



Olivia Dernie
Case Manager/ Occupational Therapist
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Base: Cumbria and Southern Scotland

Qualifications

Multiprofessional Support of Learning and Assessment in Practice, 2019
MSc Occupational Therapy, 2017
MA (Undergraduate) Psychology, The University of Edinburgh, 2009

Memberships

Health and Care Professions Council Reg No: OT74993
British Association of Occupational Therapy Reg No: BT0252914
British Association of Brain Injury Case Managers (BABICM) - 6537

Summary

I joined A Chance for Life Ltd as a Case Manager and Occupational Therapist (OT) three years ago. As a qualified OT I have worked in a variety of settings, including community neurorehabilitation, wheelchair services, acute stroke and neurorehabilitation, and acute hospital settings. These experiences have enabled me to work with individuals with complex disabilities such as Acquired Brain Injury, spinal cord injuries, amputations, Motor Neurone Disease and Multiple Sclerosis. I am an empathetic case manager and therapist, and like to deliver creative and client-centred interventions. I am particularly passionate about removing barriers to enable participation in chosen leisure and vocational activities, as I believe these are vital to maintain good mental health which is so often overlooked. I always aim to deliver high quality care whilst promoting client-centred goal achievement.

Clinical Experience

I have:

- Case managed a variety of clients including pre-litigation clients with complex needs and coordinated large multi-disciplinary teams and achieved some positive outcomes.
- Supported clients and their families through the legal process.
- Prepared case management reports and costings to inform the legal process.
- Facilitated and coordinated rehabilitation with a strong focus on client goals.
- Recruited and managed rehabilitation support worker teams.
- Practical and theoretical experience of cognitive rehabilitation.
- Expertise in providing creative, client centered and cost-effective case management
- Carried out physical and cognitive occupational therapy assessments, prepared reports and established therapy programs.
- Worked alongside architects designing and implementing housing adaptations.
- Specialist experience of postural management and pressure relief care.
- Prescribed powered and manual wheelchairs for clients with complex posture.
- Experience in complex moving and handling, including the use of equipment to do this safely.
- A knowledge and understanding of the core principles within psychology.

Previous Professional Experience

Wheelchair Services and Prosthetics

I led wheelchair and pressure relief clinics which involved prescribing bespoke manual and powered wheelchairs and pressure relief cushions in outpatient and community settings. This has given me specialist skills in postural management and pressure relief care. I also worked within Prosthetics where I was responsible for providing pre- and post-surgery support, rehabilitation and planned complex discharge of patients whose level of functioning had often changed significantly.

Acute Stroke and Neuro-Rehabilitation

I provided thorough OT assessment and evidence-based interventions with the aim of removing barriers to disability and supporting clients to be able to carry out their everyday occupations. I facilitated complex discharges from hospital and carried out dynamic risk assessments to ensure patient care was both safe and of high quality. As an OT within Stroke and Neuro Services, I not only considered physical functioning, but also cognitive, visual, psychological and emotional functioning when delivering creative and goal-centered interventions.

Acute Wards

I was based on the acute surgical wards, and provided cover for all other wards during weekend working. I was responsible for carrying out the OT process from screening referrals through to facilitating timely and safe discharges, ensuring patient care was my main priority, whilst remaining mindful of the need for patient flow.

Early Employment

Following my Psychology degree in 2009, I worked as a Nursing Assistant in Stroke Rehabilitation. I was responsible for the daily care of patients including personal care, toileting and feeding. The staff promoted a 24-hour attitude to rehabilitation, and I continually facilitated patient rehabilitation outside their therapy sessions by ensuring patients were following best practice techniques, and empowering patients to push themselves within their capabilities.

I also worked at children's activity centres where I delivered group sessions aimed at promoting the personal development of children. I delivered educational sessions which focused on developing problem solving and teamwork skills.

Continued Professional Development and Relevant Experiences

- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, 2022
- Braintree Training, 2021
- Care Packages: Funding, Forming and Faux Pas, 2021
- Working With Chronic Pain, 2021
- Tech Con, 2021
- Mindfulness in Physio and OT, 2020
- Acquired Brain Injury training, 2020
- BABICM New & Would Be Case Managers – Part 1, 2020
- Safeguarding and Mental Capacity Act Awareness training, 2020
- Multiprofessional Support of Learning and Assessment in Practice, 2019
- Accredited Wheelchair Prescriber, 2018