

Nicola Johnson

Case Manager

Independent Occupational Therapist

Profile

A highly experienced and skilled occupational therapist and rehabilitation case manager, Nicola has a wealth of experience across the NHS and private sector.

She takes on a wide variety of clients including those with complex multiple musculo-skeletal / orthopaedic injuries, neurological injuries (including mild brain injuries), pain, chronic headache and those experiencing the psychological effects of traumatic injury.

She has a special interest in visual impairment.

Specialisms

- Rehabilitation
- Musculo-skeletal / orthopaedic
- Neurological / long term conditions
- Visual impairment
- Medico-legal reporting
- Housing adaptations and assistive equipment

Ages covered

- Adult
- Younger adult

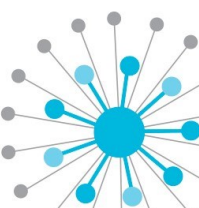
Biography

Nicola has enjoyed a varied career in adult physical disability, housing, social care and medico-legal practice. She has worked in independent practice since 2013 and has over 17 years' of clinical occupational therapy experience.

As a rehabilitation case manager, Nicola has a diverse caseload of clients with a range of injuries, for whom she designs and implements coordinated and timely packages of rehabilitation in order to maximise recovery and help them return to their pre-injury occupations. She has a creative and flexible approach with the client's needs remaining the focus of her work, whilst ensuring realistic goals and clear expectations for rehabilitation.

Nicola is skilled in carrying out thorough assessments and understanding the client's needs and impairments, whether this is over the telephone or face to face in the client's home or workplace. She also adapts her approach to work with clients from a variety of social and cultural backgrounds, ranging in age from younger adults, adults of working age to retired individuals.

Nicola has a sound knowledge of the litigation process, having worked as a rehabilitation and care expert witness since 2013.



Qualifications

- BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy, University of Teesside, 2004

Memberships

- Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
- Case Management Society UK (CMSUK)
- Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT)
- Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section - Independent Practice

Contact details

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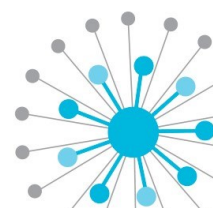
nicola.johnson@independenceworks.net

Website:

www.independenceworks.net

Clinical skills and experience

- More than 17 years' experience of assessment and clinical treatment for adults with a full range of physical health conditions and associated psychological needs.
- Client conditions have included spinal and brain injuries, amputees, polytrauma, multiple fractures, chronic pain, back conditions, degenerative joints, hand and upper limb injuries, scarring and visual impairment.
- Special interest in visual impairment and assistive technology for individuals with sight loss.
- Clients have been from a diverse range of backgrounds, including professional, administrative, skilled and unskilled manual workers, and have included both employees and self-employed clients.
- Interventions have included managing and progressing physical rehabilitation, pain management, education, accessing psychological support, graded return to work plans, worksite assessments, sourcing specialist equipment, assistive aids and cosmetic camouflage.
- Creative and flexible thinking to problem-solve situations.
- Excellent communication skills - keeping clients informed throughout and involving them in decisions when appropriate.
- Very skilled in producing thorough but easy to read reports.
- Sound knowledge of the litigation process, having worked as a rehabilitation and care expert witness since 2013.
- Experienced in case management and rehabilitation within the insurance and litigation framework, with particular experience of working under joint instruction.
- Expert knowledge and skills in restoring a client's independence in daily living activities including personal care, domestic tasks, transport, community social / recreational and vocational activities.
- Significant experience of treating clients with complex social and psychological needs, and of varied educational backgrounds.
- Works closely with doctors, general medical practitioners, client case managers, health professionals, social workers, counsellors, psychologists, psychiatrists and employers.
- Committed to continuing professional development - full details of recent training are available on request.
- Client and solicitor feedback/testimonials are available on request.



Career history - private sector

Independent Occupational Therapist & Case Manager - Independence Works Ltd 2019 - present

- Taking referrals for rehabilitation for a varied caseload of clients, with a range of injuries.
- Completing thorough assessments to determine needs and communicating these to all parties by way of comprehensive reporting.
- Considering clients' injuries, pre-existing health needs and the true impact of injury upon their lifestyle and everyday function to enable the achievement of realistic rehab outcomes.
- Considering psychological effects of the injury and their impact upon the individual.
- Designing and implementing coordinated and timely packages of rehabilitation in order to maximize recovery and return the client to their pre-injury occupations.
- Regularly reviewing progress to ensure that sourced interventions are meeting needs and to ensure that any issues are identified at an early stage, maximising potential for recovery during rehabilitation.
- Ensuring excellent communication with all parties throughout.

Independent Occupational Therapist, Nicola Johnson Occupational Therapy Ltd 2016 - present

- Responsible for delivering high quality OT intervention.
- Delivering bespoke training to social care workers on behalf of a local council.

Expert Witness, Jacqueline Webb & Co 2013 - present

- Preparation of complex and thorough reports to be used in litigation, focusing upon costing care for the claimants immediate and future needs, and identifying and costing for specific rehabilitation needs.
- Instructions are largely for clients with visual impairment.

Career history - statutory sector

Specialist Occupational Therapist, Mid Yorkshire NHS Trust 2010 - 2016

- Working for a large social housing provider in West Yorkshire

Specialist Occupational Therapist, Mid Yorkshire NHS Trust, Pinderfields Hospital, Wakefield 2007 - 2010

- Working on the long-term neurological conditions team.

Occupational Therapist, (split post), Barnsley Primary Care Trust 2007

- Community long-term conditions (largely neurological caseload) and cognitive rehabilitation service.

Basic Grade Rotational Posts 2004 - 2007

