

Case Management Experience

Nicola is an experienced Case Manager possessing an impressive 19-year career in Occupational Therapy, with a deep-seated specialisation in neurological rehabilitation. Her expertise encompasses a wide range of injuries and conditions, notably Complex MSK (complex arm and hand injuries), Mental Health issues including PTSD, Brain Injury, and cases of Medical Negligence. This specialisation has empowered Nicola to adeptly manage an array of complex neurological situations, including polytrauma, stroke, mild to severe acquired brain injury, spinal cord injury, neuro-oncology, as well as medical and long-term conditions such as frailty. Her extensive experience spans both acute care and rehabilitation settings, highlighting her comprehensive approach to patient care and her ability to navigate the complexities of diverse clinical scenarios.

Her role as a coordinator for a Level 1 neuro-rehabilitation service exemplifies her ability to navigate the complexities of neurological injuries, where she collaborates with multidisciplinary teams to facilitate advanced rehabilitation for patients with severe neurological impairments. In her leadership role, Nicola has effectively integrated clinical assessments and treatments for individuals with complex neurological injuries, significantly enhancing their recovery and quality of life.

Nicola's clinical management stands out for her innovative rehabilitation, education, and treatment strategies, adeptly handling cases that blend neurological and mental health issues, like frontal brain injury with depression and OCD, or complex hand injuries with PTSD. Her dedication to continuous professional development ensures her methods stay at the forefront of clinical advancements, significantly benefiting her patients' lives.

Specialism

- Brain Injury (ABI)
- Orthopaedic/MSK
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Major Trauma
- Peripheral nerve conditions & injuries
- Sensory impairment
- Hypoxic brain injury
- Frontal lobe damage
- Cancer & palliative care

Age group

- Adults
- Young people (16+)

Professional Background

Nicola Keelan's career in Occupational Therapy spans leadership and clinical capacities across NHS and private sectors. Her tenure is marked by leading service improvements, managing multidisciplinary teams, and driving rehabilitation services, particularly within neuro rehabilitation units. Nicola's commitment to evidence-based and innovative treatment strategies has significantly advanced patient care, underscoring her role in enhancing the delivery of occupational therapy services.

In managing the transition of patients with neurological injuries from acute care to community reintegration, Nicola demonstrates exceptional skill in ensuring seamless and coherent rehabilitation pathways. This experience, combined with her personal investment in holistic well-being, enriches her therapeutic approach, offering patients a comprehensive recovery experience. Nicola's effective communication, organizational skills, and innovative leadership in occupational therapy, especially in treating complex injuries, affirm her as a distinguished professional in her field.

Career history

- Brain Injury Services Co-ordinator March 2023 - present
Level 1 Neuro Rehab Royal Hospital for Neuro Disability
Putney
- Unite Professionals August 2019 - April 2024
Case Manager
- Head Occupational Therapist April 2022 – March 2023
Ascot Rehabilitation, Bagshot
- Inpatient Operational Lead Occupational Therapist November 2019 – April 2022
Kingston NHS Foundation Trust
- Principal Occupational Therapist July 2018 – November 2019
Neuro Science & Neuro Rehabilitation Dep.
St Georges NHS Foundation Trust Principal
- Specialist Neuro Occupational Therapist June 2008– July 2018
St Georges NHS Foundation Trust
- Senior Occupational Therapist September 2008 – January 2008
Royal Hospital for Neuro Disability
- Basic Grade Occupational Therapist September 2004 – September 2006
Harrow PCT and Northwick Park Hospital

Qualifications

- Post Graduate Diploma Occupational Therapy, The University of London, 2004
BSc (Hons)
- Psychology and Philosophy, The University of Leeds, 1997

Professional Memberships

- British Association of Occupational Therapists BT0230086
 - HCPC OT41634
 - CMSUK 19-4492-A BABICM 8251
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