

DPA26BZ06-DV025
Noninvasive Detection and Localization of Occult Hemorrhage
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
September 08, 2026

1. For Noninvasive Detection and Localization of Occult Hemorrhage, the occult-hemorrhage topic, does DARPA anticipate a conventional scanning-imaging instrument, or would alternative non-invasive sensing architectures be responsive if they provide quantitative anatomical localization, bleeding-rate estimation, and continuous monitoring?

A: Any non-invasive sensor that aligns with program objectives will be considered within scope. Preference will be given to technologies with a shorter translational path toward meeting program objectives and specific operational contexts.

2. The topic covers both a sensing modality and the artificial intelligence framework above it. How does DARPA expect these to be teamed?

A: DARPA expects the sensing modality and AI to be an integrated end-to-end capability: the sensor acquires the data, and the AI turns it into real-time detection, anatomical localization, and bleeding-rate estimates for the medic. It is not framed as “either/or”; the topic explicitly calls for a “proof-of-concept sensing and artificial intelligence framework.”

3. For the framework specifically, what counts as sufficient feasibility evidence from a Phase I type effort?

A: For the framework, Phase I feasibility means proof-of-concept evidence that it can use representative sensing data to identify the bleeding source and estimate hemorrhage rate for a limited set of injury types, with quantitative performance metrics. DARPA’s Phase I-equivalent evidence also points to tested bounds on rate resolution, localization accuracy, and some preliminary robustness under austere conditions.

4. A combat medic with no imaging expertise is the user. What does clinically actionable mean at that point of care? A yes or no on internal bleeding, a location, or a rate?

A: “Clinically actionable” for a combat medic means more than a yes/no alert: the system should indicate whether bleeding is present, where it is, and how fast it is progressing. DARPA does emphasize intuitive presentation of location and rate to support Role 1 triage and evacuation decisions, but this topic does not seek a standalone UX/UI innovation effort; the emphasis is on delivering those outputs reliably in an operationally useful form.

