

Wheel of Health Clinical Profile

Deborah Bowditch

Team Leader | Occupational Therapist

Role	Team Leader
Profession	Occupational Therapist
Professional registration	HCPC registered Occupational Therapist
Region	Cardiff / UK and international practice
Specialist focus	Spinal injury, neurological disability, wheelchair seating and active user setup

Professional profile

Deborah Bowditch is a highly experienced senior clinician with specialist expertise in spinal injuries, neurological disability, complex seating systems, postural management and wheeled mobility. She has worked extensively across the United Kingdom and New Zealand, including specialist wheelchair seating services and international wheelchair rugby classification. Deborah balances advanced clinical reasoning with practical understanding of equipment, fabrication, functional outcomes and active user performance. She has contributed to training, service development, professional standards and international presentations in wheelchair seating and setup.

Specialist clinical expertise

- Complex seating systems and postural management
- Spinal injury and neurological disability
- Active user wheelchair setup and performance
- 24-hour postural management and complex custom fabrication
- International wheelchair rugby classification
- Training, supervision and professional standards
- Service development and workshop programme evaluation

Contribution to Wheel of Health

Deborah brings exceptional specialist knowledge in seating, mobility and active user function to Wheel of Health. Her international experience and classification background strengthen the company's understanding of how wheelchair setup, posture and performance interact in real life. She supports clinically reasoned recommendations that are practical, functional and tailored to the individual.

Clinical experience

Dates	Role / organisation	Relevant focus
April 2015 - Present	Posture and Wheelchair Seating Specialist, Wheel of Health	Provides specialist assessment and recommendations for posture and wheelchair seating.
1995 - Present	Level IV International Classifier, International Wheelchair Rugby Federation	Works internationally in wheelchair rugby classification and contributes to classification development.
2002 - 2013	Specialised Wheelchair Seating Therapist, Seating To Go, New Zealand	Provided specialist wheelchair seating assessment, postural management and complex mobility support.
2000 - 2002	Senior Wheelchair Seating Therapist, Artificial Limb and Appliance Centre, Wales	Specialist seating and mobility role within a rehabilitation and appliance service.
1989 - 2000	Earlier Occupational Therapy Roles	Roles across community occupational therapy, spinal and head injuries, brachial plexus lesions and wheelchair seating.

Education and qualifications

- Diploma in Occupational Therapy, Dorset House School of Occupational Therapy, Oxford
- MA Design Research for Disability, London Guildhall University
- BA Media Arts, Wintec, Hamilton
- Postgraduate Diploma Painting and Sculpture, Wintec, Hamilton - First Class Honours

Professional registration and memberships

- Health and Care Professions Council - Occupational Therapist
- New Zealand Association of Occupational Therapists
- British Association of Occupational Therapists

Governance and quality assurance statement

Deborah works within Wheel of Health's clinical governance framework and maintains appropriate professional registration, professional indemnity, continuing professional development and standards of documentation, communication, safeguarding and professional accountability. This supports consistent, person-centred assessment, clinically reasoned recommendations and high-quality reporting across Wheel of Health services.