

Engela Badenhorst, Occupational Therapist

Engela Badenhorst is a registered Occupational Therapist with the Health Professions Council and the British Association of Occupational Therapy. She qualified in 1995 at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa. She has been working full time in the United Kingdom since 2004.

During her 14 years of clinical work she has gained experience in the following disabilities: Orthopaedic and head injuries, muscular-skeletal, respiratory and cardiac conditions. Her experience includes working with young children.

Her son suffers from Cystic Fibrosis which is a genetic disorder that affects his respiratory and digestive systems. Engela is his main carer and therefore has experience how to manage a long term illness and the financial and emotional strain that coincide with a deteriorating condition.

Her first post was with the Military Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa where she gained valuable experience in treatment of orthopaedic injuries including trauma and hand injuries. She joined the South African Hand society in 1996 and was a member until 2004 when she relocated to the United Kingdom.

Engela moved to Private Practice where her main focus was the treatment of children with learning disabilities for a period of two years. In 2000 she joined Crouse & Associates a Private Occupational Therapy practice where she specialised in Insurance and Medico-legal assessment. The majority of cases were muscular - skeletal in nature. During this period she also continued her clinical work as a Hand Therapist.

In 2003 Engela was approached by a recruitment firm to take a position with the East and North Herts Primary Care Trust. In 2004 Engela and her family moved to the UK and took the position as Orthopaedic Team Leader at the Lister Hospital in Stevenage, Hertfordshire. With this she also took on the role as the service Audit lead and as Practice Placement Educator. In these roles she has gained further experience in the field of Orthopaedic injuries and maintaining a high standard of care that meets the Audit standards of the Primary Care trust and College of Occupational Therapy.

In 2005 she moved to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital II, Hertfordshire where she took up the role as Medical Team leader working with adults with chronic illness including heart and respiratory illness, palliative care and the elderly.

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She continued in this role till 2007 when a new post was developed in the Hospital for a Discharge Occupational Therapist. This new role depended on her broad clinical knowledge and experience liaising with local county services. Engela continued as Audit lead and Practice Placement Educator whilst at the QEII hospital. She held these roles until September 2009.

Engela is now employed with the Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council, Hertfordshire as Scheme manager for a sheltered housing scheme three days a week where her role is enabling clients in their community setting.



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