



ACQUIRED
BRAIN INJURY
IRELAND



About the Role of the **REHABILITATION ASSISTANT**

www.abiireland.ie



ABOUT OUR ORGANISATION



Acquired Brain Injury Ireland provides community-based rehabilitation services for people living with a brain injury in Ireland. Our mission is to serve, advocate, empower and support people impacted by brain injury to rebuild their lives.

Every day we work with survivors of brain injury in their homes and communities, in our Clubhouses and residences, helping them to work towards achieving their personal goals and maximising their independence.

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OUR REHABILITATION APPROACH



We believe in rehabilitation that empowers survivors of brain injury to live as independently as possible. At Acquired Brain Injury Ireland rehabilitation is not meant to be a lifelong process, but rather a short-term support that enables people to reach their full potential, make their own personal choices and achieve their goals.

Our ultimate ambition is that our service users won't need us anymore.

We understand that every brain injury is unique. That's why we create an individual rehabilitation plan together with each individual and their family, tailored specifically to their needs. When brain injury survivors begin their

rehabilitation journey with us, we work together to identify and agree the goals that are important to them, and the supports they will need to become as independent as possible. That might involve training for a return to work or education, learning to plan and organise the day, or how to cope with new emotions and behaviours. Our staff provide the supports needed to achieve those aims.

OUR TEAM



Our team of expert professionals has been providing life-changing rehabilitation to brain injury survivors for more than 20 years.

Each of our local services is led by a Local Services Manager, and includes a team of highly skilled Rehabilitation Assistants. It is the Rehabilitation Assistant's job to support and empower the brain injury survivor to 'do for him/herself', not to 'do for'.

Rehabilitation Assistants work together with clinical staff – skilled health and social care professionals – to support brain injury survivors throughout their rehabilitation journey. Our clinicians include Psychologists, Occupational Therapists and Social Workers with specialised qualifications in brain injury and rehabilitation.

If you have questions about the services we provide, or if you wish to make a comment or complaint please contact your Local Services Manager. You will find their details on our website:

www.abiireland.ie



THE ROLE OF THE REHABILITATION ASSISTANT



Our Rehabilitation Assistants are highly trained specialists and a crucial part of our team. They work with brain injury survivors on a day-to-day basis, providing the guidance and support they need to achieve their own goals.

They are expert communicators with hands-on experience of the impacts of brain injury for the person and their families.

Each of our Rehabilitation Assistants is Garda Vetted and supported by a clinical and management team. They are constantly building their skills and undergoing ongoing training to ensure they can respond to the needs of those they support.

Because every brain injury is unique, our Rehabilitation Assistants have many different roles and responsibilities.

This may include:

- **Providing support to brain injury survivors to achieve the goals set out in their rehabilitation plan, together with the local clinical and management team**
- **Developing strategies to maximise the ability of the brain injury survivor, build coping mechanisms for daily living and promote independence**

- **Feeding back to the clinical and management team throughout the rehabilitation journey**
- **Identifying any additional support needs for the brain injury survivor**
- **Helping to inform people about their brain injury**
- **Listening, getting to know the individual and their family and journeying with them through rehabilitation**
- **Advocating for people and their families**
- **Working with brain injury survivors to ensure they need as little support as possible into the future**
- **Taking part in specialised training and research in the area of brain injury and rehabilitation.**

When people come to the end of their rehabilitation journey with us, our Rehabilitation Assistants also help signpost those living with brain injury to other appropriate services.



SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES AND CARERS



In addition to the rehabilitation services provided to brain injury survivors, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland offers supports to family members and carers.

As part of our 'On With Life' programme family members and carers can access a network of regional support groups, workshops on mindfulness, yoga and music therapy, information and resources to help you live and cope with brain injury.

To find out more about our On With Life Carers and Families Programme and to become a member email Dolores Gallagher:

dgallagher@abiireland.ie
(086) 010 2361.



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