**Occupational Therapists**

**Description of role/core responsibilities**

• Indicative Agenda for Change band 7

Occupational therapists (OTs) support people of all ages with problems resulting from physical, mental, social, or developmental difficulties. OTs provide interventions that help people find ways to continue with everyday activities that are important to them. This could involve learning new ways to do things or making changes to their environment to make things easier. As patients’ needs are so varied, OTs must take a holistic approach to each individual patient; managing physical, social, psychological, and environmental needs alongside good clinical practice.

**Key role requirements**

a. Assess, plan, implement and evaluate treatment plans, with an aim to increase patients’ productivity and self-care.

b. Work with patients through a shared-decision making approach to plan realistic, outcomes-focused goals.

c. Undertake both verbal and non-verbal communication methods to address the needs of patients that have communication difficulties.

d. Involve MDT colleagues, physiotherapists, social workers, alongside patients' families, teachers, carers and employers in treatment planning, to aid rehabilitation.

e. Where appropriate, support the development of discharge and contingency plans with relevant professionals to arrange on-going care in residential, care home, hospital, and community settings.

f. Periodically review, evaluate, and change rehabilitation programmes to rebuild lost skills and restore confidence.

g. Where appropriate, advise on home, school, and workplace environmental alterations, such as adjustments for wheelchair access, technological needs, and ergonomic support.

h. Teach coping strategies and support adaptation to manage long term conditions for physical and mental health.

i. Advise on specialist equipment and organisations to help with daily activities.

**Entry requirements and training**

• BSc or pre reg MSc in Occupational Therapy under an approved training programme

• Registered member of Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/update-to-the-gp-contract-agreement-2021-2324-v2.pdf>