

## Veronica Ball, BSc, Occupational Therapist

Veronica Ball qualified as an Occupational Therapist in 1995 from the University of Derby. She has clinical experience working with individuals with complex physical and psychosocial needs. She has worked in a variety of clinical settings and specialized in the management of Chronic Pain and Vocational Rehabilitation.

Veronica started her career working within Social Services assessing client's needs for adaptations to assist with their independence. This included project managing a variety of minor adaptations to the home through to complete new build extensions to enable individuals to remain as part of the whole family.

In 1998 Veronica moved to work within the NHS in an outpatient Rheumatology department and delivering Pain Management programmes to enable individuals to understand and manage their pain. This included understanding the principles and process of pain management strategies as well as practical aspects of planning, pacing, and goal setting which was delivered through a group process. In 2003, Veronica moved to the Edith Cavell Hospital in Peterborough to develop a Pain Management Programme with a multi-disciplinary team in an existing Pain Service.

Veronica has developed her private practice as an Independent Therapist over the past 5 years conducting assessments for individuals with complex musculo-skeletal and neurological conditions. She specializes in Vocational Assessments exploring with the individual their return to work options. She has trained in worksite & Functional Capacity Evaluations for injured workers.

During this same period, Veronica began working as a part-time lecturer on the Occupational Therapy BSc and MSc programmes at The University of Northampton. She has been specifically involved in developing modules relating to occupation, health and well-being. This has enabled her to have a broader understanding of the social, political as well as the practical aspects of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Veronica is registered with the Health Professionals Council and an active member of:

- The college of Occupational Therapists Specialists Section for Independent practice (COTSS-IP)
- The British Pain Society (BPS)
- The Vocational Rehabilitation Association (VRA), which enables her to keep up-to-date with current issues.