



## Professional Background

Ciarán O'Hagan is an Occupational Therapist with over sixteen years of clinical experience, with the last eight years specialising in neurological rehabilitation. His clinical work has focused predominantly on adults with acquired brain injury and stroke, alongside individuals living with long-term neurological conditions. He has developed extensive expertise in the assessment and rehabilitation of complex neurological presentations, including severe cognitive impairment, visual impairment, mood disorders and complex sensorimotor deficits affecting the upper limb.

His practice spans acute hospital services, inpatient neurorehabilitation units, community therapy and admission avoidance services, providing him with a broad understanding of neurological recovery pathways from acute admission through to community reintegration. Within specialist stroke rehabilitation settings he undertakes comprehensive neurological assessments, including upper limb function, cognitive and visual assessment, and sensory evaluation, and develops goal-oriented treatment programmes to support functional recovery and independence. His clinical work routinely involves identifying equipment requirements, recommending care provision and supporting safe discharge planning for individuals with significant neurological impairment. Ciarán has substantial experience working within inpatient brain injury rehabilitation services, where he has managed individuals with complex neurological conditions including stroke, traumatic brain injury, brain tumours and other long-term neurological disorders. His role has included detailed functional assessment, development of rehabilitation plans, goal setting and regular outcome review, alongside complex discharge planning involving liaison with health and social care services. His work frequently requires assessment of functional capacity in both hospital and community environments, including home visits and the implementation of graded home leave to support transition back to the community. He has also undertaken leadership responsibilities within neurological rehabilitation services, including working as Lead Occupational Therapist within an inpatient brain injury rehabilitation unit. In this role he was responsible for supervising occupational therapy staff and therapy assistants, contributing to service development and implementing structured training programmes for allied health professionals.

Ciarán maintains his professional practice through ongoing training, clinical supervision and engagement with occupational therapy research and professional literature. He is fully trained in the Civil Procedure Rules, including relevant revisions as they arise. He actively maintains his continuing professional development via a range of training opportunities.

## Specialisms

- Brain Injury
- Neurological conditions
- MND & FND
- Cognitive disabilities
- Vegetative state
- Respiratory conditions
- General Medical & Surgical Conditions
- Palliative care
- Specialist equipment provision

## Age group

- Adults



## Career history

- Locum Band 6 Occupational Therapist (Stroke) 2023 - Present  
Powys Teaching Health Board
  - Providing specialist stroke occupational therapy services within Brecon Hospital Stroke Rehabilitation Unit.
  - Completing neurological assessments, including upper limb, visual, cognitive and sensory assessment, goal setting and treatment planning
  - Identifying equipment needs, care needs and further therapy to support a safe discharge.
- Bank Band 7 Occupational Therapist (Stroke) 2022 - Present  
Yeatman Hospital, Dorset County Hospital NHSFT
  - Providing specialist stroke occupational therapy services within Yeatman Hospital Stroke Rehabilitation Unit.
  - Completing neurological assessments, including upper limb, visual, cognitive and sensory assessment, goal setting and treatment planning
  - Identifying equipment needs, care needs and further therapy to support a safe discharge.
- Independent Occupational Therapist 2021 - Present  
Evolve Neuro Rehab, Blandford Forum, Dorset, UK
  - Providing specialist neurological occupational therapy services across Dorset, neighbouring counties and overseas.
  - Completing neurological assessments covering social history, physical examination including upper limb assessment, cognitive evaluation, seating and postural assessments, functional assessments, and liaison with other health and social care professionals.
  - Setting goals, implementing treatment plans, and regularly reviewing the goals.
  - Offering advice on equipment and adaptations to enable increased independence and participation in daily activities.
- Band 7 Lead Occupational Therapist 2020 - 2021  
South Newton Hospital, Renovo Care Group, South Newton, Salisbury, UK
  - Worked as the Lead OT in a new in-patient brain injury rehabilitation service. Typical conditions that I worked with were stroke, traumatic brain injury, long-term neurological conditions etc.
  - Providing specialist neurological OT assessments, treatment plans and goal setting for a wide variety of complex neuro conditions.
  - Involved in complex discharge planning, including liaison with multiple external agencies to ensure a safe return home for the patient.
  - This post also included numerous service development projects and recruiting and supervision of other members of the OT team.
- Band 6 Occupational Therapist 2019 - 2020  
Stroke Services – Dorset County Hospital, UK



## Career history

- Completed rotations within the acute stroke unit, neuro outliers, and the Stroke Early Supported Discharge (ESD) team.
  - This caseload also included working with patients with brain injuries, Parkinson's Disease and M.S.
  - Was heavily involved in complex discharge planning that included hoisting, postural management, upper limb rehabilitation and teaching compensatory techniques for activities of daily living.
- Locum Band 6 Occupational Therapist 2018 - 2019  
Glenside Neuro-Rehabilitation Hospital, Salisbury, UK
    - Completion of neuro assessments, goal setting, treatment plans and progress reviews for patients with brain injuries (stroke, brain tumours, traumatic brain injuries etc) and long-term neurological conditions.
    - Assessment and treatment planning for patients with upper limb disorders, cognitive deficits, and behavioural issues.
    - Functional assessment both on-site and within a community setting.
    - Involved in complex discharge planning, home visits and setting up overnight/weekend home leave for patients.
  - Locum Band 6/7 Occupational Therapist 2016 - 2018  
Various Recruitment Agencies
  - Band 6 Occupational Therapist 2015 - 2016  
Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Older Persons Assessment Team
  - Band 6 Occupational Therapist 2009 - 2012  
Royal Bournemouth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
    - Acute medical unit, including respiratory
    - Gastroenterology/Cardiology
  - Band 5 Occupational Therapist 2009 - 2012  
Royal Bournemouth Hospital
    - Medicine for the Elderly
    - Acute Medical and Surgery
    - Community Rehabilitation Team
    - Orthopaedics and Hand Therapy

## Qualifications

- 2016 - Distinction MSc Module: Advanced History Taking and Physical Assessment, Bournemouth University, UK
- 2009 – 2:1 BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy, Bournemouth University, UK
- 2006 – Pass Access to Higher Education, Bournemouth and Poole College, UK

## Professional Memberships

- HCPC