

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Ashleigh Murphy

Occupational Therapist Expert Witness (BSc Hons, HCPC registered)

General Background

Ashleigh qualified as an Occupational Therapist with a BSc Honours Degree from Ulster University in 2018, having developed a well-rounded skillset through a client centered approach. Ashleigh has worked within acute settings to include Care of the Elderly, Frailty, Medical, Stroke, Surgical, Trauma and Orthopaedic wards along with Accident and Emergency. Ashleigh's current role is a clinical specialist in the community stroke team with clients requiring functional, neurological and cognitive assessment, intensive home-based therapy and provision of equipment following hospital admission. Ashleigh is adept at assessing and recommending care needs, completing moving and handling risk assessments and evaluating packages of care. Throughout this experience Ashleigh supervised less experienced team members and led service development projects.

Through her years of clinical work, Ashleigh has maintained her professional development through training courses, clinical reflections and supervision along with being a member of RCOT and BAOT to ensure continuity of high level of care is provided.

Skills and Experience

- Time management and Prioritisation- Management of busy acute wards to facilitate timely discharges, utilised also to respond quickly to hospital discharges in the community stroke team within the SSNAP guidelines, complete reports as required and update manual handling risk assessments within the 48 hours post hospital discharge.
- Analytical and critical thinking- risk management for individuals when home from hospital including sensory deficits, cognitive deficits and environmental factors. Using clinical reasoning skills through assessment of functional tasks to problem solve and aid independence for the individual. It is important to be adaptable depending on client capabilities, medical wellbeing/status and home environment.
- Complex Discharge Planning: Expert in local hospital discharge pathways, including Reablement.
- Leadership and Mentoring: Skilled in mentoring junior staff, University students and fostering a culture of high morale and teamwork.

NHS experience:

Western Health and Social Care Trust- Community Stroke Team -Clinical Specialist Neurological Occupational Therapist (01/2022-present)

- Carry clinical caseload including complex cases
- Prioritisation of caseload and responding to referrals within SSNAP community stroke guidelines
- Maintain updated statistics as per SSNAP guidelines
- Complete Manual Handling Risk Assessments and comprehensive care reports on client needs
- Working closely within a multidisciplinary team including Physiotherapists, Speech and Language Therapists, Community Stroke Nurse and Neuropsychology.
- Timely completion of case notes and MDT report updates on caseload for weekly meeting
- Assessment and provision of appropriate equipment

- Participate in service development including organisation of new groups
- Completion of both standardised and non-standardised assessments
- Supervision of team Rehab Support worker
- Supervision of University student as required
- Provide a client centered and holistic approach to assessment and treatment plan/rehab goals based on pre-morbid level of function- including support for return to work, assessment for return to driving, Activities of Daily Living/Personal Activities of Daily Living and social activities.

Southern Health and Social Care Trust- Craigavon Area Hospital- Clinical Specialist Occupational Therapist Frailty and Surgical Wards (04.05.2021-14.01.2022)

- Seating assessments
- Equipment provision
- Care recommendations (written care reports and manual handling risk assessments)
- Discharge planning for complex cases, achieving successful discharges for patients with complex health and social care needs.
- Neurological assessments
- Close liaison with MDT and medics/nursing staff
- Provided Accident and Emergency rota cover

Southern Health and Social Care Trust- Craigavon Area Hospital- Band 5 Acute Rotational Occupational Therapist 18.02.2019-04.05.2021

- Surgical Wards
- Stroke and Elderly Wards
- Trauma and Orthopaedics
- Medical wards

Ages Covered

Young Adults - 19-25 years

Adults 26+ year

Skills

• Accident & Emergency Care	• Falls
• Amputation(S)	• Acquired/ Traumatic Brain Injury
• Bone Fractures	• Neurodegenerative Disorders
• Stroke	• Care Of The Older Person
• Fatigue	• Cognitive Assessment
• Community Rehabilitation	• Dementia
• Driving Ability	• Elderly Care
• Elective Surgery	• Wheelchair
• Passive/Active Range Of Movement	• Goal Setting
• General Surgery	• Risk Management
• Hand And Upper Limb Injury	• Joint Dislocation
• Hospital Acquired Infections	• Major Trauma
• Long Term/Chronic/Life Limiting Conditions	• Rehabilitation
• Manual Handling	• Neurosurgical
• Occupational Therapy & Reablement	• Orthopaedic
• Sensory Impairment	• Return To Work

Professional Qualifications

BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy (2015-2018)

Professional Bodies and Memberships

- Registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
- Member of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT)

EXPERT WITNESS BACKGROUND

Associated with AMG Medico Legal Ltd since 2026. Experience gained in Acute and Community settings. Evaluation and assessment of cognitive and functional needs, risk assessment and clinical management, together with that of extensive experience of reviewing case files and report writing, that has facilitated the development of skills to prepare expert witness reports.

(Awaiting on attendance of the Bond Solon Certificated Legal Training Courses: “Excellence in Report Writing” and “Courtroom Skills – Witness Familiarisation”)