

# Stroke medicine

Stroke <sup>[1]</sup> medicine doctors diagnose strokes and provide acute care, management and rehabilitation of patients who have suffered a stroke <sup>[1]</sup>.

Stroke <sup>[1]</sup> is an interruption of blood supply to the brain, often the result of a blood clot or a ruptured blood vessel. It's one of the most common causes of death and disability in the UK.



## Life as a doctor in stroke <sup>[1]</sup> medicine

Your patients will often be elderly, although around a quarter of stroke <sup>[1]</sup> patients are aged under 65.

Stroke <sup>[1]</sup> medicine has only been recognised as a specialist branch of medicine since 2007 so you may have another specialism and split your time between the two, or work full-time on stroke <sup>[1]</sup> medicine.

You'll use a range of clinical skills and knowledge including on cardiovascular <sup>[2]</sup> disease, general and geriatric medicine, rehabilitation and palliative care. You'll treat patients with strokes and those suffering from a transient ischaemic attack (TIA) <sup>[3]</sup> or 'mini-stroke', where symptoms last less than 24 hours. You'll also be skilled in identifying patients who have similar symptoms to a stroke <sup>[1]</sup> but may have other underlying diseases such as epilepsy.

You'll use a wide range of new techniques and treatments that have greatly improved recovery rates. New techniques are being developed all the time, such as brain-cooling techniques that can be used in the early stages of a stroke <sup>[1]</sup> to protect the brain from further damage.

Your working day will be varied due to the acute nature of the work and the need to be on-call on a rota. The quicker someone with a stroke <sup>[1]</sup> is treated, the better their chances of survival and a full recovery. You could be responding to emergency, life-threatening situations either in A&E, in emergency outpatient clinics where testing, diagnosis and medication management are provided in one visit, or in hyper-acute stroke <sup>[1]</sup> units providing rapid assessment.

You could work in a variety of settings, for example in an acute and rehabilitation stroke <sup>[1]</sup> unit or a neurovascular unit. You could also run a stroke <sup>[1]</sup> prevention clinic or working on a

rehabilitation ward alongside nurses, physiotherapists, speech and language therapists and other health professionals.

## How much can I earn?

You'll first earn a salary when you start your [foundation training](#) <sup>[4]</sup> after medical school. Find out details of current salary ranges for foundation and specialty training, [SAS doctors](#) <sup>[5]</sup> and consultants on the [Pay for doctors](#) <sup>[6]</sup> page.

## How about the benefits?

- make a difference
- flexible and part-time working
- high income early in your career
- work anywhere in the world
- excellent pension scheme
- good holiday entitlement
- NHS discounts in shops and restaurants

## Must-have skills

- excellent communication skills to manage a wide range of relationships with colleagues, and patients and their families
- emotional resilience, a calm temperament and the ability to work well under pressure
- teamwork and the capacity to lead multidisciplinary teams
- problem-solving and diagnostic skills
- outstanding organisational ability and effective decision-making skills
- first-class time and resource management for the benefit of patients

## Entry requirements?

Your first step is medical school. Typically, you'll need excellent GCSEs and three A or A\* passes at A level including chemistry for a five-year undergraduate degree in medicine. Many medical schools also ask for biology and others may require maths or physics.

If you already have a degree, you could study for a four-year postgraduate degree in medicine.

You'll need to pass an interview and admissions test. You'll be asked to show how you demonstrate the NHS values such as compassion and respect.

Some medical schools look to recruit a mix of students from different backgrounds and geographical areas, so your educational and economic background and family circumstances could be considered as part of your application.

## How to become a doctor in [stroke](#) <sup>[1]</sup> medicine

After medical school, you'll join the paid two-year [foundation programme](#) <sup>[7]</sup> where you'll work in six placements in different settings.

After your foundation programme, you can apply for paid specialty training <sup>[8]</sup> to become a doctor in stroke <sup>[1]</sup> medicine, which will take a minimum of six years.

You may be able to train part time, for example for health reasons or if you have family or caring responsibilities.

