

Kat Thorley
Expert Witness
Occupational Therapist
London



Professional Experience

Kat is a highly skilled Occupational Therapist with almost a decade of experience and specialist expertise in Neurorehabilitation. Upon qualification, Kat took on an Occupational Therapy role with King's College NHS Foundation Trust. During her two years in this position, she gained experience within the acute Stroke Unit, leading the development and delivery of treatment plans for a varied and complex caseload of patients. From 2015 to 2018, Kat worked across multiple NHS settings, including a Community Stroke Team, Neuro Assessment Ward and acute Stroke Unit. Her responsibilities included supporting service development activity, providing equipment provision recommendations, managing discharges, training Rehabilitation Support Workers and leading the end-to-end assessment and treatment of stroke patients. She also managed a caseload across multiple wards, including general medical, surgical and neurological patients.

In 2019, Kat worked in Camden Community Neurology & Stroke Service, Kingston Hospital Neurology & Stroke Service then Clayponds Hospital Neurology & Stroke Service, supporting the assessment and rehabilitation of individuals with a wide range of neurological conditions, including early supported discharge (ESD) of Stroke patients. She then took on a role at St Helier Hospital, assessing and treating neuro outlier patients, including cases involving neuro-oncology, Spinal Cord injury, Guillain Barre Syndrome and Stroke.

In 2020, she worked as an Occupational Therapist at Camden Community Neuro & Stroke Service and within level 1 Neurorehabilitation at The Wellington Hospital. She also took on a role providing training and education to healthcare professions wishing to volunteer at the NHS Nightingale Hospital during the pandemic. This included serving as a train the trainer lead for the psychological wellbeing team. She then joined the community neurology team at Guys & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, managing a complex caseload of neurological patients with conditions including spinal injury, acquired brain injury, MND, MS and neuromuscular disorders. This involved extensive interagency work, disability management, progressive rehabilitation, providing recommendations regarding home adaptations and specialist equipment and supporting rehousing. In 2021, she moved to Croydon University Hospital's Stroke & Early Supported Discharges Services Team, supporting discharge activity, treatment planning and report writing. She then returned to Guy & St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust, working within the Community Stroke Team, leading the assessment and treatment of Stroke patients. This involved significant interagency working, raising safeguarding concerns as appropriate, producing thorough and accurate discharge reports following the six to eight week rehabilitation period and completing onward referrals.

Kat is an Expert Witness for Harrison Associates, utilising her wealth of clinical expertise to evaluate complex cases and provide thorough and objective reports and astute recommendations. She is fully trained in the Civil Procedures Rules and continually develops her clinical and medico-legal skills via a range of additional training.

Specialisms

- Brain Injury
- Neurological Conditions
- Stroke
- Neuro-oncology
- Neuromuscular Disorders
- Disability Management
- Housing Adaptions
- Specialist Equipment
- Rehousing
- Early Supported Discharge

Age group

- Adults
- Elderly 65+

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Career history

- Occupational Therapist 2024 - 2025
Independent Neurological Occupational Therapist
- Occupational Therapist 2023 - 2024
Haringey Community Stroke Team
- Occupational Therapist 2022 - 2023
Lishman Unit - Neuropsychiatric Rehabilitation
(South London and Maudsley NHS Trust)
- Occupational Therapist 2022 - 2022
University Hospital Lewisham (Stroke Unit and Hyper Acute Stroke Unit)
- Occupational Therapist 2022 - 2022
Guy & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust (Community Neuro Team)
- Occupational Therapist 2021 - 2022
University Hospital Birmingham (Stroke Unit and Hyper Acute Stroke Unit)
- Occupational Therapist 2021 - 2021
Guys & St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust (Community Stroke Team)
- Occupational Therapist 2021 - 2021
Croydon University Hospital (Stroke & ESD Services)
- Occupational Therapist 2020 - 2021
Guy & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust (Community Neuro Team)
- Occupational Therapist 2020
The Wellington Hospital (Neurological Rehabilitation)
- Educator & Trainer 2020
Nightingale Education Faculty
- Occupational Therapist 2019 - 2020
Camden Community Neurology & Stroke Service and St Helier Hospital
(Neurology Outliers)
- Occupational Therapist 2019
Claypond's Hospital (Neuro & Stroke Service), Kingston Hospital (Acute Stroke Unit)
and Camden Community Neuro & Stroke Service
- Occupational Therapist 2017
Barnet Hospital (Acute Stroke Unit)
- Occupational Therapist 2016 - 2017
Princess Royal Hospital (General Medical and Neurology Assessment Ward)
- Occupational Therapist 2015 - 2016
Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust (Community Stroke Team)
- Occupational Therapist 2013 - 2015
Kings College NHS Foundation Trust (Acute Stroke Unit and Orthopaedic Ward)

Qualifications

- BSc (hons) Occupational Therapy

Professional Memberships

- HCPC
- RCOT
- EWI
- BABICM