

# 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 [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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### ○ Trust Doctor in Stroke Medicine

Cheltenham, GL53 7AN

Salary:

£42008.00 to £49909.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

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

### ○ 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>[10]</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>[11]</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>[12]</sup>

- **Consultant Physician in Stroke Medicine**

Salisbury, SP2 8BJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Physician in Stroke Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[13]</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>[14]</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>[15]</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>[16]</sup>

- **Trust Grade Doctor (Neurology/Stroke)**

London, WC1N 3BG

Salary:

£49909.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Grade Doctor \(Neurology/Stroke\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[17]</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>[18]</sup>

- **Consultant Stroke**

Wolverhampton, WV10 0QP

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

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

- **Consultant - Stroke**

Kings Lynn, PE30 4ET

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn NHSFT

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

- **Specialty Doctor- Occupational Medicine**

London, W6 8RF

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor- Occupational Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[21]</sup>

- **Emergency Medicine Specialty Doctor**

Braddan, IM4 4RJ

Salary:

£53614.00 to £98969.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Manx Care

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Emergency Medicine Specialty Doctor job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[22]</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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[23]</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>[24]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[25]</sup>

- **Stroke Co-ordinator**

Cwmbran, NP44 8YN

Salary:

£26928.00 to £29551.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Stroke Co-ordinator job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[26]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine**

Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 9DT

Salary:

£59727.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[27]</sup>

- **Trust Doctor General Medicine IMT3**

Exeter, EX2 5DW

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor General Medicine IMT3 job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[28]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor - HIV & Genitourinary Medicine**

Walsall, WS2 9PS

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:



Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust  
[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - HIV & Genitourinary Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[29]</sup>

- **Speciality Doctor in Palliative Medicine**

Preston, PR2 9HT

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor in Palliative Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[30]</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>[31]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine**

Braddan, IM4 4RJ

Salary:

£48670.00 to £89841.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Manx Care

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[32]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine**

Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 9DT

Salary:

£59727.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent  
Employer:  
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board  
[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[33]</sup>

- **Trust Doctor in Fetal Medicine**

London, E1 1FR

Salary:  
£41750.00 to £64288.00

Type:  
Fixed-Term

Employer:  
Barts Health NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor in Fetal Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[34]</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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[23]</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>[24]</sup>

- **Trust Doctor in Geriatric Medicine**

London, E13 8SL

Salary:

£41750.00 to £64288.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Barts Health NHS Trust

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

- **Trust Doctor in Geriatric Medicine**

London, E11 1NR

Salary:

£41750.00 to £64288.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Barts Health NHS Trust

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

- **Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine**

Bodelwyddan, LL18 5UJ

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

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

- **Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine**

Swindon, SN3 6BB

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Great Western Hospitals 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 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>[39]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine**

Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 9DT

Salary:

£59727.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

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Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

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Fixed-Term

Employer:

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Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

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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>[31]</sup>

- **Consultant Stroke Physician**

Crewe, CW1 4QJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospital of North Midlands NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Stroke Physician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[40]</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 \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[41]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) [42]

- **Senior Medical Secretary - Stroke**

Worcester, WR5 1DD

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Medical Secretary - Stroke job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [43]

- **Healthcare Support Worker - Stroke**

Dorset, 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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) [44]

- **Stroke Specialist Occupational Therapist**

Cambridge Bio Medical Campus, CB2 0AY

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Papworth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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

- **Assistant Psychologist Stroke Services**

Nottingham, NG7 2UH

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trusts

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

- **Highly Specialist Stroke Dietitian**

Telford, TF1 6TF

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust

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

- **Senior Specialty Doctor Fellowship in Emergency Medicine**

Exeter, EX2 5DW

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Specialty Doctor Fellowship in Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[48]</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>[49]</sup>

- **Junior Specialty Doctor Fellowship in Emergency Medicine**

Exeter, EX2 5DW

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Junior Specialty Doctor Fellowship in Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[50]</sup>

- **Stroke Specialist Speech & Language Therapist**

King's Lynn, PE30 4ET

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn NHSFT

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Stroke Specialist Speech & Language Therapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[51]</sup>

- **Integrated Community Stroke Service Administrator**

South Petherton, TA13 5EF

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Integrated Community Stroke Service Administrator job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[52]</sup>

- **Specialist Dietitian (Stroke and Cardiology)**



High Wycombe, HP11 2TT

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Dietitian \(Stroke and Cardiology\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[53]</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>[54]</sup>

- **Specialist Physiotherapist in Stroke Rehabilitation**

Norwich, NR2 3TU

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Physiotherapist in Stroke Rehabilitation job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[55]</sup>

- **Administrator - Integrated Community Stroke Service**

Bristol, BS5 0UA

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Sirona care & health CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Administrator - Integrated Community Stroke Service job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[56]</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>[57]</sup>

- **Further information**

These organisations have further information about being a stroke <sup>[1]</sup> medicine doctor, particularly as your career progresses. Take a look.

[British and Irish Association of Stroke Physicians](#) <sup>[58]</sup>

[Royal College of Physicians](#) <sup>[59]</sup>

[Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh](#) <sup>[60]</sup>

[Joint Royal College of Physicians Training Board \(JRCPTB\)](#) <sup>[61]</sup>

And hear from someone already working as doctor in stroke <sup>[1]</sup> medicine.

[Dr Hedley Emsley, consultant neurologist \(RCP\)](#) <sup>[62]</sup>

## Other roles that may interest you

- [General internal medicine](#) <sup>[63]</sup>
- [Geriatric medicine](#) <sup>[64]</sup>
- [Rehabilitation medicine](#) <sup>[65]</sup>
- [Vascular surgery](#) <sup>[66]</sup>

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**Source URL:**[https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/stroke-medicine?field\\_field\\_role=537&page=11&destination=/my-account/my-bookmarks/497](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/stroke-medicine?field_field_role=537&page=11&destination=/my-account/my-bookmarks/497)

### Links

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Stroke> <sup>[2]</sup>

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Cardiovascular> <sup>[3]</sup>

[https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Transient\\_ischaemic\\_attack\\_TIA](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Transient_ischaemic_attack_TIA) <sup>[4]</sup>

[https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Foundation\\_training](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Foundation_training) <sup>[5]</sup>

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/career-opportunities-doctors/sas-doctors> <sup>[6]</sup>

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/pay-doctors> <sup>[7]</sup>

<https://foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/> [8] <https://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/> [9]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9318-25-0501> [10]  
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<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9374-25-0525> [26]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9040-25-0749> [27]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9110-25-0737> [28]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C0023-25-1038> [29]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9407-25-0190> [30]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9438-25-0226> [31]  
<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9387-25-0928> [32]  
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<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9110-25-0650> [34]  
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