## Where a career as a doctor in stroke <sup>[1]</sup> medicine can take you

You could:

- specialise or conduct research in areas such as rehabilitation medicine or clinical pharmacology and therapeutics
- teach medical students or postgraduate students in training
- get involved in research at universities, the NHS or private sector

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### ○ **Consultant in Stroke Medicine**

Swindon, SN3 6BB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[9]</sup>

### ○ **Consultant in Stroke Medicine**

Lincoln, LN2 5QY

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[10]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant Stroke Medicine**

Nottingham, NG5 1PB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trusts

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[11]</sup>

- **Specialist in Stroke Medicine**

Newport, PO305TG

Salary:

£96990.00 to £107155.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Isle of Wight NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist in Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[12]</sup>

- **Consultant in Stroke Medicine**

Blackpool, FY3 8NR

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[13]</sup>

- **Fixed Term Consultant Stroke Medicine**

Brighton, BN25BE

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (279)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Fixed Term Consultant Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[14]</sup>

- **TPD for Stroke Medicine (East)**

Leicester, LE3 8RA

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Secondment

Employer:

NHS England

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for TPD for Stroke Medicine \(East\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[15]</sup>

- **Consultant Physician in Stroke Medicine**

Newport, PO30 5TG

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Isle of Wight NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Physician in Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

- **Training Programme Director - Stroke Medicine Mersey**

Manchester, M1 3BN

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Secondment

Employer:

NHS England

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Training Programme Director - Stroke Medicine Mersey job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[17]</sup>

- **Senior Clinical Fellow in Stroke Medicine**

Leeds, LS1 3EX

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Leeds Teaching Hospitals

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Clinical Fellow in Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[18]</sup>

- **Consultant in Geriatric Medicine with Specialist interest in Stroke**

Chester, CH2 1UL

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Geriatric Medicine with Specialist interest in Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[19]</sup>

- **HfOP & Stroke Specialist Grade Doctor**

Exeter, EX2 5DW

Salary:

£96990.00 to £107155.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for HfOP & Stroke Specialist Grade Doctor job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[20]</sup>

- **Stroke Consultant**

Bournemouth, BH7 7DW

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Stroke Consultant job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[21]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor - Emergency Medicine**

Bournemouth, BH7 7DW

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[22]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor - Emergency Medicine**

Scarborough, YO12 6QL

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[23]</sup>

- **Speciality Doctor - Emergency Medicine**

Plymouth, PL6 8DH

Salary:

£61825.00 to £70425.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor - Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[24]</sup>

- **Locum Stroke Consultant**

Hackney, E9 6SR

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust  
[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Stroke Consultant job \(opens in a new window\)](#)  
[25]

- **Consultant Stroke Physician**

Bristol, BS10 5NB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

North Bristol NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Stroke Physician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [26]

- **Physiotherapist in Stroke**

Lymington, SO41 8QD

Salary:

£38682.00 to £46580.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Physiotherapist in Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#)  
[27]

- **Consultant Physician - Stroke**

Eastbourne, BN21 2UD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Physician - Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [28]

- **Consultant Stroke Physician**

Taunton, TA1 5DA

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:



Permanent

Employer:

Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Stroke Physician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[29]</sup>

- **Consultant Stroke Physician**

Sutton-In-Ashfield, NG17 4JL

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Stroke Physician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[30]</sup>

- **Consultant Stroke Physician**

Upton, CH49 5PE

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Wirral University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Stroke Physician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[31]</sup>

- **Consultant (Stroke) Physician**

Lancaster, LA1 4RP

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant \(Stroke\) Physician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[32]</sup>

- **Consultant Stroke Physician**

Bristol, BS10 5NB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

North Bristol NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Stroke Physician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[33]</sup>

- **Locum Stroke Consultant**

Bournemouth, BH7 7DW

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Locum

Employer:

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Stroke Consultant job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[34]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine**

Carlisle, CA2 7HY

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[35]</sup>

- **Trust Doctor in Respiratory Medicine**

Leeds, LS9 7TF

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Leeds Teaching Hospitals

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor in Respiratory Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[36]</sup>

- **Speciality Doctor in Palliative Medicine**

Swansea, SA6 6NL

Salary:

£59727.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Swansea Bay University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor in Palliative Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[37]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine**

Yeovil, BA21 4AT

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[38]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine**

Truro, TR1 3LJ

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[39]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine**

Luton, LU4 0DZ

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[40]</sup>

- **Specialist Stroke Occupational Therapist**

Boston, PE21 7TW

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Lincolnshire Community Health Service NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Stroke Occupational Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[41]</sup>

- **Consultant Stroke Physician - Locum**

High Wycombe, HP11 2TT

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Locum

Employer:

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Stroke Physician - Locum job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[42]</sup>

- **Specialist Stroke Occupational Therapist**

Redruth, TR153ER

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Stroke Occupational Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[43]</sup>

- **Stroke Specialist Occupational Therapist**

Huddersfield, HD5 9TS

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Locala Health and Wellbeing

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Stroke Specialist Occupational Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[44]</sup>

- **Stroke Specialist Community Physiotherapist**

Rochdale, OL120NB

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Stroke Specialist Community Physiotherapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[45]</sup>

