

CURRICULUM VITAE



CLARE GARSIDE

EXPERT WITNESS

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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Clare Louise Garside

Date of birth: 21 December 1954

Qualifications: Diploma of the College of Occupational Therapists (1976)

Affiliations: Registered with the Health and Care Professions Council
APIL accredited as a First Tier Expert Witness

RÉSUMÉ

Clare Garside has practised as an Occupational Therapy Expert Witness since 1984, providing reports to inform the Courts in cases of personal injury and clinical negligence, and less frequently family, criminal and miscellaneous matters, and is a founding director of Assessability Limited. In addition to her extensive experience she has undertaken formal Expert Witness training in report writing and giving evidence in court. She has attended Court on ten occasions, giving evidence three times. She holds Professional Indemnity insurance to the value of six million pounds. Assessability is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office, ICO reference: Z719546X.

She prepares some 15 assessment reports a year to inform litigation on the instruction of the claimant (average 70%) or defendant (average 20%) or as a single joint expert (average 10%). She has extensive experience of preparing Joint Statements. Her expertise typically contributes in the following types of cases:

- Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence
Well-evidenced and fully costed reports of functional assessment, past and future care, equipment, rehabilitation and leisure needs and related losses
- Family Law
Assessment of competence and facilities to care for children
- Housing and Court of Protection
Assessment of suitability of accommodation and necessary adaptations

Clare Garside gained her Diploma from Derby School of Occupational Therapy, where she was Student of the Year, 1976. She maintains clinical experience within her work for Assessability Limited. Previous employment has been with the Royal Air Force and the National Health Service, reaching the grade of Head III. Across her career she has gained specific experience of wheelchair and special seating assessment and prescription, interventions with the elderly severely mentally ill and in treating orthopaedic, head and hand injuries.

Clare Garside maintains a portfolio of continuous professional development reading occupational therapy, assistive technology and legal journals, attending short courses and relevant exhibitions such as Naidex, the national exhibition of disability equipment and services. She is a member of the College of Occupational Therapists, their Independent Practitioners Specialist Section and its Medico-Legal Forum .

LEGAL TRAINING AND CONFERENCES

26 January 2021	Bond Solon Legal Update webinar
October 2017 Cardiff	10 th Annual Conference of COTSS-IP Medico-Legal Forum
October 2016 Nottingham	9 th Annual Conference of COTSS-IP Medico-Legal Forum
October 2015 Stratford Upon Avon	8 th Annual Conference of COTSS-IP Medico-Legal Forum
June 2015 Penrith	A Chance for Life Conference
November 2014 London	Bond Solon; Expert Witness Conference
October 2014 Reading	7 th Annual Conference of COTSS-IP Medico-Legal Forum
October 2013 York	6 th Annual Conference of COTSS-IP Medico-Legal Forum
July 2013 London	Catastrophic Injury Seminar
May 2013 Liverpool	Transforming Legal Aid Consultation
March 2012 Milton Keynes	5 th Annual Conference of COTSS-IP Medico-Legal Forum
February 2011 Birmingham	Solicitors Group Personal Injury Seminar

October 2010 Bromsgrove	4 th Annual Conference of COTSS-IP Medico-Legal Forum
February 2010 NEC, Birmingham	Solicitors Group Civil Litigation Seminar
October 2009 Manchester	3 rd Annual Conference of COTSS-IP Medico-Legal Forum
October 2008 Bristol	2 nd Annual Conference of COTSS-IP Medico-Legal Forum
November 2007 London	Bond Solon; Expert Witness Conference
October 2007 Warwick	1 st Annual Conference of COTSS-IP Medico-Legal Forum
October 2007 Crannage Hall	Society of Expert Witnesses Autumn Conference
November 2006 London	BMA; Medico-legal practice: addressing key issues for doctors as experts
May 2003 Haydock	Society of Expert Witnesses Workshop; Terms of Engagement
July 2002 Manchester	Bond Solon; Expert witness legal update training
February 2000 London	Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL); Training for Expert Witnesses

Prior to this date Clare Garside attended Bond Solon and Society of Expert Witnesses Conferences and courses in Lord Woolf's Reforms for Experts (June 1999) Legal Report and Statement Writing (June 1995) and Advanced Courtroom Skills (October 1994).

