

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

Ana Aragon, Occupational Therapist (OT)

Ana qualified as an OT in 1989 and then over the next 6 years developed a wide general in-patient OT experience. From 1996 until 2007 Ana worked in Bath in a Consultant led, multi-disciplinary specialist out-patient clinic for people with Parkinson's and related movement disorders, where she provided assessment & rehabilitation services.

Since 1997 Ana has studied Parkinson's at length and contributed to; 4 books, 2 national Parkinson's disease guideline development projects (NICE 2006 & COT / Parkinson's UK 2010), Occupational Therapy for Parkinson's research projects, training events and conferences around the UK. Ana has a particular interest in the theory and practice of 'Cognitive and Sensory Rehabilitation Strategies for people with Parkinson's' initially inspired by the work of The Kingston Centre, based in Melbourne, Australia, which she was fortunate enough to visit, early in 1998.

For Harrison Training, Ana leads two one day courses about Parkinson's disease with a particular focus in rehabilitation and condition management strategies. She is a member of the Movement Disorders Society and of the college of Occupational therapy special interest section for Neurological Practice.

Ana is now an Associate Senior Lecturer for Leeds Metropolitan University, leading a part-time On-line Masters degree in Parkinson's Disease Practice. Ana also facilitates a short course in her local area on behalf of Parkinson's UK (the national support charity for people affected by the condition) for people diagnosed with Parkinson's in the past 5 years. She also collaborates in conferences and educational events, research and other Parkinson's related projects on a regular basis.

2011