

Metabolic Medicine

Doctors in [metabolic](#) ^[1] medicine treat patients whose chemical processes do not function properly and who may have various health problems as a result.

Your patients will have a wide range of common and rare conditions, for example diabetes, kidney stones, lipid metabolism and inborn errors of metabolism such as phenylketonuria.



Life as a doctor in [metabolic](#) ^[1] medicine

[Metabolic](#) ^[1] medicine is a relatively new specialty (it's a sub-specialty of chemical pathology) and provides excellent opportunities for research.

You could choose to study it together with general internal medicine, but most doctors decide on chemical pathology as their specialty. The clinical work of [metabolic](#) ^[1] medicine complements the laboratory work of chemical pathology. Whatever specialty you choose, you'll work closely with your hospital's biochemistry laboratory.

If you decide on chemical pathology as your specialty, you'll see patients with conditions within specific areas of [metabolic](#) ^[1] medicine, predominately as outpatients.

You'll have the opportunity to run a hospital biochemistry laboratory where you'll spend most of your time ensuring high quality laboratory testing, interpreting results and liaising with colleagues in primary and [secondary care](#) ^[2]. Collaboration with colleagues in other specialties is a must.

In a typical week, you'll hold up to three outpatient clinics for a range of conditions, for example diabetes, [cardiovascular](#) ^[3] risk and renal stone disease

If you choose general medicine as your specialty, you'll treat patients with inherited diseases.

Common procedures and interventions include:

- drug treatments such as insulin and lipid-regulating drugs
- enzyme replacement therapies for inherited [metabolic](#) ^[1] diseases

- [bariatric surgery](#) ^[4] for obesity, such as gastric bypass surgery – where [metabolic](#) ^[1] medicine physicians will work closely with bariatric surgeons
- provision of nutritional support via percutaneous gastrostomies (PEG, an endoscopic procedure) or [parenteral nutrition](#) ^[5] (TPN)
- [cardiovascular](#) ^[3] risk testing, e.g. for patients with high cholesterol
- use of new biologic treatments for cholesterol disorders
- dynamic tests or ‘stress tests’ for a wide range of conditions

How much can I earn?

You’ll first earn a salary when you start your [foundation training](#) ^[6] after medical school. Find out details of current salary ranges for foundation and specialty training, [SAS doctors](#) ^[7] and consultants on the [Pay for doctors](#) ^[8] 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

In addition, doctors in [metabolic](#) ^[1] medicine need to demonstrate:

- a strong interest in biochemistry and metabolism
- a familiarity with research methods and a willingness to keep up to date with research and advances in treatment

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.

"The patient contact is the part I enjoy the most. I love my clinics. I also enjoy carrying out research as it means that you can actually drive and develop the treatments that your patients receive in clinic."

[Read Jaimini's story](#) ^[9].

What are my chances of starting a career as a doctor in metabolic ^[1] medicine?

In 2016, there were 15 consultants in metabolic ^[1] medicine in the NHS in England. In 2020, there were 23 applications for 12 training places.

How to become a doctor in metabolic ^[1] medicine

After medical school, you'll join the paid two-year foundation?programme ^[10] where you'll work in six placements in different settings.

After your foundation programme, you can apply for paid specialty training ^[11] to become a doctor in metabolic ^[1] medicine, which will take a minimum of seven 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 metabolic ^[1] medicine can take you

You could:

- specialise or conduct research
- teach medical students or postgraduate students in training
- get involved in research at universities, the NHS or private sector

- **Live vacancies**

Find a vacancy

Enter your location or postcode

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- **Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease**

London, UK, E20 1JQ

Salary:

£1.00 to £300.00

Type:

Voluntary

Employer:

NICE – The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[12]

- **Senior Specialist Dietitian (Paediatric Inherited Metabolic Disorders)**

Leicester, LE1 5WW

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Specialist Dietitian \(Paediatric Inherited Metabolic Disorders\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[13]

- **Specialist Paediatric Dietitian - Inherited Metabolic Disease & Barth**

Bristol, BS2 8BJ

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW)
[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Paediatric Dietitian - Inherited Metabolic Disease & Barth job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[14]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[15]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[16]

- **Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine**

Derby, DE22 3NE

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[17]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[18]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[19]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[20]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[21]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[22]

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine and General Medicine**

Woolwich, SE18 4QH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute Medicine and General Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[23]

- **Medicine Management Technician**

London, SE28 0NZ

Salary:

£34521.00 to £41956.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medicine Management Technician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[24]

- **Consultant - Acute Medicine**

Truro, TR1 3LJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant - Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[25]

- **Medicines Team Assistant**

Bristol, BS16 5SG

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Downend Health Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medicines Team Assistant job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[26]

- **Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist**

Ipswich, IP1 2BX

Salary:

£55690.00 to £62682.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICB

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[27]

- **Consultant - Acute Medicine**

Truro, TR1 3LJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

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

- **Acute Medicine Consultant**

Swindon, SN3 6BB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Acute Medicine Consultant job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[29]

- **Consultant - Emergency Medicine**

Harlow, CM20 1QX

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant - Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[30]

- **Consultant - Respiratory Medicine**

Westcliff-on-Sea, SS0 0RY

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant - Respiratory Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[31]

