

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.

• Neurophysiology ^[1]

Healthcare science staff working in neurophysiology investigate the function of the central and peripheral nervous system to diagnose and manage a range of neurological and non-neurological disorders.

Training and qualifications required

You could look for an entry level job/level 2 apprenticeship – typically GCSEs 9-4/A-C in maths, English and a science. To apply for an apprenticeship, you'll need 5 GCSEs at 9-4/A-C (or equivalent) including maths, English and science or Level 2 Diploma in Healthcare Science to start a level 4 apprenticeship. An associate practitioner role is another route to a career in biomedical science. You'll likely require foundation degree, or equivalent experience with training and experience to NVQ level 3. To start a level 6 apprenticeship or degree course, you'll need relevant level 3 qualifications, for example three A levels (including at least one science subject) or Access to higher education course.

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. 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, 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

You'll need excellent communication skills to manage a wide range of relationships with colleagues, patients and their families. Emotional resilience, a calm temperament and the ability to work well under pressure are important, as well as teamwork and the capacity to lead multidisciplinary teams. You'll have good problem-solving and diagnostic skills, outstanding organisational ability and decision-making skills, first-class time management for the benefit of

patients.

Prospects

As you gain experience, and with further training, you'll be able to apply for vacancies in areas such as further specialisation, management, research and teaching.

Related roles

- [Neurologist](#) [2]
- [Neurosurgeon](#) [3]
- [Respiratory physiology and sleep sciences](#) [4]
- [Audiology](#) [5]

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