

**Dr Taru-Maija Kokkonen**  
BSc, PGDip, DClinPsy, CPsychol  
**Chartered Clinical Psychologist**



Health Professions Council Registration: **PYL27028**  
British Psychological Society Membership: **270129**

Dr Taru-Maija Kokkonen is a HCPC registered Clinical Psychologist and a Chartered member of the British Psychological Society. She has over 15 years of diverse clinical experience of child and adult mental health, having worked in NHS services and in private practice. Dr Kokkonen specialises in the assessment and treatment of psychological trauma and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and has worked with clients with varying trauma presentations in hospital and outpatient settings.

Dr Kokkonen currently works independently providing psychological therapy to children and adults and expert witness services for Family, Immigration and Personal Injury Courts. Dr Kokkonen has a special interest in psychological trauma in the context of immigration and asylum.

#### **Areas of specialism**

- Trauma/PTSD
- Mental Health Assessments
- Cognitive and Capacity Assessments
- Anxiety and Depression
- Physical health conditions and disability
- Pain Management
- Stress
- Anger Management

#### **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

- 2011**      Doctorate in Clinical Psychology – University of Plymouth
- 2007**      PGDip in Clinical Applications of Psychology – University of Leicester
- 2003**      BSc in Psychology, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours – University of Wales, Swansea

#### **SPECIALIST TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- 2022**      The Annual Bond Solon Expert Witness Conference
- 2022**      The British Psychological Society Expert Witness Conference
- 2022**      Psych Health Annual Clinicians Conference: Diversity & Inclusion
- 2021**      The Annual Bond Solon Expert Witness Conference
- 2021**      Medico-legal Writing for Psychologists and Psychiatrists, Helen Bamber Foundation
- 2021**      Giving Expert Opinion and Testimony, Psychology Associates
- 2021**      Assessing Safe Parenting, Psychology Associates
- 2020**      Advanced Master Programme on the Treatment of Trauma

<b>2019</b>	ACT for Depression & Anxiety Disorders
<b>2019</b>	Excellence in Report Writing: Written Evidence, Bond Solon
<b>2019</b>	CBT and Counselling with Autism Spectrum Disorder Clients: A Masterclass with Professor Tony Attwood
<b>2019</b>	Compassion Focused Therapy
<b>2018</b>	A Course for Trauma-Focused CBT (children & adolescents)
<b>2017</b>	Trauma Focused Cognitive Therapy for Complex PTSD, BABCP
<b>2017</b>	ACT for Young People, Contextual Consulting
<b>2016</b>	The Compassionate Mind Approach to Postnatal Depression
<b>2016</b>	Managing Learners in Practice, Plymouth University
<b>2015</b>	NHS Leadership Academy Award in Leadership Foundations
<b>2012</b>	Incredible Years Parent Group Leader training
<b>2012</b>	Marschak Interaction Method

## **WORK HISTORY**

### **2017 – Present Independent Clinical Psychologist**

- Providing psychological assessment and treatment to clients with various mental health and trauma-related presentations across the lifespan. Offering consultation, training and supervision. Since 2021 Providing expert psychology reports for family court purposes. Reports include psychological and cognitive assessments and capacity to undergo legal proceedings.

### **2019 – Present Principal Clinician, Medavante Pro-Phase**

- Providing independent reviews of neurocognitive assessments within medical trials.

### **2017 – 18 Principal Clinical Psychologist, Devon Partnership NHS Trust**

- Neuropsychological assessments at the Devon Memory Service. Providing psychological assessment and treatment to older adults presenting with complex mental health needs including trauma. Supervision/consultation for MDT colleagues.

### **2015 – 16 Clinical Psychologist, Torbay and South Devon NHS Trust**

- Psychological assessment and treatment of adults with physical health conditions at a clinical health psychology service. Delivery of psychological assessment skills training to MDT colleagues. Working as a paediatric clinical psychologist providing psychological and developmental assessments and treatment for children with medical conditions.

### **2011 – 15 Clinical Psychologist, Ylä-Savon SOTE Kuntayhtymä, Finland**

- Psychological assessment and treatment of children, parents and families. Cognitive assessments of children. Training, consultation and supervision for MDT/education/social care colleagues.

### **2007 – 11 Trainee Clinical Psychologist, Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust**

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**PUBLICATIONS**

- 2016** Kokkonen, T. (2016). Kiintymyssuhdeteoria, hoitosuhteet ja dementia: kirjallisuuskatsaus (Attachment theory, caregiving and dementia: A review of the literature). *Journal of the Finnish Psychological Society*, 1, 4-16.
- 2014** Kokkonen, T., Cheston, R. I., Dallos, R. & Smart, C. (2014). Attachment and coping of dementia care staff: the role of staff attachment style, geriatric nursing self-efficacy, and approaches to dementia in burnout. *Dementia*, 13(4), 544-568.