 2001, as the American Cancer Society's nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate, ACS CAN has successfully advocated for billions of dollars in cancer research funding, expanded access to quality affordable health care, and made workplaces, including restaurants and bars, smoke-free. As we mark our 20th anniversary, we're more determined than ever to stand together with our volunteers and save more lives from cancer. Join the fight by visiting www.fightcancer.org.