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Urodynamic science

Urodynamic science is the investigation of urinary-related difficulties.

As a healthcare scientist in urodynamic science, you'll help to diagnose problems and plan the treatment of patients with urinary-related conditions.



You'll use special equipment to diagnose problems and help plan the treatment of patients.

Working life

You'll use special equipment to record pressures, urine flows and muscle activity to diagnose problems and help plan the treatment of patients.

As a healthcare scientist working in urodynamic science, you'll:

- prepare and use various highly technical, mechanical and electronic instruments and devices to measure various parameters
- produce interpretive reports on the range of tests undertaken, including the use of nomograms

Who will I work with?

You're likely to work as part of a team that includes doctors specialising in genito-urinary medicine [1], specialist nurses [2] and healthcare assistants [3].

Want to learn more?

- Find out more about the entry requirements, skills and interests required to enter a career in urodynamic science [4]
- Find out more about the training you'll receive for a career in urodynamic science [5]

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Pay and conditions

Most jobs in the NHS are covered by the Agenda for Change (AfC) [6] pay scales. This pay system covers all staff except doctors, dentists and the most senior managers. Trainee clinical scientists train at band 6 level, and qualified clinical scientists are generally appointed at band 7. With experience and further qualifications, including Higher Specialist Scientist Training [7], you could apply for posts up to band 9.

Staff will usually work a standard 37.5 hours per week. They may work a shift pattern.

Terms and conditions of service can vary for employers outside the NHS.

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Where the role can lead

With further training or experience or both, you may be able to develop your career further and apply for vacancies in areas such as further specialisation, management or teaching.

Healthcare science staff often work at the forefront of research and innovation, so that patients are continually receiving the very best healthcare. In urodynamic science for example, healthcare science staff are involved in researching the causes and treatment of prostate cancer.

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Job market and vacancies

Job market

In November 2018, there were 6,123 clinical scientists registered with the Health and Care Professions Council [8].

The NHS Scientist Training Programme (STP) [9] and Higher Specialist Scientist Training (HSST) [7] attract many more applicants than there are places and so there is considerable competition for places.

Finding and applying for jobs

When you're looking for job or apprenticeship vacancies, there are a number of sources you can use, depending on the type of work you're seeking.

Check vacancies carefully to be sure you can meet the requirements of the person specification before applying and to find out what the application process is. You may need to apply online or send a CV for example.

For the STP [9] and HSST [7] there is an annual recruitment cycle and applications should be made through the National School of Healthcare Science's website [10], where you can also find information about the programmes and the recruitment process.

Key sources relevant to vacancies in the health sector:

- vacancies in organisations delivering NHS healthcare can be found on the NHS Jobs website [11]
- vacancies in local government can be found on the Local Government Jobs website [12] and the Jobs Go Public website [13]

As well as these sources, you may find suitable vacancies in the health sector by contacting local employers directly, searching in local newspapers and by using the Universal Jobmatch tool [14].

Find out more about applications and interviews [15].

Volunteering is an excellent way of gaining experience (especially if you don't have enough for a specific paid job you're interested in) and also seeing whether you're suited to a particular type of work. It's also a great way to boost your confidence and you can give something back to the community.

Find out more about volunteering and gaining experience [16].

Further information

For further information about a career in urodynamic science, please contact:

- Academy for Healthcare Science [17]
- Association of GI Physiologists [18] (part of the British Society of Gastroenterology)
- Health and Care Professions Council [19]
- National School of Healthcare Science [10]
- UCAS [20]
- United Kingdom Continence Society [21]

Other roles that may interest you

- Gastroenterology [22]
- Gastrointestinal physiology [23]
- Genitourinary medicine [24]
- Clinical bioinformatics health informatics [25]

Source URL:<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/physiological-sciences/urodynamic-science>

Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/medicine/genitourinary-medicine>
[2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing> [3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/clinical-support-staff/healthcare-assistant> [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/physiological-sciences/urodynamic-science/entry-requirements-skills-and-interests>
[5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/physiological-sciences/urodynamic-science/training-development-and-registration> [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/about/careers-nhs/nhs-pay-and-benefits/agenda-change-pay-rates> [7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/working-health/nhs-higher-specialist-scientific-training> [8] <http://www.hcpc-uk.org> [9] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/considering-or-university/not-studying-health-related-degree/nhs-scientist-training-programme>
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