

Clare Chiwandire

Case Manager

Independent Occupational Therapist

Profile:

A highly experienced and skilled occupational therapist and case manager, Clare specialises in the case management of adults and adolescents following life changing injuries including brain injury, amputation, brachial plexus injuries, polytrauma and psychological challenges. Clare is also an experienced medico-legal expert for care, case management and occupational therapy.

Qualifications:

- Masters in Public Health, University of London, 2006
- BSc Occupational Therapy, La Trobe University, Australia, 1991

Specialisms:

- Traumatic brain injuries and neurological rehabilitation
- Brachial plexus and peripheral nerve injuries
- Amputations - upper limb/lower limb
- Multi-trauma injuries
- Complex orthopaedic injuries
- Hand injuries
- Medico-legal reporting

Biography:

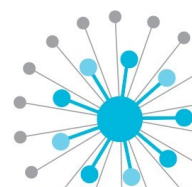
Clare qualified as an occupational therapist in 1991 and has worked as an independent case manager since 2008. She is deeply committed to the value of early assessment and rehabilitation, with extensive experience supporting clients from major trauma units and intensive care through to community reintegration.

Her specialist expertise includes brain injury, brachial plexus injury and peripheral nerve impairments, upper and lower limb amputation, severe orthopaedic trauma, and complex polytrauma injuries. Clare works confidently with clients across the full spectrum of need - from those who are minimally aware and require 24-hour care, to those preparing to return to education or employment. She has a strong interest in higher-level cognitive challenges and behaviours that may impact daily life, and she is skilled in navigating complex social situations and safeguarding concerns.

Clare works with both adults and adolescents, supporting families through multi-party accidents and life changing injuries. Her background spans intensive care, acute hospital settings, and community rehabilitation across both statutory and private sectors. This breadth of experience enables her to build and lead effective multi-disciplinary teams, tailored to each client's goals.

A confident report writer, Clare delivers thorough assessments and designs bespoke rehabilitation and support packages, no matter how complex the circumstances. She also provides expert witness evidence to the Court in matters relating to care, case management, and occupational therapy for personal injury and clinical negligence claims.

Clare is registered with the Institute of Registered Case Managers (IRCM).



Registrations & memberships

- Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
- Institute of Registered Case Managers (IRCM)
- Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT)
- Case Management Society UK (CMSUK)
- British Association of Brain Injury Case Managers (BABICM)

Contact details:

Location:

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07796 262355

Email:

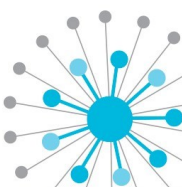
clare.chiwandire@independenceworks.net

Website:

www.independenceworks.net

Skills and experience:

- Provision and co-ordination of comprehensive assessment, rehabilitation programs and support packages.
- Confident communicator and skilled in liaising with and managing multidisciplinary teams.
- Experienced working in specialist multi-trauma units, intensive care, and high dependency units.
- Developed a clinical telephone triage service for personal injury claims.
- Provision of numerous training workshops and conference presentations.
- Knowledgeable regarding specialist equipment, home adaptations and worksite modifications.
- Hand therapy skills including both musculoskeletal/plastics and neurological splinting, wound and scar management.
- Skilled in co-ordinating vocational rehabilitation, return to education and return to driving.
- Working with Deputies for the Court of Protection; managing safeguarding and best interest decisions. Presented to Headway Deputy Conference on OPG invitation.
- Provision of professional supervision and mentorship for other occupational therapist case managers.
- Management of occupational therapy and physiotherapy service provision over three hospital sites with over 100 staff.
- Expert witness work, including medico-legal reporting for high value claims and experience in court as a witness under cross-examination and at CICA tribunal. Completed Bond Solon course in courtroom skills.
- Committed to regular 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 2008 - present

- Current role centres around delivering comprehensive occupational therapy case management services to clients following serious injury. Single instruction (claimant) and joint referrals. Supervisor/mentor for OT case managers, assisting with training programme for new colleagues.

Care and Rehabilitation Expert Witness 2007 - present

- Preparation of care, case management and occupational therapy medico-legal reports and associated expert witness work. Attendance at court and CICA tribunal as an expert witness.

Career history – statutory sector

Part-time Locum OT, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust 2008

- Adult inpatient mental health and community services.

Clinical Lead (Therapy Services) / Clinical Manager (Therapy Services), Peterborough and Stamford NHS Trust 2000 - 2008

- Neurological and orthopaedic rehabilitation, wheelchair services, amputee rehabilitation, hand therapy, development of rapid response services to A & E, and services to critical care unit.

Senior Occupational Therapist, Ministry of Health, Zimbabwe 1997 - 1999

- Outpatient and community based occupational therapy service for Matabeleland North. Paediatric and adult services provided for a range of neurological, orthopaedic, medical and mental health conditions.
- Due to the unique location and in partnership with private medical air rescue service, this role included supporting early management of serious trauma patients including road traffic accidents, tourists in adrenaline and wildlife activities (near-drownings, high impact injuries, animal attacks e.g. hippopotamus).

Senior Occupational Therapist , Alfred Hospital, Australia 1996

- Occupational therapist for the major trauma unit including intensive care (Transport Accident Commission funded). Dealing with seriously injured multi-trauma patients and their families from the point of admission through to discharge.

Occupational Therapy locum (NHS), Angela Shaw Agency, United Kingdom 1994 - 1995

- Various senior occupational therapy locum positions including Royal London Hospital, Central Middlesex Hospital and Northwick Park Hospital. Inpatient neurological rehabilitation, hand therapy, orthopaedic trauma, acute medicine and care of the elderly.

Occupational Therapist , Royal Melbourne Hospital, Australia 1991 - 1993

- Rotational post including neurology/stroke acute assessment and inpatient rehabilitation, orthopaedics, oncology, plastic surgery and burns (including hand therapy and burns splinting in theatre plus outpatients, pressure care and rehabilitation).

