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AKA helps and empowers people to live life after a devastating, traumatic injury. We promise to listen, nurture and guide as their happiness and wellbeing underpins everything we do. We focus on practical and emotional support in the community and drive the industry for consistently high standards of performance and professionalism.

Olivia Dennison MBPsS
Clinical Case Manager

Based in: Sheffield

Expertise: Adult, brain injury, orthopaedic, Cerebral Palsy

Clinical Case Manager (2016 – Present)

Working at AKA Case Management Limited to provide a collaborative service that assesses, plans, implements, monitors and evaluates support options and services that meet the unique needs of an individual who has suffered traumatic injury.

Examples of some of my current case load include:

- Working with a male who has a severe brain injury, facial trauma and visual difficulties. I was instrumental in the research and instruction of a multi-disciplinary team of therapists and support. Through collaborative working we are supporting the client to work towards his identified goal to engage in a period of neuro-rehabilitation within a specialist centre. In addition, areas of support with this gentleman have seen us work through times of significant crisis, re-homing, anger management, criminal proceedings, application of benefits and associated appeals. Mid-long term goals include, gradual reintegration into supported living and vocational opportunities.
- Working with a 53 year old male who sustained a severe brain injury and orthopaedic injuries. Coordinating a team of specialist therapists i.e. neuro-physiotherapy, neuro-psychology and occupational therapy to monitor and optimise his levels of activity and goal to attend an assessment with Great Britain Para-Cycling. Additional areas of support to this gentleman have been around demystifying the litigation process, providing support and representation at a benefits tribunal (following several previous unsuccessful appeals he received a successful backdated award).
- Working with a 24 year old female who as a result of a brain injury lacks insight and awareness. This young lady is high functioning on many levels but exhibits more subtle cognitive difficulties. By establishing a therapeutic relationship with the client built on trust, we explored her acceptance of therapies and support whilst increasing her sense of having control over her life. Therapies and support are now established and the client has achieved successful outcomes in vocational activities and has returned to driving.
- Working with a 23 year old male with Cerebral Palsy. Maintaining an overview of the therapy programme enabled me to recognise that a change of therapist would be in the client's best interests to ensure that therapy and other interventions are appropriately meeting his changing needs. Offering the

support, reassurance and allowing the client to express any anxieties he has now fully accepted and engaged with his new therapist and making great gains. My role requires ongoing coordination and monitoring of the therapy team and commencement of an independent living trial remains a short term goal.

Qualifications, related training and professional memberships

- 2019 Irwin Mitchell 'Master Class in Medicolegal Work'
- 2019 Certificate in Neuro Linguistic Programming
- 2019 BABICM Conference
- 2018 Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy
- 2017 Master of Science in Psychology
- 2017 'Court in the Middle' conference
- 2013 NOCN 'Supporting an individual with an acquired brain injury' accredited course
- 2011 Bachelor of Science (Hons) Physiotherapy
- BABICM – Practitioner membership
- Graduate Member of The British Psychological Society
- Registered Member of The Health Professions Council
- Brain injury courses and conferences
- Neuro-rehabilitation courses and conferences

Achievements, Publications

- Dennison. O., Gao. J., Lim. L.W., Stagg. C.J., Aquili. L. (2019) Catecholaminergic modulation of indices of cognitive flexibility: A pharmaco-tDCS study. *Brain Stimulation*, 12(2), 290-295. doi.org/10.1016/j.brs.2018.12.001
- 2017 Awarded the Psychology Postgraduate Dissertation Prize in recognition of the highest dissertation project grade