

LEAH CHRISTIE, BSc (Kin) MSc(OT)

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

**COVERAGE AREA**     **BURLINGTON**  
Covering: Hamilton, Halton

**AREAS OF EXPERIENCE**     ABI  
Geriatrics  
Mental Health  
Neurological  
CAT Assessments

**EDUCATION**     **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**     2004  
University of Western Ontario, London, ON

**HONORS BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN KINESIOLOGY**     2002  
University of Western Ontario, London, ON

**EXPERIENCE**     **ENTWISTLE POWER OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (NOW SOLUTIONS FOR LIVING)**

**ANCASTER, ON**  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

June 2016 – Present

- Provide all levels of occupational therapy assessment and treatment for clients with serious and catastrophic injury, including acquired brain injury and multi-trauma for people of all ages including children and older adults.
- Occupational Therapy In-Home Activities of Daily Living (ADL) assessments, Home Safety Assessments, Attendant Care Needs Assessments (Form 1).
- Future Cost of Care Assessments, Vocational Assessments, Job Site Analyses.
- Develop and monitor return to ADL programs to encourage increased functional independence in the home, workplace, or community; including goal setting and tracking.
- Act as part of a multi-disciplinary team member to facilitate functional and cognitive recovery.
- Recommend assistive devices, provide education on pacing, body mechanics, energy conservation, hurt versus harm principles and proper body mechanics to facilitate increased independence with activities of daily living in the home or workplace.

## **ST MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL, STROKE ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT TEAM (FTP)**

### **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST**

2009 – July 2016

- Fulltime position as the sole occupational therapist on the Stroke Assessment and Treatment Team at St. Michael's Hospital which is the South East Toronto Regional Stroke Centre
- Responsible for in-depth assessments, treatment interventions and disposition planning of all acute, non-surgical stroke patients
- Provided detailed physical, cognitive, perceptual, and functional assessments
- Provided seating systems for patients while in hospital and equipment recommendations for stroke survivors on discharge
- Attended family meetings as required for discharge disposition planning
- Completed alphaFIM, Orpington Prognostic Scale, E-stroke referrals
- Assignment of treatment plans to occupational therapist assistants
- Provided consultation services for acute stroke survivors throughout the hospital including mentoring and collaborating with other occupational therapists to ensure best practice guidelines are met for this population on off-service floors
- Provided consultation and education as a member of the Southeast Toronto Regional Stroke Network
- Active member of the Toronto Stroke Network, participating in numerous working groups with focus on quality improvement initiatives
- Active member of the GTA OT Stroke Best Practices Working Group
- Provided coverage for General Internal Medicine and Acute Care of the Elderly beds on unit
- Provided education to patients, families, residents and staff regarding stroke recovery, stroke care continuum, return to work and care needs on discharge
- Attended daily medicine and weekly stroke rounds to discuss findings and discharge recommendations
- Completed capacity evaluations for Long Term Care admission decisions often requiring provisions for communication impairments

## **ST MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL, GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE (FTP)**

### **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST**

2006 – 2009

- Fulltime position providing assessment, treatment and discharge planning for patients with a multitude of diagnoses in a fast-paced, teaching hospital
- Attended daily rounds and family meetings to discuss patient progress and plans
- Delegated treatment interventions to Occupational Therapy Assistants
- Completed capacity evaluations for LTC admission decisions

**ST MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL, STROKE ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT TEAM (TFT)**

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

2005 – 2006

**TORONTO REHABILITATION INSTITUTE THE BICKEL CENTRE (TFT)**

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

January 2005 – May 2005

- Fulltime contract position working part-time on a Complex Continuing Care unit and part-time in the Augmentative and Alternative Communication Clinic
- Worked with clients with complex medical conditions including ABI, CVA, SCI, MS, CP, ALS
- Provided assessment, program planning, treatment intervention, evaluation and education in the areas of self-care, productivity and leisure
- Assessed for and provided appropriate seating systems for each patient and modified as required
- Prescribed assistive devices such as wheelchairs, writing aids, and mounting apparatuses
- Attended weekly seating clinics and numerous vendor led seating in-services
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary team members to provide client centered care

---

PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT /  
ADDITIONAL  
QUALIFICATIONS