POSTGRADUATE CLINICAL TRAINING AND CONFERENCES

27 November 2024 The OT Show
Birmingham

22 November 2023 The OT Show
Birmingham

23 November 2022 The OT Show
Birmingham

6 October 2022 Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conference
Coventry

26 May 2022 Understanding Huntingdon's Disease – Yorkshire Care
Equipment webinar

13 October 2021 – 14 April 2021	Six webinars on Pressure Ulcers, including Aetiology, Risk Assessment and Treatment
18 March 2021	Multi-level Access Solutions webinar – Disabled Living Foundation
19 February 2021	Complex Postural Management for Wheelchair Users webinar – RCOT Specialist Section – Independent Practice
18 February 2021	Access Solutions webinar – Disabled Living Foundation
8 February 2021	Clinical Reasoning 2 webinar - Accora
5 February 2021	V-Trak Modular Seating webinar - RCOT Specialist Section – Independent Practice
3 February 2021	Independence in the Home webinar - Naidex
25 January 2021	Clinical Reasoning 1 webinar - Accora
20 January 2021	Bathroom Design webinar – Disabled Living Foundation
18 December 2020	Kitchen Design webinar – Disabled Living Foundation
28 October 2020	Infection Prevention webinar – Accora
24 September 2020	Showerbuddy webinar
7 July 2020 On-line webinar	The OT Show - Creative Solutions for Complex Moving and Handling Assessments
November 2018 Birmingham	The OT Show
October 2017 Cardiff	29 th Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
October 2016 Nottingham	28 th Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
October 2015 Stratford Upon Avon	27 th Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
November 2014 Manchester	Kidz up North
October 2014 Reading	26 th Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
November 2013 Birmingham	The OT Show
October 2013	Kingcraft Equipment Refresher Day

Manchester

October 2013 25th Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
York

October 2013 Disabled Living Equipment Refresher Day
Manchester

November 2012 Kidz up North
Bolton

May/June 2012 Moving and Handling People: Trainers and Assessors
Manchester Five day course

March 2012 24th Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
Milton Keynes

October 2010 23rd Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
Bromsgrove

October 2009 22nd Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
Manchester

October 2008 21st Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
Bristol

September 2008 Bengt Engström; Seating seminar and workshop
Manchester

September 2008 Child Brain Injury Trust, Brain Injury workshop
Preston

April 2008 Manual Handling, Sefton NHS Trust
Liverpool

October 2007 20th Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
Warwick

October 2006 19th Occupational Therapists in Independent Practice conf.
Durham

March 2006 14 day study tour of Chinese Health facilities; Shanghai, Beijing,
Xi'an and Yangshuo. World Federation of Occupational
Therapists

November 2005 Housing Adaptations, Disabled Living Foundation
London

November 2005 Designing Accessible Housing, Disabled Living Foundation
London

April 2004 Posture and Mobility Group conference

March 2004 Training in bed safety equipment and wheelchairs and special
seating

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dates To- From	Organisation and Role
Continuing October 2002 -	<p>Consultant Occupational Therapist Joint Managing Director, Assessability Limited. Occupational Therapy consultancy and expert witness service</p> <p>Provision of reports and testimony to inform litigation, with experience of claimant, defendant and single joint instruction and of giving evidence in court.</p> <p>Assessment for Family Court matters, wheelchair provision and disability adaptation.</p>
September 2002 - April 1988	<p>Consultant Occupational Therapist, Partner, Direction Consultants Occupational Therapy consultancy and expert witness service</p> <p>Prior to incorporation, Assessability traded as Direction Consultants. Clare Garside was joint principal of the partnership, and had been preparing reports in support of litigation during this period and for about four years prior to the inception of the partnership in 1988.</p>
October 2012 - April 2000	<p>Freelance Senior I Occupational Therapist (1 day/week), Wheelchair Services, Southport and Ormskirk Hospitals NHS Trust (Formerly Sefton PCT, Southport and Formby PCT and North Sefton and West Lancashire NHS Trust).</p>
July - January 1999	<p>Freelance Senior I Occupational Therapist (1 day/week), Wheelchair Services, St Helens and Knowsley Community Services NHS Trust</p>
December 1998 - March 1994	<p>Freelance Senior I Occupational Therapist (1 day/week), Wheelchair Services, Southport and Formby Community Health Services NHS Trust</p>
February 1994 - January 1992	<p>Senior II Occupational Therapist (part time), Wheelchair Services Southport and Formby Community Health Services NHS Trust</p> <p>This parallel activity occupied about 18% of her time and served to maintain her current clinical experience.</p>
March 1988- June 1984	<p>Occupational Therapist in Independent Practice</p>
December 1981 - November 1980	<p>Head III Occupational Therapist, Psychiatric Day Hospital, Sharoe Green Hospital, Preston.</p>

This promotion reflected a growth in the number of staff for whom she was responsible.

November 1980 - May 1979 Head IV Occupational Therapist, Psychiatric Day Hospital, Sharoe Green Hospital, Preston.

This promotion added managerial responsibility to her role.

April 1979 - November 1978 Senior II Occupational Therapist, Psychiatric Day Hospital, Sharoe Green Hospital, Preston.

This role extended her experience to the treatment of psychiatric conditions.

June 1978 - September 1976 Basic Grade Occupational Therapist, J.S.M.R.U., R.A.F. Chessington, Mansfield Road, Chessington, Surrey

This role introduced Clare Garside to the treatment of a wide range of orthopaedic and neurological conditions.

EDUCATION

June 1976 - Sept. 1973 Derby School of Occupational Therapy (Attained: Diploma of Occupational Therapy plus Student of the Year award 1976)

June 1973 - Sept. 1972 High Wycombe College of Technology and Art (Attained: Certificate in Typewriting, R.S.A. Stage II, Certificate in Secretarial Duties, R.S.A. Stage II, Certificate in Shorthand, Pitmans 80 w.p.m.)

July 1972 - Sept 1968 Sherborne School For Girls, Dorset ('O' levels in 9 subjects)