Domiciliary Care

the role of
Occupational Therapists
in Dom Care

Domiciliary Care (often referred to as Dom Care) provides services to people with reduced ability to care for themselves, assisting them to stay living in their own homes - close to loved ones, family and their local community.

Dom Care primarily assists those over 65 to deal with reduced ability related to ageing, although younger people with a disability may in some instances qualify for support.

By promoting independence and improving quality of life for clients, Dom Care helps prevent unnecessary admission into hospital or residential care.

Dom Care Occupational Therapists provide in-home services to assist clients to maximise their participation in activities of everyday life, which may be restricted by physical, social, cognitive and/or environmental factors.

The core activities of Dom Care Occupational Therapists are treatment, rehabilitation, prevention, education and collaboration within a multidisciplinary team (eg Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Speech Pathology, Social Work, Nutrition and Dietetics). Occupational Therapists also promote health and well being and provide services to people with ageing, neurological, musculoskeletal, and psycho-social conditions.

Occupational Therapists are skilled in functional assessment and rehabilitation, promoting independence in tasks at home, work and in the community.

Interventions aim to restore, improve, and maintain the person’s functional performance skills particularly in the areas of personal and instrumental activities of daily living, cognitive and perceptual loss, home safety and environmental assessment, equipment prescription, home modifications, manual handling assessment, domestic task modification and carer training.

Contributions to the team include specialised advice, supervision of Occupational Therapy students, representation on internal and external committees and working groups and participation in quality improvement activities.

The three main roles for Occupational Therapists within Dom Care are:

Client Service Area (CSA) Team Clinician
Most time in this role is spent assessing, providing interventions and education. CSA Team Clinicians prioritise clients, manage waiting lists and respond to urgent referrals.

Client Service Area Service Coordinator
The Occupational Therapists working as a Service Coordinator supports clients who have high or medium support needs. The role holds responsibility for arranging and monitoring appropriate services for clients. Service Coordinators spend approximately 20% of their client related time doing clinical tasks.

Therapy Solutions Clinician
The role provides flexible Occupational Therapy services delivery across various units within Dom Care, including Client Service Area teams. TS clinicians may undertake locum contracts and individual client clinical assessment with external government funded agencies.

For Further Information
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“Working at Domiciliary Care has provided me with a diverse and fulfilling range of experiences. I really enjoy the interaction with clients and seeing the things I do that make a difference...”