



Sue Jones

Head of Speech, Voice and Swallowing Services / Consultant SLT in Clinical Voice Disorders

University Hospital of South Manchester

What does your current role involve?

- Managing a dept of 18 SLTs & 5 admin staff in a Large Teaching Hospital
- Leading Voice Clinic Services, providing expert assessment and management
- Teaching, Research, Publications, RCSLT advisor/representative

What was your first role after graduating?

Basic Grade SLT in Wythenshawe Hospital

7 sessions adults

3 sessions paediatrics (Play Unit)

At what stage did you decide which area of the profession you wanted to work in?

To work with adults – whilst at University

To specialise in voice disorders – within 6 months of working

How did you progress from your first role to your current job?

After 18 months, became Senior 1 SLT, specialising in Voice Disorders

2 years later became Head of SLT (very small unit – 2.5 SLTs)

7 years later (after 2 children!) became Head of SLT of two combining acute hospitals (7.0wte SLTs)

Still in same post after 24 years but with many more staff and working as a Consultant SLT for 5 sessions per week.

How have you used CPD to help you progress in your career?

Reading the literature and making my practice evidence-based

Attending conferences / networking with like-minded people

Running courses with expert multidisciplinary speakers

Completing MSc in Voice Research

Teaching/Writing/Publishing

My advice to students looking to get into my current area of work:

Visit Voice Clinics

Specialist Voice Placements

Contact the experts

Attend voice courses/conferences

Read the voice literature

Be an evidence-based practitioner

Contact me: suem.jones@mft.nhs.uk