

## Compare roles in health

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- **Stroke medicine** <sup>[1]</sup>

Stroke <sup>[2]</sup> medicine doctors diagnose strokes and provide acute care, management and rehabilitation of patients who have suffered a stroke <sup>[2]</sup>.

### Training and qualifications required

You'll follow a set pattern of training, which usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine. You'll then complete two years of foundation training, and two years of core training (CT1-2) or three years acute care common stem (ACCS). Following that, there will be between five and eight years of specialty training (ST3-8), which varies according to the parent specialty chosen. This period of training will include completing your royal college exams. Advanced sub-specialty training of between one and two years is also needed. 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. You'll first earn a salary when you start your foundation training after medical school. The basic salary ranges from £29,384 to £34,012. Once you start your specialty training as a doctor in stroke medicine employed by the NHS, you can expect to earn a salary of at least £40,257, which can increase to between £84,559 and £114,003 as a consultant.

### Desirable skills and values

You'll need excellent communication skills to manage a wide range of relationships with colleagues, and patients and their families. You'll be emotionally resilient, have excellent problem-solving and diagnostic skills and work well in teams and under pressure. You'll also be very organised for the benefit of patients.

### Prospects

Stroke medicine is a small sub-specialist area of medicine. There are currently 197 stroke consultants in England in 2016. Opportunities exist for research and teaching.

## Related roles

- [General internal medicine](#) [3]
- [Geriatric medicine](#) [4]
- [Rehabilitation medicine](#) [5]
- [Vascular surgery](#) [6]

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## Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/stroke-medicine> [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Stroke> [3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/general-internal-medicine> [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/geriatric-medicine> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/rehabilitation-medicine> [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/surgery/vascular-surgery>