

# 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.

## • Clinical perfusion science <sup>[1]</sup>

Perfusion is the term used to describe the passage of fluid through tissue.

### Training and qualifications required

You'll need a BSc degree at 2:1 or better in a science subject (usually biological science or a clinical science) to secure a post as a trainee clinical perfusion scientist with an NHS Trust.

### Expected working hours and salary range

NHS staff will usually work a standard 37.5 hours per week. They may work a shift pattern. Most jobs in the NHS are covered by the Agenda for Change (AfC) pay scales. A clinical perfusion scientist would typically start on AfC band 7. There are opportunities to progress to much more senior pay bands. Terms and conditions of service can vary for employers outside the NHS.

### Desirable skills and values

An interest in science and technology; an ability to stay calm under pressure is essential (open-heart surgery can be lengthy and intricate); extremely comfortable using modern technology and complex equipment; good communication skills; able to work as part of a team.

### Prospects

With further training or experience or both, you may be able to develop your career further and apply for vacancies in areas such as further specialisation, management, research, or teaching.

## Related roles

- Cardiac sciences <sup>[2]</sup>
- Operating department practitioner <sup>[3]</sup>
- Vascular science <sup>[4]</sup>

- Vascular surgery <sup>[5]</sup>

- **Clinical immunology** <sup>[6]</sup>

Immunology is the study of the immune system.

#### Training and qualifications required

There are 3 entry points into clinical immunology: (1) with A-levels or relevant level-3 equivalent through an accredited BSc degree in healthcare science - NHS Practitioner Training Programme (PTP), (2) through the NHS Scientist Training Programme for which you'll need a 1st or 2.1 either in an undergraduate honours degree or an integrated master's degree in a relevant pure or applied science subject. If you have a relevant 2.2 honours degree, you'll also be considered if you have a higher degree in a subject relevant to the specialism for which you are applying. Evidence of research experience is desirable or (3) after gaining postgraduate qualifications or considerable relevant experience as a clinical scientist through Higher Specialist Scientist Training (HSST) or both.

#### Expected working hours and salary range

Staff in the NHS will usually work a standard 37.5 hours per week. They may work a shift pattern. Most jobs in the NHS are covered by the Agenda for Change (AfC) pay scales. This pay system covers all staff except doctors, dentists and the most senior managers. Salaries for healthcare science staff working in clinical immunology will range from AfC bands 5 to 9, depending on the role and level of responsibility. As a healthcare science practitioner, you'd usually start on band 5, with opportunities to progress to more senior positions. Trainee clinical scientists train at band 6 level, and qualified clinical scientists are generally appointed at band 7. With experience and further qualifications, including Higher Specialist Scientist Training, you could apply for posts up to band 9. Terms and conditions of service can vary for employers outside the NHS.

#### Desirable skills and values

Interest in science and technology, good communication skills, confident with modern technology and complex equipment, attention to detail, good interpersonal skills and able to work as part of a team.

#### Prospects

With further training or experience or both, you may be able to develop your career further and apply for vacancies in areas such as further specialisation, management, research, or teaching.

### Related roles

- Biomedical science <sup>[7]</sup>
- Clinical biochemistry <sup>[8]</sup>
- Knowledge and library services <sup>[9]</sup>
- Experienced paramedic <sup>[10]</sup>

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## Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/physiological-sciences/clinical-perfusion-science> [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/physiological-sciences/cardiac-sciences> [3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/operating-department-practitioner> [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/physiological-sciences/vascular-science> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/surgery/vascular-surgery> [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/clinical-immunology> [7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/Explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/biomedical-science> [8] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/Explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/clinical-biochemistry> [9] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/knowledge-and-library-services> [10] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/experienced-paramedic>