

Dr Joanna Fletcher-Smith

Case Manager

Nottingham



Harrison
Associates

Case Management Experience

Joanna is an award-winning Case Manager and Clinical Academic Occupational Therapist (CMSUK 'Catastrophic Case Manager of the Year'; World Stroke Organisation's 'Young Stroke Professional'; Health Education England 'Gold Award'; Verna Wright Prize; Royal College of Occupational Therapists 'Early Career Researcher Award' and 'Career Development Award'). She has over two decades of experience across acute, community and research settings. She specialises primarily in neurological rehabilitation and stroke, in addition to having extensive experience in the areas of trauma and orthopaedics, brain injury, upper limb rehab, elderly care, oncology, palliative care and cardiac rehabilitation. She has managed complex cases involving catastrophic, poly-trauma injuries from end-to-end. Joanna is highly proficient in undertaking environmental, mobility and cognitive assessments. Throughout her career, Joanna has led high-performing multi-disciplinary teams and managed complex projects. She continually delivers the best possible clinical outcomes for her clients via a holistic, client-centred and evidence-based approach. Joanna maintains a strong knowledge of the latest clinical research insights and ensures these are integrated into her practice. She is currently a member of the BABICM Research Group and CMSUK Research Committee.

Specialisms

- Neurological Rehabilitation
- Stroke
- Brain Injury
- Catastrophic Injury & Polytrauma
- Elderly Care
- Trauma & Orthopaedics
- Upper Limb & Hand Injuries
- Cognitive Assessment
- Oncology
- Palliative Care

Qualifications

- PhD Stroke Rehabilitation
- MPhil Stroke Rehabilitation
- ITEC Level 3 Diploma Holistic Massage
- BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy
- Associate Teachers' Programme (HEA)
- Level 3 Certificate Institute of Leadership and Management

Professional Background

Joanna's professional career began as a Rotational Occupational Therapist at the Royal Berkshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. She progressed to Senior Occupational Therapist, working within Sherwood Forest Hospital NHS Foundation Trust's Acute Medicine and Surgery team. Within this role, she delivered assessment and intervention across 12 wards, including Neurology and Stroke. She also attended case conferences for palliative care patients and contributed to training and service development activities. Between 2008 and 2010, Joanna operated as a Research Therapist at the University of Nottingham, on a randomised control trial of a neuropsychological approach to dressing problems in people following stroke. Alongside this role she completed her MPhil degree. She subsequently worked on a major multi-centre phase III trial of an occupational therapy intervention for care home residents with stroke whilst completing her PhD. Joanna also conducted a national survey study of six-month reviews and follow-up of long-term unmet needs after stroke for the Global Stroke Advisory Panel and contributed to the Royal College of Physician's National Clinical Guidelines for Stroke. Between 2014 and 2018, Joanna was promoted to Senior Research Fellow and successfully led an NIHR funded clinical trial (ESCAPS study) as Chief Investigator. She was also involved in research across the brain injury research portfolio and supervised several PhD students. Joanna was the Research and Development Officer for the National Executive Committee of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section for Neurological Practice and subsequently was elected a member of Council for the Society for Research in Rehabilitation. Since 2018, Joanna has worked as a Rehabilitation Case Manager, in addition holding the position of Clinical Lead since 2022. Within this capacity, she has managed a complex caseload of clients recovering from catastrophic poly-trauma injuries. As Clinical Lead, she is accountable for managing a team of case managers, including training and safeguarding activities.

CASE MANAGEMENT EXPERT WITNESS REHABILITATION

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Registered in England No. 03640288



Career History

Clinical Manager & Case Manager

Harrison Associates
(2023 - Present)

Clinical Lead & Case Manager

Unite Professionals Ltd
(2022 - 2023)

Associate Case Manager

Unite Professionals Ltd
(2018 - 2022)

Senior Research Fellow & Chief Investigator

The University of Nottingham
(2015 - 2018)

Associate Lecturer (part-time)

The University of Derby
(2014 - 2017)

Research Associate

The University of Nottingham
(2010 - 2015)

Research Occupational Therapist

The University of Nottingham
(2008 - 2010)

Senior Occupational Therapist

Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
(2006 - 2008)

Rotational Occupational Therapist

Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
(2002 - 2004)

Memberships

- British Association of Occupational Therapists
- Health & Care Professions Council
- Case Management Society UK
- British Association of Brain Injury & Complex Case Management
- Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy

Ages Covered

- Adults aged 18+
- Older people