

## Consultant Occupational Therapist

Published writer, research scholar, and lecturer of occupational therapy with over 20 years of field experience. Enthusiastic and eager to contribute, as a consulting occupational therapist, to team success through hard work, attention to detail, and excellent organisational skills. Recognised for outstanding performance and contributions to both patients and the industry. Excellent track record of resolving issues, increasing satisfaction, and driving overall operational improvements.

## Career Experience

### Lifeworld Approach to Occupational Therapy Services Director / Owner

2014 – Present

Conceptualized and launched company to provide care and education to patients with motor neurone disease and their care givers. Cultivated community relationships, led in developing and implementing business strategies, goals, and services to achieve positive patient outcomes.

- Invited speaker at the Allied Professionals Forum with 400+ ALS/MND professionals from around the world

### NHS, Social Services, and Private Sector Companies Occupational Therapist

2003 – 2020

Delivered a holistic approach to patient-centred care in order to empower patients both in community rehabilitation (2003 – 2010) and in end of life (2010 – 2021). Skillfully formed and maintained compassionate relationships with patients and their caregivers while serving as the primary point of contact for providing relevant medical information and practical tools or resources necessary to facilitate positive post-acute care outcomes. Utilized extensive knowledge of rehabilitation therapy, diagnostic procedures, and patient counseling strategies that supported direct services and improved quality care.

- Completed Ph.D. and wrote an opinion paper that was published and disseminated to MND Consultants and Teams throughout the U.K., Northern Ireland, and Wales
- Developed and funded a 10-year post graduate research project resulting in a Ph.D.
- Developed the model of person-centered care for people with motor neurone disease and others at end of life
- Extensive experience covering a range of services: community rehabilitation, rapid response, falls, housing, palliative and end of life care; this involved assessing patients in their own homes on the basis of their health needs ranging from major trauma, orthopedics, brain injury, amputee, chronic pain, functional neurological disorder, etc.

### Salford University Lecturer, Directorate of Occupational Therapy

2005 – 2007 and 2010 – 2014

Created and implemented complete curriculums to teach undergraduate and graduate courses in occupational therapy. Maintained a productive research agenda and conducted service to strengthen the University's program. Collaborated with faculty peers to be continually enhancing curriculum and improving the department.

- Advised up to 18 students per semester, acting as a mentor and providing professional and pastoral support
- Created an intimate learning community for students by integrating academic experiences with professional career

## Education

### Ph.D. by Published Works

Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester

*Thesis: Interpreting end of life experiences of people with motor neurone disease.*

### Master of Philosophy

Lancaster University, Lancaster

*Research Project: Hermeneutic phenomenological research project: Exploring Existential Loss in the Context of Motor Neurone Disease*

### Master of Research in Health Sciences

Lancaster University

*Research Project: Exploring multidisciplinary palliative care teams understanding of the Mental Capacity Act of 2005 'best interest' determinations.*

## Licenses & Certifications

Advanced GNVQ Health and Social Care, BTEC, 2000 (Distinction)

Certificate of Secondary Education - 8 qualifications (Levels 1-4) including Mathematics and English

## Publications

1. Harris, D. (2021) Interpreting end-of-life experiences of the person with motor neurone disease. *Palliative and Supportive Care*, 1–2. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1478951521000699>
2. Harris, D.A. Jack, K. and Wibberley, C. (2020) The need to consider 'temporality' in person-centred care of people with motor neurone disease (In press). Accepted Manuscript, 4th June 2020, *European Journal for Person Centred Healthcare*.
3. Harris, D.A. Jack, K. and Wibberley, C. (2019) Making her end of life her own: further reflections on supporting a loved one with motor neurone disease. *International Journal of Palliative Care Nursing*, Vol 25, No.6, 284-292 <https://doi.org/10.12968/ijpn.2019.25.6.284>
4. Harris, D.A. Jack, K. and Wibberley, C. (2018) The meaning of living with uncertainty for people with motor neurone disease. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 27, 2062-2071. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.14350>
5. Harris, D.A. (2017) Doing research drawing on the philosophy of existential hermeneutic phenomenology. *Palliative and Supportive Care* 15, 267–269. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1478951516000377>
6. Harris, D.A. (2017a) Supporting a loved one living with motor neurone disease. *Palliative and Supportive Care* 15, 141–142. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1478951516000134>
7. Harris, D.A. (2015) Lived-through past, experienced present, anticipated future: Understanding “existential loss” in the context of life-limiting illness. *Palliative and Supportive Care* 13, 1579–1594. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1478951515000620>

## Disseminations

1. Harris, D. (2021) Interpreting the meaning of existence for people with motor neurone disease, and their family care giver. 32nd International Symposium on ALS/MND.
2. Harris, D. (2020) The need to consider 'temporality' in person-centered care of people with motor neurone disease. 31st International Symposium on ALS/MND.
3. Harris, D. (2016) Lived-through past, experienced present, anticipated future: Understanding “existential loss” in the context of life-limiting illness. European Association for Palliative Care Research Network, (EAPC RN) Annual Symposium, Brussels, Belgium September 2016
4. Harris, D. (2015) 'Existential loss' in the context of Motor Neurone Disease: A Hermeneutic Phenomenological Study. The Motor Neurone Disease Association 26<sup>th</sup> International Symposium, Orlando, Florida December 2015 (Presenting Study Findings)
5. Harris, D. (2015) Existential Loss in the Context of Motor Neurone Disease: A Hermeneutic Phenomenological Study. The College of Occupational Therapists 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Exhibition, Brighton Centre, Brighton July 2015 (Presenting Study and Findings)
6. Harris, D., Taylor, J., Ravey, M., and Nightingale, J. (2013) Hermeneutic phenomenology: understanding there is more to a person than motor neurone disease (MND). The Motor Neurone Disease Association 24<sup>th</sup> International Symposium, Milan, Italy December 2013 (Presented work in progress).
7. Harris, D., Taylor, J., Ravey, M., and Nightingale, J. (2013) Hermeneutic phenomenology: understanding there is more to a person than motor neurone disease (MND). The Discipline of Occupational Therapy, University of Sydney, Australia October 2013 (Presented work
8. in progress).
9. Harris, D. (2013) Identity and transition symposium. University of Salford (Presented work in progress).
10. Harris, D., Taylor, J., Ravey, M. (2012) Methodological approach. MND Annual Conference. NEC Birmingham (Poster presentation).
11. Harris, D., Taylor, J., Ravey, M. (2011) Methodological approach. Salford Post Graduate Research Conference (SPARC) Annual Conference, University of Salford. (Speed presentation).