

## Pippa Clarke, Occupational Therapist

Pippa Clarke, BSc Hons OT, is an experienced Occupational Therapist and is a member of the British Society of Occupational Therapy and registered with the Health Professions Council. Pippa qualified as an Occupational Therapist in 1995 at the University of East Anglia. She has specialised in the clinical field of Brain Injury Rehabilitation for much of this time.

Pippa's first OT role was a rotational post at Addenbrookes Hospital, gaining experience on general medical wards, acute neurology, neuro rehabilitation and rheumatology. This initiated her interest in brain injury rehabilitation and gave experience in addressing occupational needs in self care, productivity and leisure.

In 1997 Pippa gained a senior OT role at Middlemore Hospital, South Auckland, New Zealand, leading a neuro rehabilitation team and initiating a small rheumatology occupational therapy service. This developed her interest in Brain Injury rehabilitation and on returning to the UK she gained senior locum positions in neuro rehabilitation centres such as The National Hospital for Neurology, London and Neurosurgery and Harrowlands Rehabilitation Centre, Dorking, Surrey. She then gained a

permanent senior OT role at the Wolfson Neurological Rehabilitation Unit at Atkinson Morley Hospital, Wimbledon, St Georges NHS Trust, in 1999.

This rotational post included experience in cognitive and communicational rehabilitation and pain management. Whilst at the Wolfson Unit Pippa attained her AMPS accreditation (Assessment of Motor and Process Skills) and was involved in research to standardise a pain management outcome measure tool. She also worked as part of a multidisciplinary collaborative team.

In 2001 Pippa moved to the West Midlands initially working as a locum senior Occupational Therapist within Birmingham City Hospital NHS Trust neurological rehabilitation service. She then became involved in the setting up of an Intermediate Care service in South Birmingham as a Clinical Specialist OT and Team Leader. This then led to Pippa undertaking a part time post graduate course at Coventry University in Occupational Science and developed her management involvement in health care services.

In 2003 Pippa became the Head Occupational Therapist at the Brain Injury



Rehabilitation Trust (BIRT) in Birmingham, further developing her management skills and specialising in the treatment of brain injured clients with behavioural and cognitive difficulties. This gave the opportunity to become a long term keyworker to clients and work closely with Clinical Psychologist's and Speech and Language Therapist's to develop goals and treatment programmes.

Whilst working at BIRT, Pippa worked part time gaining experience teaching at a local school on a post-sixteen health care course.

Pippa undertakes Immediate Needs Assessments under the Code of Rehabilitation and works as a specialist brain injury case manager for clients with rehabilitation and enduring needs.



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