

# Stroke medicine

[Stroke](#) [1] medicine doctors diagnose strokes and provide acute care, management and rehabilitation of patients who have suffered a [stroke](#) [1].

[Stroke](#) [1] 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](#) [1] medicine

Your patients will often be elderly, although around a quarter of [stroke](#) [1] patients are aged under 65.

[Stroke](#) [1] 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](#) [1] medicine.

You'll use a range of clinical skills and knowledge including on [cardiovascular](#) [2] disease, general and geriatric medicine, rehabilitation and palliative care. You'll treat patients with strokes and those suffering from a [transient ischaemic attack \(TIA\)](#) [3] 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](#) [1] 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](#) [1] 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](#) [1] 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](#) [1] units providing rapid assessment.

You could work in a variety of settings, for example in an acute and rehabilitation [stroke](#) [1] unit or a neurovascular unit. You could also run a [stroke](#) [1] 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 [8] to become a doctor in stroke [1] 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 [1] 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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## Find a vacancy

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### ○ **Specialty Doctor in Stroke Medicine**

Cwmbran, NP44 8YN

Salary:

£59727.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [9]

### ○ **Specialist Grade - Stroke Medicine**

Harrow, HA1 3UJ

Salary:

£96990.00 to £107155.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust

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

- **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>[11]</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>[12]</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>[13]</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>[14]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant in Stroke Medicine**

London, HA1 3UJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust

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

- **Consultant Physician in Stroke Medicine**

Newport, PO30 5TG

Salary:

£105505.00 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>

- **Fixed Term Consultant in Stroke Medicine**

Lincoln, LN2 5QY

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust

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

- **Specialty Registrar (ST3+) in Stroke Medicine**

London, E1 1FR

Salary:

£47524.00 to £64288.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Barts Health NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Registrar \(ST3+\) in Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[19]</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>[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 in Palliative Medicine**

Bolton, BL1 4QT

Salary:

£59175.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Bolton Hospice

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[22]</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>[23]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine**

Weston-super-Mare, BS23 4TQ

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in 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 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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) [26]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) [27]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) [28]

- **Consultant Stroke Physician**

Frimley, GU16 7UJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:



Permanent

Employer:

Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Stroke Physician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[29]</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>[30]</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>[31]</sup>

- **Occupational Therapist - Stroke Services**

Pershore, WR10 1PS

Bromsgrove, B61 0BB

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust

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

- **Healthcare Support Worker - Stroke**

Bournemouth, BH7 7DW

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust

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

- **General Manager - Stroke & Neurosciences**

London, W6 8RF

Salary:

£74290.00 to £85601.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for General Manager - Stroke & Neurosciences job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[34]</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>[35]</sup>

- **Locum Neurology & Stroke Specialist**

High Wycombe, HP11 2TT

Salary:

£96990.00 to £107155.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Neurology & Stroke Specialist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[36]</sup>

- **Advanced Clinical Practitioner-Stroke**

Dartford, DA2 8DA

Salary:

£55877.00 to £62626.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Advanced Clinical Practitioner-Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[37]</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>[38]</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>[39]</sup>

- **Locally Employed Doctor (FY2 equivalent) Emergency Medicine**

Aylesbury, HP21 8AL

Salary:

£42008.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locally Employed Doctor \(FY2 equivalent\) Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[40]</sup>

- **Healthcare Assistant - Community Stroke Services**

Pershore, WR10 1PS

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Healthcare Assistant - Community Stroke Services job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[41]</sup>

- **Specialist Physiotherapist - Neurology and Stroke**

Truro, TR1 3LJ

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Physiotherapist - Neurology and Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[42]</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>[43]</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>[44]</sup>

- **Senior Speech & Language Therapist - Stroke**

Middlesbrough, TS4 3BW

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Speech & Language Therapist - Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[45]</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>[46]</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>[47]</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>[48]</sup>

- **Outpatients Administrator - Respiratory, Cardiology & Stroke**

Reading, RG1 5AN

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Outpatients Administrator - Respiratory, Cardiology & Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[49]</sup>

- **Specialist Occupational Therapist in Stroke**

Shenfield, Brentwood, CM15 8DR

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Provide CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Occupational Therapist in Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[50]</sup>

- **Senior Clinical Psychologist: Adult Neuropsychology (Stroke)**

Halifax, HX3 0PW

Salary:

£50952.00 to £57349.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Clinical Psychologist: Adult Neuropsychology \(Stroke\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[51]</sup>

- **Specialist OT - Stroke and General Rehabilitation**

Swindon, SN3 6BW

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

HCRG Care Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist OT - Stroke and General Rehabilitation job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[52]</sup>

- **Specialist Occupational Therapist - Stroke & General Rehabilitation**

Brecon, LD3 7NS

Salary:

£37898.00 to £45637.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Powys Teaching Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Occupational Therapist - Stroke & General Rehabilitation job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[53]</sup>

- **Patient Pathway Coordinator, Neurology and Stroke**

Chertsey, KT16 0PZ

Salary:

£27857.00 to £30570.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Ashford & St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Patient Pathway Coordinator, Neurology and Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[54]</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>[55]</sup>

- **Integrated Community Stroke Service Occupational Therapist**

Northallerton, DL6 1JG

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Integrated Community Stroke Service Occupational Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[56]</sup>

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

Eastbourne, BN21 2UD

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Speech and Language Therapist - Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[57]</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>[58]</sup>

- **Ward Manager - Neurology Acute Stroke Unit**

Middlesbrough, TS43BW

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Ward Manager - Neurology Acute Stroke Unit job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[59]</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>[60]</sup>

- **Specialist Occupational Therapist - Stroke/Neuro Rehabilitation Unit**

Carlisle, CA2 7HY

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Occupational Therapist - Stroke/Neuro Rehabilitation Unit job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[61]</sup>

- **Specialist Occupational Therapist - Acute Stroke and Neurology**

Bath, BA1 3NG

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Occupational Therapist - Acute Stroke and Neurology job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[62]</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) [63]

## • 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](#) [64]

[Royal College of Physicians](#) [65]

[Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh](#) [66]

[Joint Royal College of Physicians Training Board \(JRCPTB\)](#) [67]

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

[Dr Hedley Emsley, consultant neurologist \(RCP\)](#) [68]

## Other roles that may interest you

- [General internal medicine](#) [69]
- [Geriatric medicine](#) [70]
- [Rehabilitation medicine](#) [71]
- [Vascular surgery](#) [72]

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### Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Stroke> [2]  
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Cardiovascular> [3]  
[https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Transient\\_ischaemic\\_attack\\_TIA](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Transient_ischaemic_attack_TIA) [4]  
[https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Foundation\\_training](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Foundation_training) [5]  
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/career-opportunities-doctors/sas-doctors> [6]  
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/pay-doctors> [7]  
<https://foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/> [8] <https://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/> [9]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9040-25-0807> [10]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9337-25-2653> [11]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9249-25-0242> [12]  
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<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9470-25-0216> [14]  
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<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9470-25-0056> [17]

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<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9210-25-0262> [21]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9153-25-0544> [22]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/B0057-25-0008> [23]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9262-25-0730> [24]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9387-25-0928> [25]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9293-25-0112> [26]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9374-25-0525> [27]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9214-25-0411> [28]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9184-25-0751> [29]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9151-25-0620> [30]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9331-25-0431> [31]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9818-25-0103> [32]  
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