



Professional Experience

Michaela is a highly skilled occupational therapist with 13 years of experience spanning a variety of clinical and community settings. She has led the assessment and treatment of patients with a broad range of complex conditions, including orthopaedic trauma, amputations, spinal injury, complex fractures, functional neurological disorders, brain injury, complex regional pain syndrome, stroke, peripheral nerve injury, PTSD, anxiety and depression. She has extensive experience in clinical leadership, producing detailed functional reports, training staff on equipment provision, writing practice standards, developing and managing high performing physiotherapy and occupational services and providing training on wheelchairs, posture and seating. Michaela currently serves as an expert witness for Harrison Associates, utilising her clinical skills and expertise to provide insightful and objective reports. She is fully trained in Civil Procedure Rules, including relevant revisions as they arise, and regularly undertakes a variety of continuing professional development.

Specialisms

- Spinal Injury
- Amputations
- Brain Injury
- Orthopaedics
- Mental Health
- Peripheral Nerve Injury
- Stroke
- Complex Regional Pain Syndrome
- Posture & Seating

Qualifications

- BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy
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Career History

Locum Senior Occupational Therapist

Various (including Headley Court Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre and Reablement and Home Assessment Teams within Health and Social Services)

2017 - Current

- Worked in various senior roles across complex trauma and reablement service settings. This involved leading the rehabilitation of patients with complex fractures, amputations, spinal injury, complex regional pain syndrome, functional neurological disorder, brain injuries, PTSD, anxiety and depression.
- Inducted, trained and supervised a new team of therapists, wrote practice standards, delivered training on wheelchairs, posture and seating and served as spinal injury OT clinical lead.
- Delivered community rehabilitation to maximise independence, quality of life and safety at home whilst minimising long-term care requirements.
- Trained staff on equipment prescription, oversaw the set up and delivery of a collaborative reablement service with a domiciliary care agency and led a technology enabled care pilot.
- Worked within a home assessment team, delivering occupational therapy intervention and led intervention on a joint health and social care pilot.

Locum Occupational Therapy Lead (Inpatient Therapy)

Gibraltar Health Authority

2017 - 2017

- Managed an inpatient therapy team, including a clinical caseload of stroke rehabilitation, elderly care and palliative care.



Career History Continued

Locum Occupational Therapist (Reablement) Bromley Adult Services

2016 - 2016

- Held responsibility for the set up and development of physiotherapy and occupational services and implementation of a referral pathway and priority system.

Occupational Therapist Assessor Quality Rehabilitation Services (New Zealand)

2015 - 2016

- Conducted individual assessments regarding equipment and care provision and led the assessment and provision of short and long-term community-based rehabilitation programmes.

Senior Occupational Therapist Various

2011 - 2015

- Completed NHS and private healthcare contracts within neurological occupational therapy, working with clients with multiple sclerosis, stroke, spinal injury and brain injury and delivering training on spinal injury. This included producing detailed functional reports and providing regular progress update reports.
- Obtained broad experience within a senior rotational role, working across renal services, ITU and neurological specialities. This involved managing complex discharges, defining rehabilitation goals and creating treatment plans.

Senior Occupational Therapist (Complex Trauma) Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre

2012 - 2014

- Managed the assessment and treatment of patients with spinal injuries, multiple limb loss, peripheral nerve injury and complex fractures. Secondary conditions frequently included brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder and a variety of mental health conditions.

Occupational Therapist (Spinal Treatment) Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust

2009 - 2011

- Upon qualification, obtained two years of experience within a spinal treatment centre.

Memberships

- Royal College of Occupational Therapy
- Health & Care Professions Council

Ages Covered

- 16 Years & Above