- **Applied Psychologist - Stroke/Neuro**

Worcester, WR51DD

Salary:

£53755.00 to £60504.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Applied Psychologist - Stroke/Neuro job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[46]</sup>

- **Senior Clinical Fellow (Stroke)**

Westcliff-On-Sea, SS0 0RY

Salary:

£41750.00 to £64288.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Clinical Fellow \(Stroke\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[47]</sup>

- **Occupational Therapist Stroke/ Neurology**

Hull, HU3 2JZ

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Occupational Therapist Stroke/ Neurology job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[48]</sup>

- **Principal Stroke Psychologist/Neuropsychologist**

Epping, CM16 6TN

Salary:

£64337.00 to £74415.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Principal Stroke Psychologist/Neuropsychologist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[49]</sup>

- **Bank Doctor in General Medicine (ST3+)**

Victoria Road, Macclesfield, SK10 3BL

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Bank

Employer:

East Cheshire NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Bank Doctor in General Medicine \(ST3+\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[50]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine (A&E)**

Worcester, WR5 1DD

Redditch, B98 7UB

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine \(A&E\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[51]</sup>

- **Specialist Hospitals Pharmacist (Rehab-Stroke)**

Leicester, LE3 9EJ

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Hospitals Pharmacist \(Rehab-Stroke\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[52]</sup>

- **Junior Clinical Fellow in Stroke**

Bristol, BS10 5NB

Salary:

£49909.00 to £61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

North Bristol NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Junior Clinical Fellow in Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[53]</sup>

- **Band 6 Occupational Therapist - Stroke**

Gorleston, NR31 6LA

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

James Paget University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 6 Occupational Therapist - Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[54]</sup>

- **Consultant Care of Elderly - Stroke**

croydon, Surrey, CR7 7YE

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Croydon Health Services NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Care of Elderly - Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[55]</sup>

- **Stroke Consultant -\* Welcome Bonus £20K \***

Ipswich, IP4 5PD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Stroke Consultant - \\* Welcome Bonus £20K \\* job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[56]</sup>

- **Locally Employed Doctor (Higher) in Emergency Medicine QEHB**

Birmingham, B15 2TH

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locally Employed Doctor \(Higher\) in Emergency Medicine QEHB job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[57]</sup>

- **Occupational Therapist - ESD for Stroke B6**

Great Yarmouth, NR31 0LT

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Coast Community Healthcare CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Occupational Therapist - ESD for Stroke B6 job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[58]</sup>

- **Specialist Speech and Language Therapist - Stroke**

Dorchester, DT1 2JY

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Speech and Language Therapist - Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[59]</sup>



- **Community Stroke Speech and Language Therapist**

London, E1 1FR

Salary:

£44806.00 to £53134.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Barts Health NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Community Stroke Speech and Language Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[60]</sup>

- **Medical Secretary - HoP/Stroke & Movement Disorder**

Torquay, TQ2 7AA

Salary:

£24071.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medical Secretary - HoP/Stroke & Movement Disorder job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[61]</sup>

- **Specialist Occupational Therapist - Stroke and Rehabilitation**

Telford, TF1 6TF

Salary:

£38682.00 to £46580.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Occupational Therapist - Stroke and Rehabilitation job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[62]</sup>

- **Locally Employed Doctor (Higher) in Emergency Medicine - HGS sites**

Birmingham, B9 5SS

Sutton Coldfield, B75 7RR

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locally Employed Doctor \(Higher\) in Emergency Medicine - HGS sites job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[63]</sup>

- **B6 Occupational Therapist (Stroke Ward) - Market Harborough**

Market Harborough, LE16 7BN

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for B6 Occupational Therapist \(Stroke Ward\) - Market Harborough job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[64]</sup>

- **Specialist Occupational Therapist Integrated Community Stroke Service**

TBC, PL31 2QN

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Occupational Therapist Integrated Community Stroke Service job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[65]</sup>

- **Clinical Lead Speech and Language Therapist - Stroke Inpatients**

Halifax, HX3 0PW

Salary:

£47810.00 to £54710.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Lead Speech and Language Therapist - Stroke Inpatients job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[66]</sup>

- **Further information**

These organisations have further information about being a [stroke](#) [1] medicine doctor, particularly as your career progresses. Take a look.

[British and Irish Association of Stroke Physicians](#) [67]

[Royal College of Physicians](#) [68]

[Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh](#) [69]

[Joint Royal College of Physicians Training Board \(JRCPTB\)](#) [70]

And hear from someone already working as doctor in [stroke](#) [1] medicine.

[Dr Hedley Emsley, consultant neurologist \(RCP\)](#) [71]

## Other roles that may interest you

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