

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.

- **Nuclear medicine (healthcare scientist) ^[1]**

Nuclear medicine is the use of radioactive substances (such as radiolabelled pharmaceuticals) to help diagnose and treat patients.

Training and qualifications required

A-levels including at least one science (or alternative level-3 qualifications) to join the NHS Practitioner Training Programme (PTP) by taking the three-year BSc (Hons) Healthcare Science (nuclear medicine).

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

A mature, calm, confident but sympathetic approach, confident with technology, systems and processes, an interest in science and technology, good communication skills, meticulous attention to detail 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

- Pharmacist [2]
- Therapeutic radiographer [3]
- Clinical bioinformatics health informatics [4]
- Cellular sciences [5]

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Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/physical-sciences-and-biomedical-engineering/nuclear-medicine-healthcare-scientist>

[2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/pharmacy/roles-pharmacy/pharmacist>

[3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/roles-allied-health-professions/therapeutic-radiographer>

[4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/clinical-bioinformatics/clinical-bioinformatics-health-informatics> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/cellular-sciences>