- **Acute Medicine Consultant**

Bristol, BS2 8HW

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Acute Medicine Consultant job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[32]

- **General Medicine Consultant**

Newport, PO30 5TG

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Isle of Wight NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for General Medicine Consultant job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[33]

- **Care Coordinator Medicine Management**

London, SE13 7SX

London, SE4 1JN

London, SE4 2LA

London, SE13 5AY

London, SE13 7NN

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Lewisham Care Partnership

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Care Coordinator Medicine Management job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[34]

- **Consultant in Palliative Medicine**

Southampton, SO16 6YD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospital Southampton NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Palliative Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[35]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[36]

- **Medicines Optimisation Pharmacy Technician**

London, E9 6SR

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medicines Optimisation Pharmacy Technician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[37]

- **Senior Medicine Management Technician**

Nottingham, NG7 2UH

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trusts

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Medicine Management Technician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[38]

- **Consultant Older Persons Medicine**

Middlesbrough, TS4 3BW

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Older Persons Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[39]

- **Lead Directorate Pharmacist - Medicine**

London, SW10 9NH

Salary:

£70387.00 to £80465.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Lead Directorate Pharmacist - Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[40]

- **Patient Medicines Co-ordinator**

Shipley, BD18 3EE

Salary:

£12.21 to £13.11

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Affinity Care

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Patient Medicines Co-ordinator job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[41]

- **Principal Physicist Nuclear Medicine**

Wolverhampton, WV10 0QP

Salary:

£74290.00 to £85601.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Principal Physicist Nuclear Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[42]

- **Locum Consultant Acute Medicine**

Eastbourne, BN212UD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[43]

- **Consultant Emergency Medicine (EDGH)**

Eastbourne, BN21 2UD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Emergency Medicine \(EDGH\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[44]

- **Consultants Acute Medicine/Frailty**

Bury, BL9 7TD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultants Acute Medicine/Frailty job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[45]

- **Consultant in Palliative Medicine**

Sutton in Ashfield, NG17 4HJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Palliative Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[46]

- **Medicine Optimisation Co-ordinator**

Preston, PR2 1JR

Preston, PR1 3NA

Preston, PR15NE

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Park Medical Practice

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medicine Optimisation Co-ordinator job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[47]

- **Consultant in Geriatric Medicine**

Bournemouth, BH7 7DW

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Geriatric Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[48]

- **Clinical Medicines Management Technician**

CAMBRIDGE, CB21 5EF

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Medicines Management Technician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[49]

- **Pharmacy Technician Medicines Optimisation**

Wandsworth, SW18 3HU

Salary:

£35964.00 to £43780.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Pharmacy Technician Medicines Optimisation job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[50]

- **Consultant in General Medicine**

Warrington, WA5 1QG

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHSFT

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in General Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[51]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[52]

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine**

Plymouth, PL6 8DH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[53]

- **Clinical Fellow - Perioperative Medicine**

London, NW1 2BU

Salary:

£61825.00 to £70425.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Fellow - Perioperative Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[54]

- **Consultant in Palliative Medicine**

Bristol, BS2 8BJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Palliative Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[55]

- **Consultant in Emergency Medicine**

Warrington, WA5 1QG

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHSFT

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[56]

- **Clinical Scientist (Nuclear Medicine)**

Cottingham, HU16 5JQ

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Scientist \(Nuclear Medicine\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[57]

- **Consultant in Geriatric Medicine**

Bury St. Edmunds, IP33 2QZ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Geriatric Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[58]

- **Consultant in Respiratory Medicine**

Middlesbrough, TS4 3BW

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Respiratory Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[59]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[60]

- **Senior Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist**

Bolton, BL1 1SQ

Salary:

£53755.00 to £60504.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[61]

- **Senior Digital Medicines Pharmacist**

Bristol, BS2 8HW

Salary:

£53755.00 to £60504.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Digital Medicines Pharmacist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[62]

- **CONSULTANT IN REHABILITATION MEDICINE**

OXFORD, OX3 7HE

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for CONSULTANT IN REHABILITATION MEDICINE job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[63]

- **Consultant in Emergency Medicine**

Brighton, BN2 5BE

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (279)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[64]

- **Locum Consultant Nuclear Medicine**

Gillingham, Kent, ME7 5NY

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Medway NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Nuclear Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[65]

- **Deputy Medicines Safety Officer**

Southampton, SO16 6YD

Salary:

£62215.00 to £72293.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospital Southampton NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Deputy Medicines Safety Officer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[66]

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine**

Northampton, NN1 5DB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Northampton General Hospital

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[67]

- **Consultant in Emergency Medicine**

Yeovil, BA21 4AT

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[68]

- **Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine**

Southampton, SO16 4XE

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[69]

- **Further information**

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

[British Inherited Metabolic Diseases Group](#) ^[70]

[Royal College of Pathologists](#) ^[71]

[Royal College of Physicians](#) ^[72]

[Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh](#) ^[73]

[Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow](#) ^[74]

[Joint Royal College of Physicians Training Board \(JRCPTB\)](#) ^[75]

[The Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland](#) ^[76]

Other roles that may interest you

- [Chemical pathology](#) [77]
- [General internal medicine](#) [78]
- [Immunology](#) [79]
- [Medical microbiology and virology \(doctor\)](#) [80]

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