



Neuro Spark

THERAPY & REHABILITATION

Neuro Spark Rehab acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Custodians of the Shepparton Region on whose lands NSR Health is located, Yorta Yorta people and their Elders past and present.

MEETING A NEED

Up until Neuro Spark Rehab was created, adults in the Goulburn Valley had limited opportunity to seek expert local allied health input from practitioners with tailored experience and training in neurological conditions and complex rehabilitation.

This meant that people with those needs were limited in their ability to receive optimal therapy and were missing out on recovery, prevention of progression, and expert education based on latest evidence.

We are fortunate to have practitioners in the region who are highly skilled in the neurological and complex rehabilitation fields with some being regional, national and international leaders in their fields. Neuro Spark Rehab has created the opportunity to bring some of those skills together either as clinicians, as mentors or as consultants. This has created the opportunity for practitioners to work in a highly skilled environment whilst living in a regional town.

Neuro Spark Rehab was born out of the drive to provide our regional community with the same opportunities and expert services that are available in metro areas. And this drive is what motivates us every day.

OPPORTUNITY

We believe allied health professionals are in the privileged position of changing people's lives for the better. When that's what we aim for, there is no room for second best. That's why, when we provide a service, we undertake extensive research and complete the most evidence based thorough courses. All team members are supported to progress their knowledge and develop areas of expertise through courses, observation of sessions and mentoring. In addition, we have contacts with world leaders in a number of fields within neurological physiotherapy and have opportunities for development through those networks.

WHY CLIENTS CHOOSE AND STAY WITH US

When we think back at a time we ourselves needed input from health care professionals, we keep going back to the same aspects we were seeking:

- The evidence based knowledge and expertise to know we were going to achieve the best possible outcome;
- The genuine and heartfelt care for us as a person, not a patient;
- The trust that the priority is our health and well being, not our wallets, knowing that we will be referred on to another professional if they have more suitable skills and expertise;
- The confidence our health professionals are team workers and are great at liaising with others involved in our care to provide continuum of care and a unified care plan.

Clients get in contact with us or are referred to us because on paper we have the training and experience to provide them with high quality therapy input. They stay with us and recommend us because, from the first session:

- We give a caring and joyful approach;
- Our skills and knowledge exceed the expectations;
- Our communication and liaison with all relevant professionals within the team is exceptional;
- We put our clients' needs first and work and refer on to other professionals when clinically recommended;
- We are generous with our time;
- We create a supportive environment encouraging peer supports, particularly for those with progressive neurological conditions.

Just like our clients, we are part of the local community and we connect with both through group lunches, outings and celebrations of special occasions.

THE TEAM

The strength of our team is made by each individual. From a clinical point of view, what each team member brings to the team in clinical skills is what gives us all such an ability to assist clients in a range of specialty areas.

Our expertise includes:

- **Parkinson's Disease and Parkinson's Plus presentations (PSP, MSA, CBD)**

Training includes: PD Warrior, International Nordic Walking Instructor, PD, specialised allied health and medical movement disorder conferences

- **Stroke**

Training includes: Basic Bobath training, Research & thesis on laterality recognition- motor imagery, NeuroSpark Network, Pilates for Neurological conditions

- **Multiple Sclerosis**

Training includes: MS Get a Head Start Instructor

- **Dementia**

Training includes: Preventing & Understanding Dementia Open Course

- **Spinal Cord Injury**

Training includes: SCI for physiotherapist (in progress), Basic Bobath

- **Traumatic Brain Injury**

Training includes: TBI program- in progress

- **Vestibular presentations**

Training includes: 6 specialised courses on Advanced Vestibular Management

- **Concussion**

Training includes: Complete Concussion Management

- **Functional Neurological Disorder**

Training includes: Functional Neurological Disorder Course for Allied Health Professionals

- **Adult Cerebral Palsy**

• Other progressive neurological conditions such as **MND** and **Huntington's Disease**

• Rehabilitation following **amputations**

• Peripheral neurological conditions such as peripheral neuropathy, **Post Polio Syndrome** or **Guillain-Barre Syndrome**

• **Gait and balance** deficits

Training includes: AFO assessment and prescription

THE TEAM & YOU

The team we have created is supportive, diverse, caring and knowledgeable. We are looking for someone to join the team who brings positivity with them as well as hunger to learn and develop.

