



Melissa Avis

Speech and Language Therapist

Types of Reports Undertaken: Quantum SALT Reports

Locations covered: England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Southern Ireland.

Client Age categories: Adults, Older Adults



Specialisms:

- Speech and Swallowing impairments
- Acquired Brain Injury
- Neurological Conditions
- Progressive neurological disorders
- Neuro-oncology

Profile:

Since moving to the UK in 2013, I have worked exclusively within neuro rehabilitation services in a variety of clinical settings including acute care, the community and a short-term inpatient rehabilitation facility, working in both statutory services and within the independent sector.

I have a special interest interdisciplinary working practices, facilitating patient centred approaches to deliver a high standard of care, promoting service users' independence and improving quality of life.

I am a Specialist Neurological Speech and Language Therapist with over a decade of experience working across private, NHS, and voluntary sectors both in the UK and Internationally. My expertise spans a wide range of complex and non-complex neurological conditions and disabilities.

During my NHS career, I have held several senior roles, where my roles have involved shaping and improving neurorehabilitation care, providing mentoring and supervision to my junior colleagues and students, ensuring optimal service user outcomes.

Within my role as both the lead Speech and Language Therapist and treating therapist of speech and language therapist practice, I offer support to a team specialist neurological speech and language therapists providing home-based and care home services across the United Kingdom. My role includes consultancy in complex neurorehabilitation cases, supporting patients with traumatic brain injuries, and other neurological conditions.



I enjoy opportunities to be involved in the clinical education of my peers and colleagues across the multidisciplinary team and health care assistants.

I understand my duties as an expert witness under the Civil Procedure Rules and have undertaken specialist training in this role. I regularly participate in professional development to ensure my expertise remains up to date.

My Specialist Skills include:

- Cognitive Communication Impairment
- Aphasia assessment and treatment
- Dysphasia assessment
- Facial Oral Tract Therapy (FOTT)

Qualifications and Memberships:

- Batchelor of Speech Pathology (2010) Flinders University, Adelaide
- Member of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) - RC0036191
- Registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) SL31462
- Member of the Acquired Brain Injury Clinical Excellence Network
- Member of the London Adult Neuro Clinical Excellence Network
- Member of FEES/VFSS Clinical Excellence Network – A special interest group for instrumental swallow assessments
- Member of the Dysphagia and Adult Rehabilitation Interest Group (DARIG)