

Independence Found Ltd

Enhancing Participation and Potential

Elissa Peers BSc (Hons), MRCOT Clinical Specialist Occupational Therapist

Professional Qualification:	BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy 2002 Coventry University
Clinical specialities:	Assessment, treatment and evaluation of those with complex neurological needs including traumatic brain injury, MS, spinal cord injury, stroke and brain tumours.
Locations covered:	South Birmingham & Solihull and surrounding areas in person.

Professional Summary

Elissa qualified as an occupational therapist at Coventry University in 2002. She has worked extensively within the NHS for over 20 years, working with patients with complex neurological conditions for over 15 years. Elissa has worked in community, inpatient and outpatient settings, where she has developed a wide range of skills. She can provide occupational therapy at all stages of rehabilitation including working with those in low conscious states through to community rehabilitation. She uses a range of standardised tools to support her work and carries a caseload of mixed complexities.

Skills Highlights

- **Extensive Neuro-Rehab Experience:** Elissa has extensive experience working with clients with complex neurodisabilities, including those with physical, cognitive, and perceptual challenges. Elissa frequently manages comprehensive neurorehabilitation programmes in inpatient and community settings to address cognitive and behavioural difficulties, pain, fatigue management and manual handling as part of an MDT.
- **Advanced Upper Limb Rehab Skills:** Elissa completes upper limb assessments and rehabilitation programmes including provision of splinting and development of fine and gross skills and functional abilities.
- **Therapeutic Postural Management:** Elissa is highly skilled in specialist seating assessments for the provision of wheelchairs and comfort chairs including for 24-hour postural management programmes.
- **Advanced Accredited SMART Assessor:** Elissa has a special interest in the assessment and treatment of patients in a Persistent Disorder of Consciousness (PDOC) and is an advanced accredited SMART (Sensory Modality Assessment and Rehabilitation Tool) assessor.
- **Sensory Regulation Programmes:** Elissa is an active member of specialist interest groups for PDOC patients and has developed sensory regulation programmes with the group.

Tel: Hayley on
07807816997

Email:
admin@independencefound.co.uk

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- **Excellent Knowledge of Neurological and Statutory Services:** She has extensive knowledge of rehabilitation pathways, community rehabilitation services, continuing healthcare assessments, health and social care organisations and housing services and she regularly liaises with these agencies in relation to the needs of her clients.
- **MDT proficiency:** Elissa has decades of experience working within an MDT. She has excellent communication and report-writing skills. She is proactive in working with other disciplines to maximise rehabilitation outcomes. She values working alongside family members as an integral part of the rehabilitation process. She provides intervention on a 1:1 and group basis.
- **Outcome Measurement Proficiency:** Elissa is proficient with a range of outcome measures, including WHIM, FIM/FAM scoring, Cognitive Rehabilitation Tool (CRS+), SMART and GAS goal-setting for evaluating treatment efficacy along with a range of other assessment tools.
- **Clinical Supervisor:** Elissa supervises support staff, junior OTs and students and is actively involved in clinical training provision and service development.

Professional Experience

- Elissa joined Independence Found in 2024 as an Associate Occupational Therapist.
- She continues to work part time as a Band 6 Neuro Occupational Therapist at a Level 1 Brain injury facility/unit.

Her previous roles include:

- Band 7 OT in general rehabilitation in outpatients and community rehabilitation services.
- Band 6 OT in level 1, 2 and private neurorehabilitation facilities.

Professional Membership

- Registered with the Health & Care Professions Council – Registration Number OT35701
- Member of the Royal College of Occupational Therapy (RCOT)
- British Association of Occupational Therapists (BAOT)

Continuing Professional Development

Elissa is currently attending a Leader Programme for Frontline Clinical Care. She is proactive with her continuing professional development and regularly attends events and training relevant to her practice and ongoing development. She keeps up to date with mandatory training i.e. manual handling, basic life support, safeguarding and fire safety.

"Elissa is a highly skilled OT. She goes the extra mile for her patients and offers support to relatives".

"Elissa always shows all those around her support and empathy and her intuitive response to those she works with is exceptional".

Ruth Banner – Clinical Lead Occupational Therapist

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