



Sonia McGarvey

Occupational Therapist

Types of Reports Undertaken: Occupational Therapy Reports,
Combined Care & OT Reports

Locations Covered: Northern Ireland

Client Age Categories: Paediatric, Adult



Specialisms:

- Brain Injury
- Healthcare Education
- Housing Adaptions
- Manual Handling

Profile:

I am a qualified Occupational Therapist with over 26 years' experience of assessing the needs of individuals with a wide range of disabilities in Ireland and the USA.

I prepare court compliant expert witness occupational therapy reports on quantum and liability on a wide range of injuries in personal injury and clinical negligence cases.

The type of injuries/conditions I report on as an Occupational Therapist include:

- Spinal Cord Injury
- Stroke and Acquired Brain Injury
- Cerebral Palsy
- Neuromuscular disorders with special interest in scoliosis.
- Neurodegenerative diseases e.g dementia/parkinsons' disease
- Orthopaedic injuries and rehabilitation e.g, hip fractures and replacements.
- Upper limb-including hand injuries
- Medical Rehabilitation
- Surgical rehabilitation

I currently work in private practice carrying out occupational therapy assessments and reports on clients of all ages. This includes the full scope of an OT role of assessing functional, therapeutic, equipment, environmental-including housing adaptations, ergonomic, postural and seating needs and providing treatment required.

I worked as a senior OT in a stroke and medical rehabilitation unit in a university hospital from 2001 until 2018.

I am experienced in completing complex discharge planning for patient with neurological impairments, to ensure all adaptations, care and equipment needs are in place on discharge from hospital and have worked closely with patients, carers and outside agencies to ensure appropriate support.

Part of my role as an Occupational therapist is family and carer training. My skills in carer training and auditing of quality of care has been further enhanced in the last year in my role as a healthcare tutor



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teaching and assessing healthcare students of Quality Qualifications Ireland (QQI) in modules such as care of the older person, care skills ,infection prevention and control.

I am experienced in the supervision and training of occupational therapists.

I am an off road assessor for the Irish Wheelchair Association where I assess an individuals' cognitive, perceptual and physical functioning and work closely with the on road assessor to make recommendations to enable the individuals' GP to determine fitness to drive.

I have an in-depth knowledge of assistive technology and its role in habilitation and rehabilitation.

I am AMPS (Assessment of Motor and Process Skills) trained and calibrated.

I am a manual handling Instructor.

I am competent in the use of Functional electrical stimulation (FES) and am a certified clinician of the Ekso-bionic suit, the Bioness H200 and the RT300.

I am competent in using standardised and non-standardised assessments and interpreting these into a person's functional status and ascertaining loss and rehabilitation needs.

I have undertaken expert witness training and I understand my responsibilities as an expert witness.

I am committed to attending regular training courses and conferences and keep abreast of new equipment and technology and to maintain my continuous professional development and ensure that my clinical skills are in line with current evidence-based practice. I deliver training regularly, have written articles for Spinal injuries Ireland which have been published and presented nationally at conference.

Qualifications and Memberships:

- BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy Trinity College Dublin. (1993)
- PG Cert Applied Health Studies-Neuroscience University of Ulster (2020)
- Foundation in Assistive Technologies-Dublin Institute Technology & Microsoft. (2013)
- Registered Occupational Therapist with CORU
- Member of The Association of Occupational Therapists of Ireland (AOTI).
- Member of the Accreditation Committee of AOTI
- Member of the Neurology Advisory Group of AOTI
- Member of the Irish Wheelchair Association
- Member of Spinal Injuries Ireland
- Member of the Royal College of Occupational Therapy
- Member of Back Up Trust UK
- Director and Founding Member of the No Barriers Foundation.