Pre-Announcement, June 2026

PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT

"Multi-Topic Request for Proposals: Military Medical Prototype Advancement"

The Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium (MTEC) is excited to post this pre-announcement for an upcoming Request for Project Proposals (RPP) soliciting a broad range of medical prototype technological and knowledge solutions related to the Focus Areas of Interest (also called "Focus Area(s)") listed below. Proposed solutions may include medical techniques, knowledge products, and materiel (e.g., medical devices, drugs, and biologics). Military relevance is a key feature of the upcoming RPP.

BACKGROUND:

Current wartime operations assume that the United States and our allies will maintain air, land, maritime, space and cyber superiority. Future conflicts against peer and near-peer adversaries are expected to be layered stand-offs and fought across multiple domains. Mission success will be determined by our ability to compete to expand the competitive space, penetrate both strategically and operationally, disintegrate enemy's defenses, exploit enemy weaknesses, and re-compete to consolidate gains. Medical capabilities play a critical role in each aspect of the future battlespace and must modernize rapidly to maintain Force readiness and increase soldier lethality.

FOCUS AREAS:

To meet the intent of the RPP, each proposal ***SHALL*** specifically address ***ONLY ONE*** Focus Area described below. Offerors are **not** limited to a single proposal submission. Projects that fail to align with only one of these Focus Areas may not be considered for funding. The following general Focus Areas of Interest are not listed in order of importance. The detailed requirements for each area will be described in the upcoming Request for Project Proposals. The anticipated focus areas include, but are not limited to the listing below:

- **Focus Area 1: Policies and practices for cross-cutting prevention –** the aim of this focus area is to develop and evaluate non-training interventions/activities that address risk and protective factors for harmful behaviors. Priority risk/protective factors to address include: morale, fairness, work-life balance, passive leadership, toxic leadership, and workplace hostility.

- **Focus Area 2: Fostering Service member physical fitness through integrated primary prevention –** the aim of this focus area is to develop interventions or trainings to combat the key contributors to obesity and physical inactivity. This focus area encourages offerors to consider resource/environmental constraints and social and psychological barriers present for warfighters when developing solutions.

- **Focus Area 3: Identify and reduce barriers to help-seeking –** the aim of this focus area is to identify and develop solutions against key drivers of help-seeking. Solutions should prioritize high-impact resources/services and Service member populations at elevated risk for harmful behaviors.

- **Focus Area 4: Prophylactic Solutions to Prevent Battlefield and Complex Traumatic Wound Infections in Austere or Contested Environments –** the aim of this focus area is the development of solutions to prevent or delay wound infections (bacterial, fungal, and/or antimicrobial-resistant) following battlefield and complex traumatic wounds, including in austere or contested environments, for use at the point of injury and in prolonged care environments (Roles 1 and 2), without negatively impacting wound healing. High-priority pathogens include *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and invasive fungal infections.

- **Focus Area 5: Pathogen Agnostic Countermeasures for the Treatment of Sepsis Caused by Wound Infection –** the aim of this focus area is the development of products, including immune modulators, novel drugs, immunotherapeutics, and other pathogen-agnostic and/or host-directed approaches, to treat sepsis following battlefield and complex traumatic wounds (excluding burn wounds), including in austere or contested environments.

- **Focus Area 6: Knowledge Product Solutions for the Prevention of Infection in Traumatic Penetrating Wounds –** the aim of this focus area is the development of knowledge product solutions to optimize clinical practice guidelines for the prevention of infection in traumatic penetrating wounds.

- **Focus Area 7: Bacterial Diarrhea Prevention –** the aim of this focus area is the development of solutions to prevent bacterial diarrhea resulting from high-priority pathogens (*Campylobacter jejuni*, enterotoxigenic *Escherichia coli*, and *Shigella*) in operational settings.

- **Focus Area 8: Dengue Fever Prevention and/or Treatment Solutions –** the aim of this focus area is the development of prophylactic drugs and vaccines, to prevent all four serotypes of Dengue Fever.

- **Focus Area 9: Prevention and Treatment of Emerging Infectious Diseases –** the aim of this focus area is on developing pathogen-agnostic and/or broad-spectrum solutions for prevention or treatment of Lassa fever virus, Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever Virus (CCHFV), and various hantaviruses, which are high-consequence pathogens that pose distinct risks to the deployed Joint Force.

- **Focus Area 10: Musculoskeletal Injury Treatment –** the aim of this focus area is the development of solutions for musculoskeletal injury interventions for the pre-hospital environment. Specifically, this focus area seeks (1) therapeutic interventions to accelerate recovery from musculoskeletal injury or (2) solutions for the preservation of musculoskeletal health.

- **Focus Area 11: Operational Suitability of Existing Pain Treatments –** the aim of this focus area is for solutions that inform risk/benefit decisions and create evidence-based recommendations

for the Joint Trauma System (JTS) to refine and optimize existing Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) and Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) protocols.

- **Focus Area 12: Repurposing and Novel Delivery of Approved Compounds –** the aim of this focus area is to accelerate the development of safer, opioid-sparing analgesics by leveraging the FDA's 505(b)(2) regulatory pathway for repurposed drugs delivered via novel administration methods. The desired end-state is a candidate drug/device combination ready to enter Phase I clinical trials.

