



Neuro Rehab
Group

CHARLIE DOUTHWAITE

CURRICULUM VITAE

Charlie qualified as a Speech and Language Therapist with honours in 2017. He is a member of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) and the Association of Speech and Language Therapists (ASLTIP) and is registered with the Health and Care Professional Council (HCPC).

Charlie has completed post-graduate training in dysphagia and he is also an accredited SMART assessor.

Charlie started his career working with the NHS. In 2020 he took up the role of Senior Speech and Language Therapist for Elysium Healthcare, working as part of the multidisciplinary team at Adderley Green Care Centre in Stoke-on-Trent. Adderley Green provides specialist inpatient neurological rehabilitation and complex care for people with neurological illnesses, acquired brain injuries and spinal cord injuries.

During Charlie's time there, he accumulated valuable skills in managing clients within a slow-stream, neurorehabilitation setting. The majority of Charlie's caseload consisted of adults who, following an acute brain injury, required 24-hour care within a residential setup and support from an array of therapeutic disciplines.

To that end, most of Charlie's work involved being a part of a collaborative process. This regularly comprised of joint assessments, goal setting, planning interventions, care coordination and evaluating outcomes. Charlie's primary contributions to the process came directly from his expertise in communication and swallow management. These areas were often broad; they had a widespread impact on the clients Charlie worked with and in turn, were susceptible to changes elsewhere. Consequently, the scope of Charlie's input frequently overlapped with that of the other disciplines in the team and they therefore depended on each other to ensure the client's needs were being met at each stage of their journey.

Liaising with outside agencies was also a key aspect of Charlie's role. Whilst Adderley Green was capable of meeting the basic rehabilitation needs of most residents, it was not uncommon for Charlie to require specialist input from outside. This could range from ENT support with tracheostomy weaning, to hi-tech Augmentative and Alternative Communication troubleshooting. Where these circumstances arose, Charlie liaised with other specialist teams to facilitate their assessment and intervention, in view of meeting the additional needs of the residents.

Beyond clinical expertise, Charlie's wider contributions to interdisciplinary working were equally as important. As Charlie's role evolved, he became increasingly responsible for overseeing certain aspects of the rehabilitation pathway.



Personal Qualities and Experience

Since Charlie began working as a qualified therapist, he has gained a deeper understanding and appreciation for the work within community, acute and rehabilitation settings. Part of maintaining Charlie's high standards of work has depended on a combination of being organised and having the willingness to adapt.

In each of the roles Charlie has performed, the demands have required him to demonstrate a mature range of personal qualities. Where required, Charlie is able to adapt his communication for others and he can also display assertiveness when appropriate. Charlie continues to show that he possesses the essential interpersonal skills needed to perform his role effectively, demonstrating the ability to observe, listen and express empathy for clients, family and colleagues. In clinical practice, those qualities have enabled Charlie to problem solve and negotiate effectively, in addition to giving him a degree of understanding towards the needs of different client groups. They have also been of benefit to Charlie's continuing professional development, where it has been important for Charlie to assimilate the advice and perspectives of the professionals around him. Charlie's ability to reflect on his own performance remains an invaluable asset and has helped Charlie to grow as a professional.

Leadership qualities have become an increasingly prominent factor in Charlie's progress. Charlie prides himself on being able to motivate and enable others, from the foundations of a good relationship.

Everything Charlie has achieved so far is a testament to the positive, "can do" attitude he strives to maintain and his continuing aim as a professional is to provide clients with the best care he can.