

Information Sheet - Endometriosis Project Facilitator

The Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics Technology (RADx® Tech) Advancing Cures and Therapies and ending ENDOMETRIOSIS diagnostic delays (ACT ENDO) Challenge

The solicitation for Project Facilitator consultants for the ACT ENDO Challenge is open from Oct. 15, 2024 through through October 31, 2024 (deadline is 12:00 a.m. ET November 1, 2024). Interested consultants must apply [here](#).

Description

VentureWell is seeking Project Facilitators with experience in commercial project coordination to support the Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics Technology (RADx® Tech) Advancing Cures and Therapies and ending ENDOMETRIOSIS diagnostic delays (ACT ENDO) **Challenge**. The number of projects assigned to a selected Project Facilitator may vary and will be determined on a per-project basis.

Requirements

- Bachelor's or higher-level degree
- 5-10 years of professional experience managing and coordinating projects

Strongly Preferred Experience

- Experience coordinating Women's Health or Commercialization projects
- RADx Tech/ITAP experience or other public health programs with similar processes (especially as part of programs leveraging the Challenge mechanism like the [Maternal Health Challenge](#) or [Fetal Monitoring Challenge](#))

Responsibilities

Project Facilitator - RADx Tech ACT ENDO Challenge: A Project Facilitator typically has significant commercial experience in managing, but not necessarily leading, complex development projects.

- Coordinates interactions among the Program Team, Project Entity/Team, and other support resources, including scheduling meetings, tracking Project progress, and maintaining records/documentation for the Project Entity/Team
- Manage and update a Project's progress site (i.e. GAITS site), including tracking team progress and updating site
- Support Team Lead in assessing and evaluating Project status and preparing for presentations at decision meetings
- Participate in related presentations or decision meetings as necessary

- Attend Program meetings as requested; provide project updates to Program Leadership
- Support the Program Manager in meeting and records and document management for the program and process if requested as ancillary support to Program Facilitator
- Submit timesheets per instruction from Commercialization Center within specified timeline, Level of Effort, and with sufficient documentation of work completed

Time Commitment and Process

- The Project Facilitator will be compensated for the time they spend supporting the Endometriosis project(s) up to a maximum compensated time as detailed in the rate and Level of Effort section.
- Project Facilitator time may vary depending on the number and needs of projects to which they are assigned.
- Project Facilitators can anticipate assignment of up to 4 projects, which will undergo a standard RADx Innovation Funnel Challenge pipeline.

Rate and Level of Effort

Up to \$160/hr

Total hours: 400

Challenge Phase 2 Tech Demo and Pitch Presentation Event | Dec 2024 - Feb 2025

- Anticipate 4 assigned projects
- Anticipate a LoE total of 8-10 hours/week for Phase 2

Challenge Phase 3 Technology Development Sprint | Mar 2025 - Feb/Mar 2026

- Anticipate 2 assigned projects
- Anticipate a LoE total of 4-6 hours/week for Phase 3

Consultants will be responsible for tracking hours and will be held to a firm cap in their contract

How To Apply for Project Facilitator Positions

Interested and qualified individuals must submit an application through VentureWell's online solicitation platform, Bonfire, no later than October 31, 2024 (deadline is 12:00 a.m. ET November 1, 2024). Applications are available [here](#). To apply for the role, a VentureWell account is required. If you are not yet signed up, you can create an account by clicking the "Sign Up" button found in the link above and following the required steps. For help with the procurement process, watch our step-by-step video here: [Unlocking Opportunities: Navigating VentureWell's Procurement Process](#).

Applicants will be notified of the committee's selection decision on or about **November 8th, 2024**.

If you have questions or need further assistance, please contact vendormanager@venturewell.org.

Background

Endometriosis is a chronic condition that causes severe symptoms like pelvic pain, dysmenorrhea, dyspareunia, dysuria, dyschezia, and infertility. It also raises the risk of ovarian cancer, depression, migraines, lupus, multiple sclerosis, and other autoimmune and pain disorders. Diagnosis can take up to a decade due to severe menstrual pain that is often normalized and confirmed only through surgery, leading to prolonged suffering, more comorbidities, and higher socioeconomic costs. Current treatments are risky, often recur, and are seen as temporary fixes rather than cures. Progress in non-invasive diagnostics and new treatments has been slow due to insufficient understanding of the disease.

The gold standard for diagnosing endometriosis is laparoscopic surgery followed by histological confirmation, but this approach is hampered by biases and lack of non-invasive options. The most common form, superficial peritoneal endometriosis, is typically diagnosed incidentally during surgery or in women with severe symptoms. Barriers such as geographic location, cost, and insurance issues make diagnosis even harder. Imaging methods like transvaginal ultrasound and MRI are not consistently reliable and need specialized training. Biomarkers have proven to be non-specific and unreliable leading to their exclusion from diagnostic guidelines. These issues mean many cases are treated without a definitive diagnosis, often with hormonal therapies or painkillers, without considering the disease stage or subtype. Furthermore, research is biased towards advanced disease in wealthier populations, with underrepresentation of women of African and Asian descent and those without severe pain.

The RADx® Tech ACT ENDO Challenge follows the RADx® Tech Innovation Funnel Approach, designed to accelerate the innovation processes through commercialization of medical diagnostics. This Challenge comprises 3 Phases: Submission, Technology Demonstration and Pitch Presentation Event, and the Technology Development Sprint. Innovators with technologies in the Endometriosis space who submit to this opportunity have the chance to compete in the Challenge and gain support from experts within this field.



VentureWell is supporting this program by providing professional services support to the companies selected to develop their diagnostics further. [1]

About VentureWell:

VentureWell is a national, nonprofit organization with the mission to cultivate a pipeline of inventors, innovators, and entrepreneurs in science and technology driven to solve the world's biggest challenges and to create lasting impact. In 28 years, VentureWell has trained 13,000+ individuals in 95 countries that have launched 2,800+ ventures who have gone on to raise \$3.3B+ in funding. Since May 2020, VentureWell has been providing infrastructure support services to the NIH/NIBIB's Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics (RADx) initiative. VentureWell is committed to ensuring a fair and competitive solicitation process and to offering equal opportunities to applicants. Learn more at venturewell.org.

[1] <https://www.challenge.gov/?challenge=radx-tech-act-endo>