1. Buyer

1.1 Buyer

Official name: Universiteit Leiden

2. Procedure

2.1 Procedure

Title:	High throughput screening spinning disk platform with integrated robotic for automated and targeted high throughput acquisition
Description:	The Leiden Academic Centre for Drug Research (LACDR), within the Leiden University Cell Observatory Facility, seeks to acquire a fully automated high-content microscopy platform integrating a high-speed spinning disk microscope with robotic handling, multi-plate storage, and an incubator with controlled environmental conditions for both normoxia and hypoxia. This system will enable high-throughput fixed and live-cell imaging for large-scale genetic and compound screening. This publication is done to indicate our intention to purchase a ImageXpress HCS.ai High-Content Screening System for this, if no representations are received within 20 days, the contract will be awarded.
Procedure identifier:	f65b6b1b-2658-4369-b7e0-10f57b730b94
Internal identifier:	258f9790-2c63-4930-b9ba-a5ab879c2f48
Type of procedure:	Negotiated without prior call for competition

2.1.1 Purpose

Main nature of the contract :	Supplies
Main classification (cpv):	38510000 Microscopes
Additional classification (cpv):	38634000 Optical microscopes

2.1.2 Place of performance

Postal address :	Einsteinweg 55
Town:	Leiden
Postcode:	2333 CC
Country subdivision (NUTS):	Agglomeratie Leiden en Bollenstreek (NL363)
Country:	Netherlands
Additional information:	See documentation

2.1.4 General information

Legal basis:

Directive 2014/24/EU

5. Lot

5.1 Lot technical ID: LOT-0000

Title:	High throughput screening spinning disk platform with integrated robotic for automated and targeted high throughput acquisition
	The Leiden Academic Centre for Drug Research (LACDR), within the Leiden University Cell Observatory Facility, seeks to acquire a fully automated high-content microscopy platform integrating a high-speed

Rijksoverheid

Description:	spinning disk microscope with robotic handling, multi-plate storage, and an incubator with controlled environmental conditions for both normoxia and hypoxia. This system will enable high-throughput fixed and live-cell imaging for large-scale genetic and compound screening. This publication is done to indicate our intention to purchase a ImageXpress HCS.ai High-Content Screening System for this, if no representations are received within 20 days, the contract will be awarded.
Internal identifier:	ad137bfb-dff4-46c1-aa9a-b3caf5d54a7a

5.1.1 Purpose

Main nature of the contract :	Supplies
Main classification (cpv):	38510000 Microscopes
Additional classification (cpv):	38634000 Optical microscopes

5.1.2 Place of performance

Postal address :	Einsteinweg 55
Town:	Leiden
Postcode:	2333 CC
Country subdivision (NUTS):	Agglomeratie Leiden en Bollenstreek (NL363)
Country:	Netherlands
Additional information:	See documentation

5.1.6 General information

Procurement	Project not financed with EU Funds.
The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA):	yes

5.1.10 Award criteria

Criterion:	
Type:	Price
Name:	Price
Description:	Price
Category of award threshold criterion:	Weight (percentage, exact)
Award criterion number:	100

5.1.15 Techniques

Rijksoverheid

Framework agreement:

No framework agreement

Information about the dynamic purchasing system:

No dynamic purchase system

5.1.16 Further information, mediation and review

Review organisation:	Rechtbank Den Haag
Information about review deadlines:	Within 20 days after publication of this prior information notice.
Organisation whose budget is used to pay for the contract:	Universiteit Leiden
Organisation executing the payment:	Universiteit Leiden
Organisation signing the contract:	Universiteit Leiden

6. Results

Direct award:

Justification for direct award:	The contract can be provided only by a particular economic operator because of an absence of competition for technical reasons
Other justification:	Facility Mission and Operational Context The Leiden Academic Centre for Drug Research (LACDR), within the Leiden University Cell Observatory Facility, seeks to acquire a fully automated high-content microscopy platform integrating a high-speed spinning disk microscope with robotic handling, multi-plate storage, and an incubator with controlled environmental conditions for both normoxia and hypoxia. This system will enable high-throughput fixed and live-cell imaging for large-scale genetic and compound screening. As one of the two national sites of the High-Throughput Microscopy (HTM) node within the NWO Roadmap Netherlands BioImaging (NL-BI) initiative, the Leiden facility will provide advanced screening capabilities to the Dutch research community and to the broader Euro-BioImaging network. To deliver such open-access services efficiently, a highly user-friendly and fully automated platform is essential—combining speed, precision, and targeted imaging functionalities with robust data management compliant with FAIR principles. The proposed Molecular Devices ImageXpress HCS.ai High-Content Screening System (Advanced) uniquely meets these technical and operational requirements, offering high-speed, high-resolution imaging, smart microscopy, and seamless integration of robotic plate handling and environmental control. The system will directly support diverse research activities within Leiden University's Faculty of Science, the national academic community, and collaborative projects with Euro-BioImaging or industrial partners. Scientific Motivation and National Relevance Recent research in the Netherlands increasingly utilizes advanced models such as 3D cultures, organoids, and stem cells—demanding high reproducibility, speed, and multiplexed imaging while maintaining strict environmental control. Key experimental needs include: • Efficient targeted imaging and quality control in complex stem cell differentiation workflows, where heterogeneity and incomplete efficiency are common. • Rapid volumetric imaging for microtissues and organoids, with minimal phototoxicity and high throughput, is essential. Equally critical is efficient targeted imaging, which boosts data quality and avoids the generation of redundant or low-value image data by focusing acquisition on biologically relevant regions and events. • Multiplexed imaging with seven-laser excitation, supporting multiple fluorescent reporters and innovative new dyes. • Live-cell dynamic imaging with environmental precision for monitoring signaling, differentiation, and cellular responses under normoxic and hypoxic conditions. • Robust integration with OMERO and FAIR data pipelines required for national and Euro-BioImaging collaborative projects Functional and Technical Requirements Based on the HTM Node's mission and these state-of-the-art