- **Focus Area 13: Development of Novel Non-Addictive Analgesics –** the aim of this focus area is to advance the preclinical development of a novel, non-addictive analgesic compound with a mechanism of action suitable for treating acute, combat-related trauma. The desired end-state is a promising lead candidate with a data package sufficient to justify further investment in IND-enabling studies.

- **Focus Area 14: Advanced Anesthesia and Procedural Pain Solutions –** the aim of this focus area is to develop and demonstrate a prototype system or therapeutic for the management of anesthesia and procedural pain in austere environments (Role 1 and 2). The goal is to produce a solution that reduces the cognitive burden on providers and can be used by non-specialists.

Additional background and solution requirements for each of the abovementioned Focus Areas will be provided within the upcoming RPP.

POTENTIAL FUNDING AVAILABILITY AND PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:

Due to the wide variety and inherent diversity of Focus Areas being solicited for in the upcoming RPP, the funding amount, expected Period of Performance (PoP), number of anticipated awards, and timing of funding availability for each Focus Area is contingent upon the availability of federal funds for each program and will be described in the upcoming Request for Project Proposals. Selection of prototype projects will be a highly competitive process and is based on the evaluation of the proposal's technical merit, programmatic considerations (to include program portfolio composition), and the availability of funds. The quantity of meaningful submissions received normally exceeds the number of awards that the available funding can support. For informational purposes, the average size of MTEC awards for the initial PoP is approximately $2.0 – 3.5M over a 2-3-year PoP.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:

Proposals submitted in response to the RPP shall meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Fit the Prototype Definition: Proposed prototype projects should not be exploratory in nature and do require a foundation of preliminary data. The definition of a "prototype" is as follows: (A) a prototype project addresses a proof of concept, model; (B) reverse engineering to address obsolescence; (C) pilot, novel application of commercial technologies for defense purposes; (D) agile development activity; (E) creation, design, development, demonstration of technical or operational utility, or (F) any combination of the foregoing. A process, including a business process, may be the subject of a prototype project.

2. Meet the Minimum Knowledge/Technology Readiness Level (KRL/TRL): Each of the topics solicited for within this upcoming RPP may have their own minimum KRL/TRL requirements. Offerors should note that a minimum KRL/TRL of 3 at the time of proposal submission will be required to meet the prototype definition. Please refer to the individual topic areas in the upcoming RPP for more information.

   *NOTE: Full definitions of TRLs and KRLs can be found on the MTEC website (https://mtec-sc.org/proposal-submit).

3. Represent New Submissions to MTEC: Proposed solutions should not have been submitted to MTEC under previous RPPs within the past 2 years. The Government is already aware of concepts submitted in response to previous MTEC solicitations; therefore, such projects are not allowed to be resubmitted here.

POTENTIAL FOLLOW-ON TASKS:

There is potential for award of one or more follow-on tasks based on the success of any resultant Research Project Award(s) (subject to change depending on Government review of work completed and successful progression of milestones). Note that any potential follow-on work is expected to be awarded non-competitively to the resultant project awardee(s).

ACQUISITION APPROACH:

The upcoming RPP will be conducted using the Enhanced White Paper approach. In Stage 1, current MTEC members are invited to submit Enhanced White Papers using the mandatory format contained in the upcoming RPP. The Government will evaluate Enhanced White Papers submitted and will select those that best meet their current technology priorities using the criteria in the upcoming RPP. Offerors whose proposed solution is selected for further consideration based on the Enhanced White Paper evaluation will be invited to submit a full cost proposal in Stage 2 (and may be required to submit additional documentation or supplemental information). Notification letters will contain specific Stage 2 proposal submission requirements.

MTEC MEMBER TEAMING:

While teaming is not required for this effort, Offerors are encouraged to consider teaming during the proposal preparation period (prior to proposal submission) if they cannot address the full scope of technical requirements of the RPP or otherwise believe a team may be beneficial to the Government.

MTEC's new website features a new functionality to assist members in team building. MTEC's New Member Profiles can help Offerors identify potential teaming partners among other MTEC members, including innovators, service providers, and MTEC M-Corps [a network of subject matter experts and service providers to help MTEC members address the business, technical, and regulatory challenges associated with medical product development]. It can be accessed via https://mtec-sc.org/members.

If an Offeror is in need of additional teaming assistance, the Offeror is encouraged to reach out to the points of contact listed below.

MTEC:

The MTEC mission is to assist the Department of Defense (DoD) Defense Health Agency (DHA), Medical Research and Development, DHA Research and Engineering Directorate, and other Government agencies

by providing cutting-edge technologies and supporting life cycle management to transition medical solutions to industry that protect, treat, and optimize Warfighters' health and performance across the full spectrum of military operations. MTEC is a biomedical technology consortium collaborating with multiple government agencies under a 10-year renewable Other Transaction Agreement (OTA), Agreement No. W81XWH-15-9-0001, with the Defense Health Agency Contracting Activity (DHACA).

For more information on the MTEC mission, see the MTEC website at https://mtec-sc.org/.

POINT OF CONTACT:

For inquiries regarding this pre-announcement, please direct your correspondence to Dr. Chuck Hutti, MTEC Senior Technical Program Manager, chuck.hutti@mtec-sc.org.

Sincerely,

MTEC Team

MTEC
Medical Technology
Enterprise Consortium