Catherine Willson

Expert Witness

Italy



Professional Experience

Catherine is an occupational therapist with over three decades of experience leading the assessment and treatment of adults and children with a diverse range of conditions across clinical, community and private sector settings. Catherine obtained her Master's in Disability Studies in 2006, during which her research focused on disabled children and their families. In 2013, Catherine obtained her PhD, conducting research on the experience of disabled mothers in Italy. She subsequently presented her findings to international audiences and published her research in the international peer-reviewed journal, Disability and Rehabilitation.

Catherine is an Expert Witness for Harrison Associates, providing clear, objective and accurate reports regarding care and occupational therapy provision for clients with complex needs. This has involved evaluating the requirements of adults and children with a broad range of injuries and conditions, including cerebral palsy, Erb's palsy, sensory impairments, traumatic brain injuries, amputations and orthopaedic injuries. She has also provided reports for wrongful birth and loss of service claims. Catherine regularly attends a range of mandatory and clinical training. She is fully trained in the Civil Procedure rules, including relevant revisions as they arise, and has given evidence in the High Court. She is a member of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section for Children & Young People, and has a role in evaluating research articles relevant to this area of practice.

Specialisms

- Neurological Conditions
- Cerebral Palsy
- Peripheral Nerve Conditions & Injuries
- Amputations
- Brain Injury

- Orthopaedics
- General Medical Conditions
- Loss of Services
- Learning Difficulties
- · Sensory Impairment
- Wrongful Birth

Qualifications

- DipRCOT
- MA Disability Studies
- PhD Health & Social Care

Career History

Independent Occupational Therapist

2004 - Present

- Experience as a senior case manager for adult and paediatric clients, leading the coordination and implementation of complex care packages.
- Providing care and occupational therapy consultancy within the private sector, including producing reports for personal injury litigation cases, evaluating the special needs and requirements of a claimant's disability related needs.
- Instructed by both Claimant and Defendant solicitors



Career History Continued

The Parent Partnership Service Parent Partnership Officer

2005 - 2007

• Held strategic and operational management responsibility for an independent service for a local education authority regarding disabled children, young people and their families.

University of Derby & Nottingham University Senior Lecturer

2002 - 2010

- Lectured on occupational therapy and Childhood Studies courses at the University of Derby.
- Taught on the undergraduate physiotherapy course at Nottingham University and supported the
 development of an e-learning tool for the paediatric module which was later used for the education
 of NHS clinicians across England and Scotland.

Various Hospitals, Trusts and Community Settings Senior Occupational Therapist & Acting Head OT Basic Grade Occupational Therapist

1994 - 2002

1992 - 1994

Memberships

- Health & Care Professions Council
- The British Association of Occupational Therapists
- Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section -Children & Young People

Ages Covered

Adults & Paediatrics