

Resume of Qualifications and Experience

Dr Sharna Lewis

B.Sc. (Hons); M.Sc; Clin.Psy.D.; C.Psychol.

HPCP Registered Practitioner Psychologist

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Qualifications

Areas of expertise include: conducting assessments of personal injury, clinical negligence, Mental Capacity, fitness to plead/stand trial, criminal responsibility, mitigating circumstances, failure to provide and assessment of PTSD/trauma, personality and mental health. In particular, I have specialist expertise and knowledge of assessing individuals with neurodevelopmental conditions e.g. learning disabilities, attention deficit and autism spectrum disorders and undertaking assessments of cognitive functioning/IQ. I have completed the British Psychological Society's expert witness training Level 1 and 2 and frequently present oral evidence in court.

Clinical/ research experience

I have been employed as a Psychologist in the NHS since 1998 and gained extensive clinical experience in the area of learning disabilities, traumatic brain injury, child and adult mental health and offending behaviours. I have specialist skills in neuropsychological and psychometric assessment and of conducting assessments of risk.

Since 2009 I have worked independently in private practice both as an expert witness and treating clinician. I assess and treat individuals presenting with a range of mental health and psychological difficulties including; phobias, anxiety, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, chronic pain/disability, depression, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, personality disorders, autistic

spectrum disorders and victims of domestic violence and abuse. In addition, I undertake therapy within a medico-legal context including rehabilitation of clients involved in an accident or injury. I have been trained in a broad range of psychological therapies and my preferred treatment approach is Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Trauma-Focused Therapy (EMDR therapy). Over the course of my career I have published a number of research articles in national and international peer-reviewed journals and presented research at conferences.

Expert witness experience

Since 2009 I have specialised in providing psycho-legal reports for civil and criminal proceedings. I have extensive experience of providing reports in personal injury and medical negligence (on average 40 reports per year, 80/20 claimant/defendant ratio); providing a detailed assessment of psychological symptoms; commenting upon areas of disability/trauma; impact on functioning; pre-existing vulnerability, causation, prognosis and recommendations regarding treatment. Other areas of expertise include: conducting assessments of Mental Capacity, fitness to plead/stand trial, criminal responsibility, mitigating circumstances, failure to provide and assessment of PTSD/trauma, personality and mental health. In particular, I have specialist expertise and knowledge of assessing individuals with neurodevelopmental conditions e.g. learning disabilities, attention deficit and autism spectrum disorders and undertaking assessments of cognitive functioning/IQ. I have completed the British Psychological Society's expert witness training Level 1 and 2 and frequently present oral evidence in court. I am a vetted member of the UK Register of Expert Witnesses.

Employment

2009 to present - Dove House Psychology Services (Lead Clinical Psychologist)

- Provision of psychological services to the general public/rehabilitation companies/solicitors
- Expert witness in civil, criminal and family law
- Psychological assessment and intervention
- Recognised treatment provider for major private health insurers

2009 to 2010 - South Birmingham Community Health NHS Trust Specialist Clinical Psychologist (Learning Disabilities/Forensic Mental Health, Band 8a)

- Specialist psychological assessment and intervention in learning disabilities
- Complex mental health/challenging behaviour/personality disorder
- Assessment and management of risk/ offending behaviours

2007 to 2009 South Birmingham Primary Care Trust, Specialist Clinical Psychologist (Learning Disabilities, Band 7)

- Assessment and intervention
- Individual and group therapy
- Staff training / supervision
- Audit / research

2002 to 2007 Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Trust

- Trainee Clinical Psychologist

2000 to 2002 University of Birmingham,

- Research Assistant

1998 to 2002 South Birmingham Primary Care Trust

- Assistant Clinical Psychologist (Learning Disabilities and Traumatic Brain Injury)

Continued Professional Development

2019	Autism Professionals Conference (12 hours CPD)
2019	CBT with adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (6 hours CPD)
2019	Eye Movement Desensitisation Reprocessing (EMDR) Part three
2018	Eye Movement Desensitisation Reprocessing (EMDR) Part one and two
2017	Unfitness to Plead- Law Commission Volume 1 and 2
2016	PTSD and the Sensory Nervous System (6 hours CPD)
2015	Stress in the workplace (6 hours CPD)
2014	Compassion Focused Therapy (6 hours CPD)
2014	Teaching clients to use mindfulness skills (12 hours CPD)
2013	Working with Chronic Pain (6 hours CPD)
2013	Impact of domestic violence on children
2012	Schema Therapy Training (12 hours CPD)
2011	Court Skills, Psychology Associates
2011	Expert Witness Training, British Psychological Society, Level 1 and 2
2010	Introduction to Dialectical Behavioural Therapy
2009	Treatment Approaches for Personality Disorder
2009	Deprivation of Liberty Training
2009	Mental Capacity Act
2008	Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults
