



# Case study #1: Virtual wards for systemic anti-cancer treatment (SACT)

In partnership with East Suffolk and North Essex FT and the Woolverstone Macmillan Day Centre in Ipswich, Huma has implemented a digital checklist / virtual outpatient pathway to pre-screen patients to confirm they are healthy prior to attending clinic for SACT.

On the day of blood tests, 24-48 hours prior to treatment, patients complete the survey questionnaire, enter blood pressure readings and urinalysis test results remotely. This replaces the existing, unsustainable telephone-based triage (80-100 calls a day, 8am-6pm, 1.2 FTE nurse time) and will be used for SACT patients at Ipswich Hospital (~1,000 a month).

The key benefit is enhanced SACT outpatient clinic capacity from released nurse time (from fewer calls). In centres without telephone pre-screening, further benefits include a reduction in on-the-day cancelled systemic therapy appointments and medication preparation time / waste.

Patient comfort with the outpatient digital pathway will also support earlier discharge of admitted patients on to a future oncology virtual ward.

