

# Life sciences

Life science staff play a major role in the delivery of healthcare.

Whether they are helping couples with IVF or supporting doctors and other healthcare professionals in the diagnosis and treatment of disease, they are a crucial part of the team.

Roles in the life sciences can be divided into three areas:

- pathology - investigating the causes of illness and how it progresses; carrying out tests on tissue, blood and other samples from patients. Pathology plays a crucial role in helping doctors choose the best type of treatment for patients, and monitoring its effectiveness
- genetics <sup>[1]</sup> - understanding the genetic components of illnesses.
- reproductive science - a rapidly developing field, creating life and providing other solutions to infertility.



Healthcare science teams in life sciences work in:

- hospital laboratories - including clinical pathology laboratories and laboratories in specialist hospitals
- the community - including clinics
- organisations such as [NHS Blood and Transplant](#) <sup>[2]</sup>, and [Public Health England](#) <sup>[3]</sup>

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**Source URL:** <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/Explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences>

## Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Genetics> [2] <http://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/> [3] <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>