

Christa Wright b app sc (occ therapy)

Case Manager and Occupational Therapist

Based in Hackney, East London e-mail: cw@benholden.net

Skills & Experience Summary

Christa Wright is an occupational therapist who has been active in the profession for over 20 years. She has extensive experience at a senior level, providing rehabilitation and disability management to adults with a wide range of complex medical and neurological conditions in both hospital and community settings.

After graduating in South Australia in 1998, Christa worked in Australia in hospital inpatient and community settings, gaining experience in a variety of areas including orthopaedic rehabilitation, general medicine and surgery, rheumatology and hand therapy, palliative care, pain management, emergency/admission avoidance programs and falls prevention. Christa developed a special interest in neurological rehabilitation while working on an inpatient rehabilitation unit for acquired brain injury in Adelaide, Australia. This led to her towards further opportunities with adults with brain injury, stroke and complex neuro-disabilities at a senior level in two community teams in East London from 2003 onwards. As well as working in neurological rehabilitation units, Christa has also held positions in inpatient and community rehabilitation services in several major London hospitals that included post trauma orthopaedic clients and amputees.

Christa has developed highly specialist clinical and managerial skills in the areas of neurological assessment of impairment and function, rehabilitation goals and treatment planning, disability management, vocational rehabilitation, and prescription of specialised equipment and major housing adaptations. Christa has also worked closely with interpreters and with people of diverse ethnic, social, cultural and religious backgrounds.

Christa first began working as a Case Manager in the UK in August 2007. In her 10 years

of case management experience, she has worked with many clients who have catastrophic injuries including brain injury, multiple orthopaedic injuries and amputations. During this time, she also taught courses in neurological rehabilitation for Harrison Training.

Christa returned to Australia during 2008 and 2009 and worked primarily in the field of Vocational Rehabilitation, where she provided Initial Needs Assessments, Job Analysis, Worksite/Ergonomic and Medico-legal Assessments within the insurance and personal injury litigation sector. She is a Matheson-trained Functional Capacity Evaluation Assessor. She has recently developed specialist experience and knowledge of working with amputee clients, both lower and upper limb amputees, who are going through prosthetic rehabilitation.

Following her sabbatical in Australia, Christa returned to live in the UK permanently and now sub-contracts her services to a number of companies as both a case manager and treating occupational therapist / vocational consultant. She also has occasionally worked part-time as a locum in both the NHS and private hospital sector in order to remain up-to-date both clinically and professionally, in addition to her CPD activities. In her work for Ben Holden Ltd, Christa consistently manages a caseload of clients with a variety of catastrophic injuries including brain injury, orthopaedic injuries and amputations.

Employment History

February 2010 - Current

Self-Employed - Including subcontracting to Ben Holden Ltd.

Case Manager/Occupational Therapist

April 2014 - June 2014

London Bridge Hospital

Senior Locum Occupational Therapist, band 7 (Adult Inpatient Neurology & Orthopaedics) - part time locum

January 2013 - April 2014

Greenwich Community Adult Rehabilitation Service

Senior Locum Occupational Therapist, band 7 (Early Supported Discharge for Stroke) - part time locum

January 2010 - February 2010

Westminster Primary Care Trust

Senior Locum Occupational Therapist (Neurological Rehabilitation) - full time locum

September 2008 - December 2009

Effective Australia

Senior Occupational Therapist / Vocational Consultant (Vocational Rehabilitation and Medico-Legal)

May 2009 – June 2009

Whittington Hospital

Specialist Senior Occupational Therapist (Stroke & Neuro) - Band 7 - full time locum

August 2007 – August 2008

Harrison Associates / Harrison Training

Case Manager & Trainer

September 2005 and April 2006

Community Stroke and Disability Options Team

Managerial Posts

January 2004 – August 2007

Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust Community Stroke Team

Highly Specialist Senior Occupational Therapist (Stroke) - Band 7 - Locum/Permanent
March 2004

November – January 2006 – 2007 (Australia)

Flinders Medical Centre

Senior Occupational Therapist (Neuro & Gen. Med.) - locum

July 2003 – November 2003

Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust Disability Options Team

Highly Specialist Senior Occupational Therapist (Stroke) - Band 7 - locum

September 2001 – April 2003

Noarlunga Health Services (Australia) Senior Occupational Therapist (Gen. Med Inpatients/Older Adults & Community - permanent)

September 2001 – April 2003 (Australia)

Noarlunga Health Services

Senior Occupational Therapist (Gen. Med Inpatients/Older Adults & Community - permanent)

June 2000 – September 2001 (Australia)

Noarlunga Health Service

Occupational Therapist (equivalent to band 6)

April 1999 – October 1999 (Australia)

Noarlunga Health Service

Occupational Therapist (equivalent to band 5)

October 1999 – June 2000

Julie Farr Services Residential Rehabilitation (Acquired Brain Injury)

Occupational Therapist (Acquired Brain Injury - equivalent to band 5)

February 1999 – March 1999 (Australia)

Queen Elisabeth Hospital – Cramond Clinic

Occupational Therapist (Mental Health - Equivalent to Band 5) - locum

Associations Professional Memberships

- British Association of Brain Injury Case Managers (BABICM)
- Case Management Society United Kingdom (CMSUK)
- The Vocational Rehabilitation Association (VRA)
- British Association of Occupational Therapists (BAOT), including specialist sections for Work, Neurological Practice and Independent Practice.
- Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

Personal Summary

Christa loves her music and occasionally dabbles as a singer-songwriter. Christa enjoys snowboarding, exercise and spending time with her family and friends. She loves cooking and eating organic food and being kind to the planet.