

Compare roles in health

Not sure where to start with the hundreds of NHS careers? 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.

General practitioner [1]

General practitioners (GPs) treat all common medical conditions and refer patients to hospitals and other medical services for urgent and specialist treatment.

Training and qualifications required

Training usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine. You'll then complete two years of foundation training and three years of specialty training. The length of training can vary according to your circumstances.

Expected working hours and salary range

NHS salaried GPs earn at least £60,000 a year. GPs who run their own practices will usually earn more. 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.

Desirable skills and values

You'll need excellent clinical skills and be able to diagnose and manage multiple diseases and problems whilst dealing with the uncertainty of clinical presentations. You'll manage time and people well, have highly developed communication and change management skills and work well in a team. It's important that you can assess risk and take initiative in highly pressurised and emotive situations.

Prospects

You could specialise in areas such as sports medicine, adolescent health, diabetes or palliative medicine, get involved in research or teach medical students or postgraduate doctors in training.

Related roles

- General practice nurse [2]
- Practice manager [3]
- Pharmacist [4]

- General psychiatry [5]

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