

# Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust



Wirral University Teaching Hospital (WUTH) NHS Foundation Trust is one of the largest and busiest acute trusts in the North West of England. Providing a comprehensive range of high-quality acute care services, we are a 5,600-strong workforce that serves a population of about 400,000 people.

#### **Challenges faced**

Catalogue management was a heavy administrative burden for our procurement team. For example, comparing catalogue or adhoc spend with NHS Supply Chain was difficult and time consuming and our procurement team just did not have the capacity to increase their suite of catalogues in order to achieve the targets set out in the Carter Metrics.

Jane Christopher, our Head of Procurement at WUTH says, "It would be really difficult to achieve the step-up in performance required with a single employee, so one of the big draws for me when choosing this service was having access to a pool of people with the appropriate skill-sets to improve our transactional purchasing performance far quicker than we could do ourselves."

### **Finding a solution**

We chose Advanced as an effective catalogue solution to help us manage and increase our suite of eCatalogues, relieving our procurement team of this heavy burden and controlling and standardising ad-hoc spend.

Through data cleansing, our submissions to The Purchase Price Index and Benchmark (PPIB) were more accurate and prices are now capable of being benchmarked with peer organisations. In addition to this, by analysing the spend through the eCatalogue and ad-hoc spend, it has identified products that could be added to existing catalogues, and where the creation of new catalogues would reduce the need for manual intervention. In the first quarter of our financial year, WUTH exceeded the target of 90% for the Carter Metric which states that 90% addressable spend must be electronic to enable us to report easier.



#### Client >

Wirral University Teaching Hospital

#### Sector >

NHS

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#### What's next?

Moving forwards, we are now able to identify and manage off-contract spend more effectively, helping us improve contract compliance and reduce contract leakage. This provides contracted suppliers with more volume assurance, which in turn results in better pricing for the Trust.

As a Trust we have also made a financial saving in staffing of approximately £17,000 p.a by deciding to contract the service to Advanced rather than hiring an eCatalogue manager.

Jane concludes by saying, "By analysing spend data, Advanced have identified savings of over £60K that could be achieved if the Trust switched its supply route from direct to NHS Supply Chain and vice versa."

## More information

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