

Compare roles in health

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Stroke medicine [1]

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

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>