Development of experience will be supported, but we are looking for someone with a very keen interest in neurological conditions and complex rehabilitation.

THE ROLE

The role is flexible in many aspects and tailored around your interests, needs and preferences.

We have a wide range of conditions that we treat including all stages of Parkinson's and Parkinson's Plus, MS, dementia, MND, Huntington's, stroke and other ABIs, SCI of all levels, adult Cerebral Palsy, amputations, vestibular presentations, chronic concussions, Functional Neurological Disorder, other autoimmune conditions, other peripheral presentations such as Post-Polio Syndrome, balance and gait retraining and more.

Our input is dictated by goals, needs and presentation, but some of the input we consistently provide includes gait retraining, balance retraining, upper limb rehabilitation, vestibular rehabilitation, therapy specific to progressive neurological conditions, wheelchair assessment and reviews and prescription of other assistive devices. We also provide nutritionist input for neurological conditions, allied health assistance, support work and massage therapy. We run face-to-face and telehealth groups for people with progressive neurological conditions (in particular PD and dementia) and ABIs, we run a Tai Chi group and a Spin Poi group as well as a strength and balance group.

We also have a strong team of Aquatic Therapists with extensive experience and network to assist our clients who aim to improve their skills in the water. We even have a client working towards competitive swimming and maybe the Paralympics!

We are in search of an Occupational Therapist with experience or interest in developing into an outstanding neuro OT. The work will be as diverse as the clients, but it will include assisting clients optimizing physical, cognitive, and psychological functions through relevant rehabilitation sessions and support, reintroduction to social and work environments, environment optimization including home modifications and assistive devices trial and prescription.

We work closely with the local orthotics and prosthetics service so you will develop experience with a number of highly advanced technologies in that field.

We also have great relationships with some of the major local disability and support services providers.

Majority of our clients are NDIS funded and we again have a great local network of support and expertise to support our work with the NDIS.

We also have clients who are funded through other bodies such as TAC, DVA or WorkCover as well as self-funded clients or those with private health cover.

We complete sessions at our rehab gym, but we also do home visits where more clinically relevant or appropriate. We use the local aquatic center for hydrotherapy sessions or swimming sessions and local gyms or parks where relevant to the client.

The hours of work are completely flexible within 8am and 6pm to work around what works for you and you can choose your routine and your schedule. We offer casual, full or part time work. Our appointments are 1 hour (and up to 2 hours for initial assessment or even longer for remote visits where you want to go through as much as possible in one session) because we understand neurological and complex rehabilitation and its needs.

DEVELOPMENT & CAREER PROGRESSION

Our strength comes from sharing, constantly searching for ways to better ourselves, from asking questions and learning from our diverse clients to name a few.

As we mentioned, when it comes to working in healthcare, there is no room for second best so we are always looking for the most updated courses, we participate in seminars, workshops and conduct research reviews to optimize our skills and ability to assist our clients as best we can.

That's why we assist our team members to complete relevant courses as soon as they start working with us and we support each team member personal interest to help them develop into an expert in that area.

We also support our team to develop specific areas of interest and allow them to take on tasks or activities that are of interest to them.

We don't currently have an OT on our team, but we have contact with OTs who would be able to provide mentoring where relevant and where needed experience is not available within the team.

REMUNERATION

To allow our team to not have the pressure of seeing as many patients as possible in order to earn a fair salary, we provide an hourly rate instead. This also eliminates any unpaid time to travel between clients, to follow up on phone calls and emails, etc.. If preferred, a per client rate can also be discussed.

Overall, we provide above rate salaries. The specifics of each rate will be dependent on the level of experience.

HOW TO JOIN US

Having a full understanding of a team from paper is difficult, so we encourage you to get in touch over the phone as well as sending your resume and cover letter via email to the contact listed below.

So give us a call to ask questions, to find out more or even just to say hi and let us know you are considering this position. We certainly value those who go that little extra step.

My direct contact details are:

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Looking forward to hearing from you.