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 2020 | The Legal Implications of Virtual Treatment and Assessments, webinar, presented by Mr. Leonard Kunka and Ms. Stacey Stevens                        |
| 2020 | Virtual CAT Assessments, webinar, presented by Mr. Leonard Kunka and Ms. Stacey Stevens  |
| 2020 | PIA Practical Strategies Webinar – The Top 20 PI Law Questions of 2020, presented by Mr. Troy Lehman, Mr. Robert Ben, Ms. Lindsay Charles          |
| 2020 | Best Practices for Reporting in a Virtual World, presented by Mr. Leonard Kunka and Ms. Stacey Stevens   |
| 2020 | For the Record: Charting for Regulated Health Care Professionals by Mr. Nick Smith   |
| 2020 | Communicating with the Adjuster: Understanding Their Language by Ms. Colleen MacDonald from Oatley Vigmond   |
| 2020 | BIAPH Health Advocates Education Conference: We've Got You Covered: What You're Missing: Practical Tips and Strategies from Industry Professionals |
| 2019 | Concussion Management Workshop - Level 1 presented by Concussion Rehab Works   |
| 2019 | Concussion Management Workshop - Level 2 presented by Concussion Rehab Works   |
| 2019 | Occupation Based Research in Concussion Management - What OT's Need to Know" webinar presented by OSOT   |
| 2019 | Opening the Blinds in the Dark Closed Room: Inter-professional Best Practices in   |

- Concussion Care, presented by Elly Baker, PT; FunctionAbility Fall Education Day: Growing Through Best Practice
- 2019 Rehabilitation of Executive Functions & Cognitive Communication: Putting Evidence into Practice, presented by Genevieve Bernardo, OT & Ameila Hessel, SLP; FunctionAbility Fall Education Day: Growing Through Best Practice
- 2019 Training in Motivational Interviewing certificate program, presented by Michael Coons with the Health Leadership & Learning Network
- 2019 BIAPH Health Advocates Education Conference: What You're Missing: Practical Tips and Strategies from Industry Professionals
- 2018 Occupation and Trauma: Enhancing Occupational Therapy Practice, presented by Megan Edgelow, OT and Heidi Cramm, OT
- 2018 Psychosocial and Cognitive Factors with Functional Capacity Evaluations and Return to Work, presented by Lorraine Mischuk, OT
- 2018 The Markedly Impaired: Obstacles and Opportunities seminar presented by Oatley Vigmond
- 2018 Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Chronic Pain Workshop, presented by Dr. Matilda Nowakowski, C. Psych
- 2017 RSW Behaviour Therapy Program presented by Genesis Community Rehab Inc.
- 2017 Getting Deemed Cat Under the New Auto Legislation – Recognizing Cat Claims presented by Brenda Power Ahmad, EPOT
- 2016 PGAP (Progressive Goal Attainment Program) Trained
- 2016 The Role of Occupational Therapy with the WSIB – Part 2 (OSOT)
- 2016 The Role of Occupational Therapy and the WSIB (OSOT)
- 2016 OTs in Buisness – Private Practice Explained (OSOT)  
Presented by Julie Entwistle and Lesya Dysk
- 2016 The Cognitive Disabilities Model: Theory, assessments and intervention  
Presented by: The Allen Cognitive Group
- 2015 Putting Person Centered Care into Practice: Creating Culture
- 2014 Rendered Speechless presentation
- 2014 Elder Abuse In-Service
- 2014 Supporting People with Dementia – Person Centered Dementia Care
- 2014 TORBST, Jodi Skinner and Ran Sun
- 2014 Cognition After Serious Brain Injury
- 2014 Mental Health and Seniors, Dr. Fischer
- 2014 A-ONE (certified)
- 2014 Graded Repetitive Arm Supplementary Program (GRASP)
- 2014 Alpha-FIM License renewed
- 2014 GTA Rehab Network Best Practices Day
- 2013 Sensorimotor Physiology and Function after Stroke, Dr Lara Boyd, PT, PhD
- 2013 CACE, Dr. Carling-Rowland
- 2013 Community Navigation and Access Programming Inservice