Rijksoverheid

experimental needs, the system must deliver: • Dual spinning disk confocal imaging (2D/3D) suitable for large-scale phenotyping, deep tissue imaging, and rapid scanning. • Automated robotics for multi-plate handling, integrated with housing and incubation, enabling fully unattended operation and environmental scheduling. • Direct control and stability of temperature, humidity, CO_2, and O_2 (down to 1%) at the imaging stage for viability in live-cell and hypoxic experiments. • Native, AI-driven acquisition and object detection (QuickID/IN Carta®), for adaptive and quality-enhancing imaging of variable cell populations, rare events, and multi-layer tissues. • Seven-laser, high-power illumination for deep multiplexing and compatibility with cutting-edge chemical and endogenous genetic reporters. • Seamless OMERO/FAIR compatibility to maintain rigorous, standardized, multi-user data integrity across the Dutch and European infrastructure. Unique Suitability and Vendor Exclusivity Only the Molecular Devices ImageXpress HCS.ai High-Content Screening System offers this full set of integrated features and vendor-supported upgrades in one installed solution: • High sensitivity (>95% quantum efficiency), large sensor sCMOS camera, dual spinning disk optics, and Z-stack acquisition for volumetric imaging. • Advanced modular environmental chamber and robotic systems, fully software-managed and upgradable. • Deep-learning segmentation tools and real-time adaptive workflows (IN Carta®, QuickID) for high-content and phenotype-targeted acquisition. • Proven, direct interoperability with OMERO/FAIR data systems in Leiden and NL-BioImaging. All critical system components, robotics, optics, and software are proprietary to Molecular Devices, with integrated support and exclusivity for installation, maintenance, and upgrades. Conclusion The ImageXpress HCS.ai High-Content Screening System is the only platform that meets the HTM Node's operational, technical, and collaborative requirements as set out by NL-BioImaging and Euro-BioImaging. Its unique combination of advanced imaging, automation, user-friendliness, and FAIR compliance makes it the sole viable procurement choice for fulfilling the scientific mission of the Leiden University Cell Observatory and its partners.

6.1 Result lot Identifier: LOT-0000

6.1.2 Information about winners

Winner:	
Official name:	Molecular Devices (UK) Ltd.
Tender:	
Tender identifier:	T150494
Identifier of lot or group of lots:	LOT-0000
Value of the tender:	683 236 Euro
The tender was ranked:	no
Subcontracting :	No
Contract information:	
Identifier of the contract:	Q-00233338 00233339 00233340
Title:	statement ImageXpress HCS.ai High-Content Screening System
Date on which the winner was chosen:	04/11/2025
Organisation signing the contract:	Universiteit Leiden

8. Organisations

8.1 ORG-0001

Official name:	Universiteit Leiden

Rijksoverheid

Registration number:	27368929
Postal address :	Kolffpad 1
Town:	Leiden
Postcode:	2333BN
Country subdivision (NUTS):	Agglomeratie Leiden en Bollenstreek (NL363)
Country:	Netherlands
Contact point:	Govert Schipperheijn
Email:	g.m.schipperheijn@ufb.leidenuniv.nl
Telephone:	+31715273304
Internet address:	https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/
Buyer profile:	https://s2c.mercell.com/buyer/19549

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

Organisation signing the contract

Organisation whose budget is used to pay for the contract

Organisation executing the payment

8.1 ORG-0002

Official name:	Rechtbank Den Haag
Registration number:	82946175
Department:	Civiel
Postal address :	Postbus 20303
Town:	Den Haag
Postcode:	2500 EH
Country subdivision (NUTS):	Agglomeratie 's-Gravenhage (NL361)
Country:	Netherlands
Contact point:	Informatie
Email:	info@rechtspraak.nl
Telephone:	+31883622200
Internet address:	https://www.rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Rechtbanken/Rechtbank-Den-Haag

Roles of this organisation:

Review organisation

8.1 ORG-0003

Official name:	Molecular Devices (UK) Ltd.
Size of the economic operator:	Large
Registration number:	GB627615041

Rijksoverheid

Postal address :	660-665 Eskdale Road
Town:	Wokingham
Postcode:	RG41 5TS
Country:	United Kingdom
Roles of this organisation:	
Tenderer	
Winner of these lots:	LOT-0000

Notice information

Notice identifier /version:	3d636bd8-a236-4246-99bb-e0a75bb756f4 - 01
Form type:	Direct award preannouncement
Notice type:	Voluntary ex-ante transparency notice
Notice dispatch date:	05/11/2025 11:40 +00:00
Notice dispatch date (eSender):	05/11/2025 11:46 +00:00
Languages in which this notice is officially available:	English

Rijksoverheid