Associate Case Manager and Associate Occupational Therapist

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

Ed Sum MSc, PGCert, BHSc(Hons), MRCOT, MInstLM

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I have been an occupational therapist since 1999 and worked in hospital, community and regional services in the NHS in England and Scotland until March 2023. I then began my private practice business, including providing case management services. I specialise in adult neurological assessment, rehabilitation and long-term health management, with experience in acquired brain injury, spinal injury and progressive neurological conditions. My clinical interests and experience include functional neurological disorder, post covid syndrome ('long covid') and occupational therapy for sex/intimacy. I have designed care packages and requested them from the local authority. I have also been a senior occupational therapist in adult mental health services where I was also a care co-ordinator under the Care Programme Approach to ensure that the statutory services met their legal obligations for the welfare of patients and working with the third sector.

I provide holistic assessments of the physical, sensory, cognitive, emotional, spiritual and environmental needs of people. Due to the complex circumstances of people with neurological conditions, I have extensive experience of reviewing people's needs, assessing outcomes, adjusting intervention plans and referring onto services beyond my remit. My clinical skills include: promoting self-management, health coaching, spasticity management, neurological upper limb rehabilitation, upper limb splinting/orthotics, electrical stimulation, driving and passenger assessment, wheelchair and specialist seating assessments and prescription, 24-hour postural management, visual assessment for daily activities, perceptual/cognitive assessments, fatigue management, and prescribing specialist equipment for moving and handling, pressure relief and daily living. As a masters-level trained ergonomist, with graduate membership to the Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors, I have assessed the workplace and job demands, and delivered vocational rehabilitation. I have management experience of hospital-based occupational therapists and physiotherapists, district nursing and community rehabilitation teams.

I also have extensive experience of training and developing others through providing in-service training as an Associate Lecturer, as an Associate with Ubuntu Training (delivering training to therapists on neurology-based topics including, splinting, cognition, upper limb rehabilitation), as a Practice and Professional Development Therapist, mentoring and coaching of occupational therapists and students, and as a QCF (NVQ) Vocational Assessor. Additionally, I am a former Chair of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section – Neurological Practice, representing the Royal College and contributing to national agendas. Outside of occupational therapy I have a particular interest in LGBTQ+ wellbeing.