

INTHISISSUE
Featured Service



DMA ReAbility NEWS

Autumn 2020

MultiMed Assessments – NEW
The Catastrophic Enigma – Did anyone see the CAT?

Announcements:

★ **Mary-Jo MacDonald, OT**
Retires

★ **Maggie Weir, OT, Kitchener**

★ **Jaclyn Levac-Nichols, Case Manager, Windsor**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Maggie Weir, OT, joins our KW Team



Jaclyn Levac-Nichols, Case Manager, Windsor Team



MultiMed Assessments – NEW Division

After months of discussions and planning, **DMAReAbility** is very pleased to announce the launching of our new division, **MultiMed Assessments**. We are even more pleased to announce that **Dr. Keith Sequeira** will be joining our new division as Medical Director.

Our objective is to provide multidisciplinary assessments for catastrophic determination and completion of OCF19's including rebuttal assessments and reports.

We have a dedicated Clinical Coordinator, Laura Wilkie, who will provide a high touch approach from point of referral to report delivery. We will provide a comprehensive file review, recommendations for the multi-medical assessment team, and a cost estimate, prior to proceeding. If you have any files that you would like to discuss please reach out to Laura at lwilkie@dmarehab.com

Chapter 1 – The Catastrophic Enigma – Did anyone see the CAT?

Since I was a young child, I have been an avid reader. The mystery novel has always been a genre of choice. One that delves into the history and story of the protagonist. How their abilities, their engagement, what they do, how they function impart the facts of the story, facts that will help solve the mystery. I have always loved trying to identify the clues and evidence – hidden in plain sight – that allowed us to solve the riddle – reflecting on how the puzzle fits together from the beginning.

It's no wonder I appreciate the CAT process, as it is not unlike the classic mystery novel. It starts with a review of the file, finding clinical clues and detail that may just add up to be CAT.

The post trauma story unfolds in the clinical record, through facts that represent impairment, determined through a marriage of: (1) subjective report, (2) objective findings and (3) clinical experience and knowledge. For this reason, a well-documented clinical record that discusses function and ability will be invaluable in the CAT process. It begins with the In-Home Assessment and continues through Social Work, Physiotherapy, Speech-Language, Vocational and Rehab Therapy reports.

DMARehability has been providing rehabilitation services to injured individuals throughout the province of Ontario for more than 27 years. Our multidisciplinary team of Clinicians is made of Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Social Workers, Speech Language Pathologists, Nurse/Case Managers, Vocational Counsellors, Kinesiologists, Rehab Therapists & Behaviour Therapists.

Everything we do is about *Quality*. Our commitment is to deliver the highest level of service, whether it be in the workplace, home or community, each and every time.

If You are interested in joining our Dynamic Team, please email your resume and cover letter to:

careers@dmarehab.com.

Consideration of a CAT application is based on the degree of impairment and how clearly the individual's story is communicated in the record. A reviewer must consider the entirety of the clinical record, these hold clues, facts and evidence. The challenges to ability, responses to change, and the impact of impairment on function are key.

During our CAT review we look for these clues. Many may not (at first) appear important, but when delving into the record, asking the right questions, and considering the finding alongside other details – the 'clue's' importance becomes evident – we are looking for the sum of the parts.

Realize that in front of you, in the most unlikely of places, may be a catastrophic file. Many files we identify and assist through the CAT process were not on anyone's radar at the start. It takes the right eye and mix of experiences to solve the riddle. Consider that stoic older gentleman who deflects and jests about injuries; the young adult who boasts all is good, but is struggling with self-identity and addiction; the complaints that simply don't make sense, don't add up; the guy still using a cane – each one is worth looking at closely.

Transitioning a file to CAT is neither easy nor guaranteed, but is helped by two important steps: (1) Early flagging of complex injury files, i.e. mental health presentation, polytrauma, delayed healing, brain imaging, post concussive syndrome; (2) Ensuring continued access to rehabilitation – to maximize recovery and document the impairment.

These steps help lay the foundation of the story that needs to be told, information needed to start the CAT process. With the clinical record in hand, it becomes an exercise not unlike an academic inquiry, similar to the methods of Christie's Miss Marple – assembling the facts and asking questions, identifying if formal investigation is worthy. If it is yes to the latter, it is timely to start the next chapter in effort to solve the mystery of CAT – assembling the right fit assessment and completing the OCF-18.

Though a CAT designation is not a classic whodunnit, rather it is individual's recovery, a story that needs to be investigated, told and documented. But like any work by Christie, Holmes, Morton or Ware, the Catastrophic Assessment is a riddle to be solved through inquiry. The client is the protagonist of their own story, a story that starts the day they are injured and is told through life, recovery and struggle.

Our goal here at DMARehability is to provide the care and service required to help your client recover from their trauma and document their story. In this process we will flag and identify those files that warrant a review for CAT potential. Then we will work with you to plan and implement the CAT application process. If you have any further questions, please reach out to Laura Wilkie, lwilkie@dmarehab.com.

October is Occupational Therapy Month!

❖ **Occupational therapy, empowering people of all ages to overcome barriers in their everyday lives so they can do more and live better.** Learn more

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Autumn
2020

RETIREMENT

Farewell Mary-Jo Macdonald...a message from Agnes...



Mary-Jo has decided to retire!!! Yes, our profession is losing a very dedicated and amazing Occupational Therapist! I recall interviewing MJ 15 years ago, and her hesitancy to enter into this auto insurance world. Well MJ, it has been a ride! We all know this world isn't an easy one, but you have survived it and survived it well Mary-Jo. From your brain injury background to finding your niche in driving evaluations, your clients have always had the benefit of having a great OT on their side. ❤️

DMAREhability is a proud member of the Ontario Rehab Alliance



Providing community driven disability and rehabilitation management services throughout Ontario, for more than 27 years.

For more information on our professional services and/or to arrange for an in – service, please contact Cheryl Scollard at: cscollard@dmarehab.com or intake@dmarehab.com.

**THANK YOU to ALL of our dedicated and talented
Occupational Therapists.**



- Agnes Agnelli, London
- Alisha Parent, Windsor
- Amy Stevens, London
- Brent Lovell, Kingston
- Brittany Macaulay, London
- Carey Duncan, Kitchener
- Cathy Sydor, London
- Chantal Prasad, Sarnia
- Cheryl Fountain-Gore, London
- Deborah Kemp, London
- Evy Reyes-Viray, Windsor
- Gillian Barr, London
- Gina Matesic, Chatham
- Jasmine O'Halloran, Windsor
- Jennifer Rouffer, Windsor
- Joyce Sharp, Port Rowan
- Justyne Russell, Hanover
- Kay Sellars, London

Kelly Farrell, London

Laura Carr, Windsor

Lisa Carter, Baden

Marla Le, Kingston

Shannon Hogan, Windsor

Kess Sing-Leach, London

Laura Wilkie, Windsor

Lisa Hutchinson, London

Matt Woodall, Chatham

Sherry Kettyle, Guelph

Krista Cole, London

Lindsay Blackwell, Listowel

Maggie Weir, Kitchener

Paula Martin, London

Valentina Illevski, Windsor