The Benefits of adopting Gherkin syntax in manual testing

Using Gherkin syntax within test cases will allows us to align with the project's current strategy, allowing for more coherence between defined user stories and test case scenarios.

While used in manual test cases the below key can be used as a guide of usage:

- Pre-requisite information can be defined using the 'Given' and 'And' statements
- Actions Taken can be defined using the 'When' and 'And' statements
- Resulting Outcomes can be defined using the 'Then' and 'And' statements

Examples

Step Design

Using Gherkin Syntax within our basic regression scripts would allow the scripts to be more granular in their scope, while also allowing multiple actions and outcomes to be handled within the same step as shown below:

Actions	Outcomes Then I will see the selected patient record displayed as expected.	
Given I am logged into WCP And I access a patient record		
When I select Forms > AdHoc OR v2	Then I will see the AdHoc Pathway Selection screen displayed containing: - List all page objects here include label (name or text), type (eg: text field) and specification (eg: Alpha-Numerical and special character entry, max limit 1000 characters)	
When I select the 'No known pathways' button	Then I will see the AdHoc OR v2 form in edit mode containing: - List all page objects here include label (name or text), type (eg: text field) and specification (eg: Alpha-Numerical and special character entry, max limit 1000 characters) And I will be able to complete/save the form	

Scenario Based Scripts

Furthermore, this will allow teams to test more efficiently as Scenario based scripts can be defined within single step user stories, using multiple gherkin statements as shown below:

Actions	Outcomes
Given I am a WCP User And I have selected the misfile link on an existing ad-hoc OR When I have entered a valid password And a valid reason for misfile And I click the misfile button	Then the document will be marked as potentially misfiled within the Patient document list and PDF preview.

Form Selection Criteria Scripts

Specific form selection scenarios can also be depicted in this way as shown below:

Actions	Outcomes
Given I am a WCP user within a Patient record	Then the form will be displayed
And the patient has no current active outpatient pathways available	within the patient document record
When I save an Ad-Hoc OR with the following criteria:	And a thumbnail image will be
	displayed in the document listing
Web Object Web Object	with the below attributes:
Entered string Entered string	- Doc Name = Ad-Hoc OR
	- Event Date

			- Specialty - Senior Responsible Clinician - Hospital - Ward		
Example Usage:					
Event Date Specialty	Senior Responsible Clinician	Hospital	Ward		
21-Jul-2025 Cardiology	Wilson, D G, Dr.(GMC:3311499)	Glangwil General Hospital	GGH – Tysul Ward		