



Life Changing Rehabilitation

## Jill Kings (nee Dawson) Clinical Director

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Neural Pathways

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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 neuroorthotics, 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

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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.

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## **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
- Self-management for people with progressive neurological conditions
- Intensive treatment for Functional Neurological Disorders
- Cueing for movement initiation for people with Parkinson's
- Technology assisted rehabilitation for people with Locked-in Syndrome

### **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

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## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY AND MEMBERSHIPS**

Invited author College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section in Neurology 'Occupational Therapy and Neurological Conditions' book – published 2015

Current reviewer for the British Journal of Occupational Therapists and the International Journal of Therapy and Rehabilitation

Co-Chair, North East Allied Health Professions Collaborative and Sub-Group for Health Education North East (previously Strategic Health Authority) 2011 - 2013

Physical Health Representative on the Practice Publications Guidelines Group, College of Occupational Therapists 2010 - 2013

Lead for the therapy working group responsible for the development and publication of

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National Clinical Guidelines for Rehabilitation following Acquired Brain Injury  
*Royal College of Physicians and British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine (2003)*  
*Rehabilitation following acquired brain injury: national clinical Guidelines (TurnerStokes L, ed). London: RCP, BSRM*

Past Chair National Association of Neurological Occupational Therapists 2001-2003

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## **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

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## **PUBLICATIONS**

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

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