

BRIDGET JONES RGN; MSc; BA Hons; MHS Cert



I am a registered general nurse and I trained at St James's University Hospital Leeds. I have over 30 years' experience of working in a variety of health care settings, including general medicine and surgery, orthopaedics, care of the elderly and end of life. I have worked in both hospital and community settings. I hold a certificate in health service management, a social science degree and a master's degree in health education and health promotion.

I have seven years' experience of working in intermediate care services working in a community rehabilitation hospital in conjunction with members of the multidisciplinary team, including doctors, physiotherapists and occupational therapists. I was a case manager in the NHS responsible for assessing and transferring patients with multiple physical and mental health needs from the acute hospitals into the community hospital or other service options as appropriate.

I also have extensive experience of working within public health in prevention and personalisation roles.

My main area of speciality is as an experienced senior nurse manager working within a continuing health care (CHC) department, I have a track record of ensuring care is delivered in the most cost-effective way through effective and efficient resource allocation. I have significant experience of CHC assessments and funding of care packages including fast track (end of life care) and commissioning services for adults and children working collaboratively with partner organisations. I have provided staff training for CHC, Fastrack and personal health budgets (PHB).

As a senior member in various NHS and social care departments I have been responsible for writing policies and procedures to enhance and interpret national guidance and service development, for example I have been instrumental in implementing The National Framework for CHC, Responsible Commissioner Guidance, operating model for NHS CHC and implemented procedures for internal processes such as appeals, complaints and retrospective applications for the eligibility of health care funding. I was part of the management team that introduced PHBs for care packages including leading the project and writing PHB policy and procedures.

I was lead officer for many years of a commissioning group presenting cases and sitting on regional panel as an advisory clinical role for other commissioning groups in the West Yorkshire region for applications of eligibility of NHS healthcare funding.

Alongside my NHS employment I have prepared hundreds of care reports for both claimants and defendants and joint instructions over 10 years involving detailed assessment quantification of past and current care needs and recommendations for future care needs, liaising with many other multidisciplinary professionals in a variety of cases of clients with severe physical and mental health disabilities. I have attended case conferences and have on a number of occasions given evidence as an expert in nursing care in both county and high courts.

I am a member of Mesothelioma UK nurse network and a full member of the Expert Witness Institute.

I am also a trained practitioner in The Walter's Method (formerly Focussed Mindfulness). TWM is a form of body-based psychotherapy supporting people with emotional and physical distress.