

## Halton Council



### Case Study: Rapid Clinical Assessment Team

Halton's Rapid Clinical Assessment Team (RCAT) aims to support older people to remain at home during periods of acute illness, and prevent avoidable admissions to hospitals and the Accident and Emergency department. Utilising existing health and social care community services within the area, Halton Borough Council has created a multi-disciplinary team of health and care professionals to support patients at home. This team includes registered nurses, advanced nurse practitioners and a Care of the Elderly Consultant physician, who provide expert clinical assessment and examination, diagnostic testing and management in patients' homes.

Since its implementation in April 2016, the service has provided high-quality multi-disciplinary care at home and has resulted in a reduction of 76 non-elective admissions over its first six months of operation; this has resulted in an indicative saving of £211,736.

Following this initial period, the team examined two GP practices that used the RCAT the most; over a six month comparison period, there has been a drop of over 70% in referrals to acute settings for patients over 75.

Going forward, the team will continue to raise awareness of the RCAT in order to increase referrals from local care housing providers and urgent care centres.