

## DMC Healthcare – Important update

### We are transitioning to a RAS referral system.

#### RAS Switch

We are writing to inform that as of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 we will no longer be accepting referrals from the current CAS (clinical assessment system) and will be going live on to a RAS (Referral Assessment service) on ERS.

We will ensure there is a seamless transition on ERS and there is continuity of referrals without any breaks. Up to end of August 2024, you will be able to refer using the current service and then from 1st of September 2024 you will be able to find the DMC service under the new name on ERS and refer via that service. Nearer to the time we will send further comms and screenshots (showing how to find the service on ERS)

#### Benefits

The benefits of a Referral Assessment Services (RAS) have been noted by NHSE extensively here: [Referral Assessment Services - NHS e-Referral Service - NHS England Digital](#)

#### Some key improvements that we wish to highlight include below:

- Assess the clinical referral information from the GP/referrer without the need for an appointment being booked. (This therefore means no patient will be given an appointment immediately that is later on cancelled for any reason, often causing upset to patients)
- Reducing cancellations overall
- Removes any anxiety caused by appointment slot issues.
- Allows DMC to decide on the most appropriate clinical pathway.

Further benefits of a RAS system can be found from here: [Referral Assessment Services - NHS e-Referral Service - NHS England Digital](#)