



Jill Kings (nee Dawson) Clinical Director

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Neural Pathways (UK) Ltd

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PERSONAL AND CAREER JOURNEY

Jill began her career as an occupational therapist in 1990 and spent 18 years in London working in complex neurological rehabilitation services including the RNRU Homerton Hospital, RRU Northwick Park Hospital and Regional Neurosciences at The Royal Free Hospital.

The last 7 years of her NHS career, Jill worked at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery as Therapy and Rehabilitation Services Manager. This role involved providing strategic leadership and vision across 140 staff from 7 different professions alongside managing a £7million revenue budget.

Jill's portfolio included 18 (level 1) complex specialist neurorehabilitation beds, Spasticity Services, MS Services, Neuropsychology Services, Complex Pain Services and provision of interdisciplinary therapy services to 200 neuromedicine, neurosurgery, neurocritical care, neuropsychiatric in-patients. Comprehensive therapy outpatient services included one-stop-shop clinics to patients with MND, movement disorders including MSA, HD and ataxia and other specialist services such as neuro-orthotics, casting, splinting and complex disability management.

During her time in this role Jill successfully tendered for 10 (level 2B) specialist neurorehabilitation beds for Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster PCTs and redesigned access to specialist stroke therapy services within 24 hours for all patients across UCLH Trust.

Since leaving the NHS Jill has led her own therapy company, undertaken expert medico legal work and held a senior lecturer post at the University of Northumbria. She is a published researcher and book author; she has contributed to professional best practice guidelines, and is currently reviewer for two therapy journals.

More importantly than her clinical and senior leadership experience, Jill has a strong belief in the power of team working. She is passionate about effective neurorehabilitation and about developing the skills of therapists alongside delivering meaningful, sustainable outcomes for clients. She is lively, enthusiastic and approachable but does not miss the little details that matter. Jill is proud to be leading Neural Pathways and truly believes in the difference a highly skilled, motivated and inspirational therapy team can make when creating positive change to the lives of clients and those around them.

KEY SKILLS

Leadership Skills

- Ability to effectively inspire and lead interprofessional teams
- Strategic thinker with an ability to quickly analyse complex information
- Synthesis of external policy into high quality needs-led care
- Track record of leading and influencing transformational change across multifaceted organisational and systems boundaries
- Transparent communicator with a reputation for integrity and client centered vision
- Advanced project management and implementation skills

Specific clinical interests and expertise

- Complex seating and 24 hour positioning
- Spasticity management including splinting and the use of botulinum toxin
- Upper limb rehabilitation including Constraint Induced Movement Therapy
- Intensive treatment and technology assisted rehabilitation
- Exercise interventions for people with Parkinson's
- Self-management for people with progressive neurological conditions

Other professional skills

- The use of outcome measurement in neurological rehabilitation
- Designing and delivering skills based training courses
- Mentorship and motivational support
- Single Case Design and in-vivo Action Research

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND KEY PROJECTS

2018: Launched the second edition of Occupational Therapy for people with Parkinson's. This was joint venture between the Specialist Section Neurological Practice, RCOT and Parkinson's UK (see publications)

2018: Contributed to Splinting Guidelines Development Group on behalf of the Specialist Section Neurological Practice, Royal College of Occupational Therapists in conjunction with Association Chartered Physiotherapists Interested in Neurology.

2017: Invited speaker at Royal College of Occupational Therapists: Specialist Section Neurological Practice Annual Conference - Talk entitled 'Mind the gap: Evidence and guidelines, translating them into everyday practice'

2017: Invited speaker at University College London Models of Neurorehabilitation Symposium: who, what, why, when and how? - Talk entitled 'The case for intensive community rehabilitation'.

2017: First Allied Health Professional to be asked join the Royal College of Physicians Invited Service Review (ISR) Team.

2015 -2017 Clinical Lead for local neurological charity Northern Neurological Alliance

2016: Work Package Lead: Integrating Models of Care Work Stream, part of the NHS England and Strategic Clinical Networks 'Community Neurology Project'.
<http://tvscn.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Transforming-Community-Neurology-Part-A-Transformation-Guide-version-1.pdf>

2011 - 2013: Co-Chair of the Allied Health Professional (AHP) Local Education and Training Board sub-group for Health Education North East.

2010 - 2013: Physical Health Representative for the NICE accredited Practice Publications Group (PPG) for the Royal College of Occupational Therapists.

2001 - 2003: Chair of the College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section National Association of Neurological Occupational Therapists (NANOT).

2003: Invited lead for the therapy working group contributing the National Clinical Guidelines for Rehabilitation following Acquired Brain Injury

PUBLICATIONS

Aragon A, Kings J (2018) Occupational therapy for people with Parkinson's: best practice guidance. 2nd Edition. Royal College of Occupational Therapists, London

Northern Neurological Alliance & Kings J (2016) *A Guide to Multiple System Atrophy for: Occupational Therapist*. MSA Trust

Meharg, A & Kings J (2015) How to do Constraint Induced Movement Therapy: a practical guide. Harrison Training Bath

Preston, J & Edmans, J (2015) *Occupational Therapy and Neurological Conditions*, Wiley Press. Sole author of Outcomes Measure Chapter 6 and contributing author elsewhere.

Aragon, A, Kings, J & Playford ED (2013) The role of the occupational therapy in the rehabilitation of people with movement disorders, in *Rehabilitation for Movement Disorders*, ed. Iansek R & Morris, ME. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

Aragon A, Kings J (2010) Occupational therapy for people with Parkinson's: best practice guidelines. College of Occupational Therapists, London

Jain S, Kings J, Playford ED (2005) Occupational Therapy for people with progressive neurological disorders: unpacking the black box. *British Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 69 (3) 125-130

Jain S, Dawson J, Quinn NP, Playford ED (2004) Occupational therapy in Multiple System Atrophy: A pilot randomized controlled trial. *Movement Disorders*. 19 (11),1360 -1364

Dawson J, Thornton, H (2003) Can patients with unilateral neglect following stroke drive electrically powered wheelchairs? *British Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 66 (11) 496-504

Dawson, J and Bartlett, E (1996) Change within interdisciplinary teamwork: one unit's experience. *British Journal of Therapy and Rehabilitation*. 3 (4) p. 219 - 222

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

Diploma of the College of Occupational Therapists

Newcastle upon Tyne Polytechnic, 1987 - 1990

Master of Science in Neurorehabilitation

Brunel University, London, 1996 - 1999

Post Graduate Certificate Higher Education Practice

Northumbria University, 2011 - 2013

Health and Care Professions Council - current membership

British Association of Occupational Therapists - current membership

**Specialist Section Neurological Practice
Royal College of Occupational Therapists** - current membership
