

Highly Specialised Services

[Click to download PDF](#)

referapatient can play a crucial role in supporting NHS Highly Specialised Services (HSS) by enhancing referral management, improving coordination, and ensuring timely access to care for patients with rare and complex conditions. Within the list of approximately 150 specialised services, there are around 80 that are considered to be 'highly' specialised. In general, these services:

- Are delivered in a small number of expert centres, usually no more than three, and which have been designated by NHS England;
- Have small caseloads of patients, usually no more than 500;
- Are clinically distinct;
- Benefit from national coordination.

Here's how referapatient can support these services:



Streamlined Referrals Across Specialised Centres

NHS Highly Specialised Services often involve coordination between a small number of highly specialised centres across the UK. referapatient can streamline referrals between these centres by providing a secure, centralised platform for managing complex referrals. This reduces administrative delays, ensuring that patients requiring urgent specialist care can access it quickly.

Efficient Triage for Complex Cases

Highly specialised services deal with patients with rare and complex conditions. referapatient can support the triage process by enabling specialists to view comprehensive referral data, including medical histories and test results, allowing them to prioritise cases efficiently. This ensures that patients with the most urgent needs receive timely care.



Support for Multidisciplinary Teams

Highly specialised services often involve multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) working together to provide comprehensive patient care. referapatient allows seamless communication and collaboration between specialists, enabling MDTs to review referral information, discuss cases, and make informed decisions collectively. This is critical for services like paediatric cardiac surgery or bone marrow transplants, where multidisciplinary input is essential.

Secure Data Sharing and Compliance

Highly specialised services require the secure handling of sensitive patient data, often shared between multiple organisations. referapatient complies with GDPR and UK data protection laws, offering secure data sharing between healthcare providers. This is particularly important for services dealing with rare diseases, where multiple institutions may need to collaborate on patient care.



Monitoring and Data Analytics for Specialised Care

Highly specialised services benefit from tracking and analysing referral data to identify trends, monitor patient outcomes, and improve service efficiency. referapatient's data analytics capabilities can provide valuable insights into referral volumes, outcomes, and service bottlenecks, helping specialised services optimise their processes.

Centralised Medical Imaging and Test Results

Many highly specialised services rely on advanced diagnostics and imaging. referapatient can store and share medical imaging and test results across specialised centres, ensuring that specialists have access to the latest diagnostic information when assessing referrals. This helps improve diagnostic accuracy and ensures that patients receive the most appropriate treatment.



Compliance with National Commissioning Guidelines

NHS Highly Specialised Services are commissioned by NHS England and subject to strict guidelines. referapatient ensures that all referral processes comply with national commissioning requirements, providing transparency and accountability across specialised centres. This supports audit trails and ensures that the service meets national performance targets.