

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 practice nurse ^[1]

Nurses are an important part of delivering care in general practice. An increasing shift of care from hospitals to general practice provides nurses with a really exciting career choice.

Training and qualifications required

You must be a qualified and registered adult, child, mental health or learning disability nurse to work in general practice. You'll also either need to undertake further training and education or be willing to after being appointed. Some employers may ask for knowledge or experience in specific areas e.g. health promotion or working with patients with long-term conditions.

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. Practice nurses employed directly by the NHS will usually work standard hours of 37.5 per week. Terms and conditions can vary for employers delivering services on behalf of the NHS, including most GP surgeries.

Desirable skills and values

You'll be responsible for people with a range of needs so being highly organised, flexible and able to prioritise effectively will be vital. A good nurse is also highly observant, able to assess patients and take responsibility for determining the best course of action.

Prospects

With further training and experience, practice nurses can apply for more senior nurse roles, such as senior practice nurse/nurse practitioner and advanced nurse practitioner positions. These roles mean having a lot more autonomy and you will be able to manage your own caseloads.

Related roles

- District nurse [2]
- General practitioner [3]
- Prison nurse [4]
- Occupational health nurse [5]

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Links

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<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/district-nurse> [3]

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<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/node/4139/prison-nurse> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/roles-public-health/occupational-health-nurse>