- 2013 Toronto Stroke Network Interprofessional Collaborative Event
- 2013 Motivational Interviewing, CAMH
- 2013 Capacity Evaluation Training, CCAC
- 2013 Cognition/Perception Course (by Dr. Toglia)
- 2012 Canadian Stroke Congress Conference in Montreal
- 2012 Ontario Society of Occupational Therapists Conference in Mississauga
- 2012 Assessment of Cognition in Seniors: Are you Assessing what you think you are?  
Choosing Assessment Tools, Debbie McQuinlan
- 2012 Capacity Evaluations and Going to Board for Review, Harsha Babani
- 2010 The Neurological Upper Extremity: Evidence Based Assessment and  
Treatment (2-day workshop with Karen Brunton)
- 2010 Cultural Issues and Standardized Assessment for Vascular Cognitive  
2006 Impairment workshop
- 2006 Assessment and Management of Post Stroke Arm and Hand Workshop
- 2006 NDT Introductory Course in the Treatment and Management of Adults  
with Hemiplegia
- 2006 Cognition: A Problem Solving Approach to Choosing Assessment Tools  
(workshop by Debby McQuillen)
- 2006 Cognition: Using Everyday Items and Tasks to Treat Cognitive Deficits  
(workshop by Debby McQuillen)
- 2006 NDT Introductory Course in the Treatment and Management of Adults  
with Hemiplegia
- 2006 Collaborating in Stroke Care: Building Best Practices in Rehabilitation and Recovery
- 2005 The Chedoke-McMaster Stroke Assessment
- 2005 Augmentative and Alternative Communication in Ontario A Clinical Primer
- 2005 Innovations in Left Hemisphere Stroke Rehabilitation  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual Stroke Symposium
- 2004 Basic Fieldwork Education/Supervision Workshop
- 2003 Interdisciplinary Training Program completion with NOMECC
- 2003 Positioning for Function Seminar: Surface to Surface Support
- 2003 Static Splinting course by Remington Medical

***PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS***

- Current College of Occupational Therapists of Ontario
- Current Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (member)
- 2007 – 2016 Clinical Status-Only Appointment: Lecturer- in the Department of  
Occupational Science And Occupational Therapy University of Toronto,  
Department of Rehabilitative Medicine

***PUBLICATIONS***

- Is it safe to drive after acute mild stroke? A preliminary report July 2015 Journal of the Neurological Sciences 15 July 2015, Vol 354(1) 46-50: Megan A. Hird, Kristin A. Vesely, Leah E. Christie, Melissa A. Alves, Jitphapa Pongmoragot, Gustavo Saposnik, Tom A. Schweizer
- Contributing clinician for the Stroke Core Competency Framework for Occupational Therapists in Ontario (access on Virtual Community of Practice) 2015
- Acknowledged on the poster "Moving Forward Collaboratively Towards Standardization of Practice for Improved Patient Outcomes" 2015
- Contributing clinician for the Acute Care Stroke OT Initial Assessment 'Must Do' and 'Nice to Do' Checklists (with the Regional Stroke OT Best Practices Group) 2014
- Final Draft of Unilateral Spatial Neglect pamphlet completed Feb 2013 For patients, staff and family of St. Michael's Hospital
- Co-author of a Checklist for steps to be completed prior to completing 2008 A capacity evaluation for LTC admission decisions

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

- Toronto Stroke Networks Peer Mentorship Program – The Value Add of Patient to Survivor (presented to staff on stroke unit at St. Michael's Hospital), Jan 2015
- Understanding Cognition/Perception in Stroke Survivors (presented at a LTC Facility in Scarborough), April 2015
- Presentation to OT colleagues working with stroke survivors on the Stroke OT Checklist, Feb to April 2015
- "The Role of OT on SATT" presented monthly to new stroke residents and "The Role of OT on GIM" presented monthly to new GIM residents, 2012 to 2015
- "The benefits of Inter-professional Education (IPE) To Enhance Acute Stroke Care" M. Alves PT MPT; L. Christie OT Reg (Ont) MSc (OT); S. Gill RN MN CNS; M. Ellis RD MEd; J. Kelly RN DCP; A. Leone RD MSc; J. Skinner SLP(c) Reg CASLPO; K. Skrabka RN MA; J. Willems RN MN CCN(C), 2012
- Poster Presentation of Quality Improvement Initiative, presented at: Canadian Stroke Congress, Montreal 2013, Oct 17-20 2013; Stroke Collaborative, Toronto Oct 28, 2013;
- Transfers, Mobility and the Stroke patient, Nov 2012, Jan 2013 Practical ½ day seminars for RNs and Clinical Assistants (M. Alves PT, L. Christie OT)
- Stroke in the Young, June 2012  
Presented by members of Stroke Assessment and Treatment Team  
Explained OT role for stroke patients, OT assessment and findings in the case study of a young stroke patient, and OT intervention in the case study
- Role of OT to internationally trained physicians (lecture then video), 2009 - 2011

(Centre for the Evaluation of Health Professionals Educated Abroad)

- Tips and Tools presentations on Cognition/Perception (multiple at LTC facilities, Bridgepoint Rehab, SMH), 2005-2006