

# Compare roles in health

Not sure where to start with the hundreds of careers in health? Use our compare roles section to get bite-size information on the entry requirements and training, pay and conditions, prospects and skills needed of up to three roles. If there is something that you think you could do, then get more in-depth information on the role.

Don't forget, you can also save your role comparisons by registering with us.

## Clinical oncology [1]

Clinical oncologists are doctors who use radiotherapy [2] and chemotherapy [3] to treat and manage patients with cancer. They also use a range of other treatments to treat cancers, without using surgery.

### Training and qualifications required

Training usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine, two years foundation doctor training, two years core training (CT1-2), followed by five years specialists training (ST3-7). This period of training will include your royal college exams. Length of training can vary according to your circumstances

### Expected working hours and salary range

Doctors may work up to 48 hours a week. The working hours may sometimes extend beyond the normal working day to include early mornings, evenings and weekends, on call likely. Pay scales (2017): Consultants earn between £76,761 and £103,490.

### Desirable skills and values

For this role you'll have a high level of compassion, sensitivity and empathy to treat people with cancer. An interest in the pathology and biology of cancers and radiation physics, and the pharmacology of cancer therapies is important. You'll have emotional resilience, excellent communication skills and an interest in cancer research, statistics and new technologies.

### Prospects

There are 679 consultants in clinical oncology in England in 2016. Opportunities exist for research and teaching.

### Related roles

- Haematology (doctor) [4]
- Medical oncology [5]

- General practice (GP) [6]
  - Experienced paramedic [7]
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### **Links**

- [1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/clinical-oncology>
- [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Radiotherapy>
- [3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Chemotherapy>
- [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/pathology/haematology-doctor>
- [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/medical-oncology>
- [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/general-practice-gp>
- [7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/experienced-paramedic>