



# Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust (UK) chooses Atempo Miria to migrate file data to Qumulo

CLIENT: IMPERIAL COLLEGE HEALTHCARE NHS  
SECTOR: HEALTHCARE



Imperial College  
Healthcare  
NHS Trust

*“Miria is a powerful and flexible data migration platform and service. We can decide when and how to run our multiprotocol migrations between our various storage products. Miria guarantees data integrity and, if we need a higher data transfer speed, we simply spin up another Data Mover.”*

Yusuf Magera,  
Technical Architect,  
Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust,  
London, UK.



## The Organization

The Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust has over one million patient contacts every year and is one of the largest acute NHS trusts in the UK. The Trust’s intense activity is the source of massive and varied data creation.

Following the purchase of a new Qumulo Core file storage system, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust were looking for ways to manage the migration and consolidation of various on-site storage locations to their new storage destination.

## Challenges

The Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust needed to migrate a variety of file systems: NFS, Windows SMB/CIFS, and other proprietary file systems across two or three data centers and other sites to the Qumulo Core storage. Some file shares only contain a few GBs of files others store tens of TBs. The challenge? Ensure that file storages migrate seamlessly with zero impact on users and zero loss of both data and data integrity.

Before working with Atempo’s data migration tool, the Trust would use vendors who provide a migration as a service package. There were immediate issues because IT teams would constantly identify new data which they needed to approve then move. It was problematic not to own the migration tool or to be limited by capacity and licencing issues. In Yusuf’s words: *“Sometimes they couldn’t commit because they didn’t have resource available or had other obligations. The main reason for choosing Atempo Miria was that it gave us the ability to manage our own migrations at a time of our choosing.”*



## Solution: Miria for Migration

Despite deploying Atempo's Miria for Migration in the middle of the COVID pandemic, the platform immediately showed its strengths:

- Firstly: Miria manages all file system migrations for files and their associated metadata (modification and creation dates and ACLs for example).
- Secondly: Miria is highly flexible when it comes to managing data migration and transfer speeds. *"We can spin up as many Miria Data Movers as we need to multi-stream the migrations."* Yusuf explains: *"And once a migration job reaches cutover stage, Miria Data Movers can be powered down until the next migration job is ready to run."*
- Thirdly: All migration tasks happen in the background, with zero impact on users. It is crucial for all internal stakeholders to have continual data access.

Yusuf and the teams at the Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust appreciate Miria's flexibility in managing migration jobs. There is no fear of a subscription running out or exceeding a licence usage level. IT staff can run the jobs when they are available and when they can commit which is a big plus.

## Results and next steps

Migrations jobs are ongoing, but Miria has already proved its worth. The software platform is not new to the Trust; Miria for Archiving already handles on-site archiving needs. Because the data movement components of Miria for Migration and Miria for Archiving are identical, the learning curve for Yusuf and his team are comfortable. The Trust knows Atempo well and can call on local support teams whenever the need arises. Reaction times and the quality of customer care are also appreciated.

The Imperial College Healthcare Trust are firmly oriented towards cloud storage and Miria can be deployed to move on-site data to the cloud. Miria makes easy work of archiving several PBs of file data offsite. For Yusuf, *"Miria is compatible with many cloud providers. It makes sense to shift on-prem data to cloud services because adding physical storage on-site is no longer a sustainable option."*

The Trust recently announced their adoption of Wasabi's offsite cloud storage service. IT departments do not have to purchase, install, and manage expensive on-prem hardware. Over time, most archived data will be on cloud-based platforms yet remain fully accessible to research and clinical departments on site.

## Conclusion

Yusuf's sums up how Atempo's Miria for Migration has helped him, and his team manage their file migrations during what has been a very trying time for healthcare institutions:

*"Miria means we can migrate when we decide from any system to any system, maintain structural integrity and not worry about data loss or slow transfer times. Our cutovers occur with very minimal disruption and the least amount of downtime."*



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