

Vocational Rehabilitation, Case Management and Disability Highlights

Adapting to a New Disability

Head Occupational Therapist at Cardiff and Vale University Local Health Board, **Julia McHugh** describes the challenges she and her employers faced when she became severely visually impaired. Supported by the DWP *Access to Work* scheme, she discusses the reasonable adjustments and assistive technology that enabled her to retain her full time employment in a busy mental health service.

Combating Hidden Disabilities

Dyslexia Consultant **Dr David McLoughlin** looks at the impact that hidden disabilities can have on performance at work. Focusing on dyslexia and also dyspraxia and Attention Deficit Disorder, he describes their characteristics, identification and more importantly, the support and management that can be offered to employees to achieve maximum performance.

Motivational Interviewing

Health behaviour change has become increasingly important in supporting individuals in making lifestyle adaptations. Chartered Psychologist **Dr Jeff Breckon** introduces the relational and technical aspects of motivational interviewing and how it can be used for condition management and vocational rehabilitation.

Returning to Work

Specialist Occupational Physiotherapist **Heather Watson** highlights some innovative new ways of getting people back to work. Encouraging delegates to think beyond traditional boundaries, she explores new ideas and models of service delivery that create better outcomes for clients. A serious accident, whether in or out of work, can present particular challenges for employees and employers and Occupational Therapist and Case Manager **Lise Satherley** offers some strategies for facilitating return to work for people who have had a significant accident. Functional impairments may be transient or permanent and employees might be unable to perform the duties that are part of their contract. She also explains how an employee might perceive that they are unable to return to work and an employer might have grave reservations.



Julia McHugh



Lise Satherley



Dr David McLoughlin



Heather Watson

- Adapting to a New Disability in the Workplace – A Personal Experience *Tues 2.15pm*
- Combating Hidden Disabilities *Tues 3.45pm*
- Motivational Interviewing and its Role in Vocational Rehabilitation *Wed 2.45pm*
- Designing Innovative Return to Work Programmes *Wed 4.00pm*
- Returning to Work Following an Accident *Wed 4.40pm*