The Rapid Access Rehabilitation Service (RARS) provides a service that aims to rehabilitate people who have been unwell. The team works with people who are being discharged from hospital and also with people in their own homes or in designated rehabilitation beds. The services are known as Intermediate Care.

Who’s in the team?

RARS has nurses, occupational therapists, dietitian, care staff, physiotherapist and social care staff. These staff are employed by the Community Health Care Trust, Halton Borough Council, and the Acute Hospital Trust.

What does RARS aim to do?

RARS work with you, your family and carers to design a programme of activities that aims to help you continue to live as independently as possible.

Initially a member of staff will carry out an assessment and decide which specialist services may need to be provided.
This may also include speaking to your GP, hospital doctor, nurses, social worker and your family, with your permission.

**What activities / services can be provided?**

Assessments with you by staff from the team will identify programmes of rehabilitation and care designed to increase your abilities with things like walking, getting out and about, looking after yourself, preparing food, managing your finances. The team can also offer specific treatments, support, advice and information for any long term conditions you may have.

The team can also provide information, advice and support to anyone who is helping to look after you.

**Will I have to pay?**

Intermediate Care Services are free. Staff will give you information on any charges that may apply for other services.

**How do I access the RARS team?**

Via a referral from either professional medical or social care staff, representative from Red Cross, Age Concern, etc. Day Centres, Residential/ Nursing Home’s officer in charge, Halton Haven.

**Can I refer myself?**

Yes, you or a member of your family can contact the team on 0151 511 7645 to discuss your needs and how the team may be of help.

**How long will the RARS help me?**

Typically for two to six weeks.

**What happens after the service has finished?**

Our staff will work with you to plan your long term needs and services.

**Sharing and Storing Information**

We collect and hold information about you to help us give the correct treatment and care.

The information may be held on computer or paper based. All information is strictly confidential, and staff are required and trained to respect their duty of confidentiality to you. You will be asked to give your permission for us to use this information.

Specialist information will require further permission from yourself.

**Why do we need this information?**

To share with other health professionals who may become involved with your care.

We only pass on information that is genuinely needed and whenever possible, we will remove any details which might identify you.

The sharing of sensitive personal information is strictly controlled by law (data protection Act 1998)

Further information regarding sharing and storing can be obtained by ringing the RARS team and asking for a copy of You and Your Health Records leaflet.