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# ACCREDITED ON-DEMAND ONLINE TRAINING

## Presented by

**Charlie Whiffin,**  
Associate Professor  
of Nursing School of  
Nursing, University  
of Derby



**Dr Freddie Byrne,**  
Registered Clinical  
Psychologist, Living  
with ABI Ltd



# SUPPORTING HEALING IN FAMILIES

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# TRAINING OBJECTIVES

- To develop a critical insight into the experiences of families living with abi, drawing on recent research that gives voice to this often-overlooked population.
- To critically examine different approaches to supporting families through therapeutic practices and use of a family centred/sensitive approaches to neuro rehabilitation.

In this presentation Charlie Whiffin and Dr Freddie Byrne will give an overview of how families are impacted, following an acquired brain injury (ABI).

They will explore issues such as changes to family structure and roles, the emotional impact of ABI, and how children are affected by parental ABI.

The presenters will draw on their vast experience to present research into ABI and how families are affected by social changes and consider the impact on the family through different lenses including grief, trauma and identity changes.

They will also provide the evidence for different ways of supporting families living with ABI and bring these ideas to life through clinical examples that draw on therapeutic practices from systemic and narrative therapy.

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# BIOGRAPHIES



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## Charlie Whiffin PhD BA (Hons) RN SFHEA,

Associate Professor of Nursing School of Nursing, University of Derby



Dr Charlotte (Charlie) Whiffin, is a registered adult nurse, and Associate Professor in Nursing at the University of Derby. Charlie worked clinically in neurosurgery and has a special interest in the effect of head injury on the family. Charlie holds a PhD from the University of Southampton entitled 'A study of family transition in the first year post-head injury: perspectives of the non-injured members'.

Methodologically Charlie is an experienced qualitative researcher favouring narrative and in-depth thematic approaches. Charlie recently secured funding for a study to explore narrative story telling as a means of supporting families with their process of adjustment after traumatic brain injury from the NIHR research for patient benefit programme. Charlie is also a co-applicant for the NIHR Global Health Research Group on Acquired Brain and Spine at the University of Cambridge and lead for Community Engagement and Involvement.

## Dr Freddie Byrne, Clinical

Psychologist & Director, Living with ABI Ltd



Freddie is a clinical psychologist and trainer with a special interest in supporting brain injury survivors and their families, including where there are issues of clinical complexity and risk. Freddie has completed further training in family therapy and is passionate about applying this knowledge to supporting families living with acquired brain injury. In 2019 he travelled to Melbourne to work with the internationally recognised Bouverie Centre to train in their "single session" model of narrative therapy for families living with ABI. Freddie is known

for his consistent and respectful approach to engaging individuals, families, and staff teams. He is experienced in providing clinical leadership, working within a family sensitive approach to neuro rehabilitation. "I believe that families living with brain injury face unique challenges. That's why I've dedicated my career to supporting them. It's a privilege to hear their stories and work to make sure that the needs of families are considered alongside those of ABI survivors."



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