

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.

- **Allergy** ^[1]

Allergists are doctors who diagnose and manage people affected by a wide range of allergic conditions such as asthma, eczema and food and drug allergies.

Training and qualifications required

Training usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine. Then there's two years foundation doctor training, two years core training (CT1-CT2), followed by five years specialists training (ST3-ST7). This period of training will include your royal college exams. 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 allergy 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

There are 14 consultants in allergy in England in 2016. Opportunities exist for research and teaching.

Related roles

- Immunology [2]
- Respiratory medicine [3]
- Dermatology [4]
- Paediatrician [5]

• Strategic management [6]

An NHS strategic manager is a leader that puts patients, the public and our staff at the very heart of decision making and setting the organisation's direction.

Training and qualifications required

Staff working in strategic level management posts will have gained knowledge and experience in one or more areas, for example, in financial planning/budgeting, human resource (HR) planning or measuring quality/performance of certain services. Whatever the sector of management, gaining management qualifications while on-the-job will improve your career prospects and performance greatly and is encouraged in most healthcare organisations. Training will vary for each level of management.

Expected working hours and salary range

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. Although you could work your way up from administrative and supervisory roles in between bands 3-6, working in a strategic management role in the NHS your salary would typically be between AfC bands 8 and 9. There would be opportunities at director level, some of which would be on the Very Senior Managers pay scales, typically in excess of £100,000 per year. Staff in the NHS will usually work a standard 37.5 hours per week. Terms and conditions of service can vary for employers outside the NHS.

Desirable skills and values

To work in strategic management, you'll typically need an ability to think strategically, good communication skills, leadership skills, organisational skills, a willingness to work with others and respect their views, a good level of numeracy, negotiating skills, the ability to challenge the way things are and find better alternatives, honesty and fairness in dealing with other people and a commitment to the ideals of quality and fairness in delivering healthcare.

Prospects

With further training and/or experience, you may be able to develop your career further into more senior managerial roles at director level.

Related roles

- Project manager [7]
- Practice manager [8]
- Purchasing and contract management [9]
- Knowledge and library services [10]

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Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/allergy> [2]
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/immunology> [3]
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/respiratory-medicine> [4]
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/dermatology> [5]
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/paediatrics/paediatrician> [6]
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/general-management/strategic-management> [7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/project-manager> [8] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/practice-manager> [9] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/general-management/purchasing-and-contract-management> [10]
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/knowledge-and-library-services>