



Postgraduate Student/Staff Research Profile

Dr Tamara Ownsworth

School of Psychology, Griffith University

What is your role within the School of Psychology?

Senior Lecturer

What research activities are you currently undertaking here at the university?

- Research on adjustment and social support needs in the context of brain tumour.
- ARC-Linkage grant on the transition from hospital to home following acquired brain injury.
- Research on error self-regulation on naturalistic tasks following traumatic brain injury.
- Development and evaluation of early psychological interventions post-stroke.
- Development and validation of the Self-Perceptions In Rehabilitation Questionnaire: a new clinical tool to assess therapy progress following acquired brain injury.

What influenced your decision to undertake psychological research?

A broad interest in the brain and behaviour, and a more specific interest in how people adjust to living with a serious neurological disorder. My 12 years of clinical experience and conducting applied research in the area has further fuelled my interest and passion for this area.

Why is your area of study so important?

Clinical neuropsychology is a fast growing area of research and clinical practice which is becoming increasingly important given the age demographics of our population. Namely, the proportion of individuals living over age 65 is increasing, and the prevalence of neurological disorders is also increasing. e.g., the number of people living with dementia in Australia will be nearly half a million in 10 years time. Psychologists have an integral role in the assessment, treatment and management of neurological disorders, working directly with the individual and/or their family.