

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.

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• **Paediatric surgery** ^[1]

Paediatric surgeons work with young patients – from premature and unborn babies to children and young adults up to the age of 19.

Training and qualifications required

Training usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine and two years of foundation training. You'll then do two years of core surgery training (CT1-2) leading to Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons (MRCS) and five years of specialist training (ST3-7). This period of training will include completing 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 paediatric surgeon 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 and be emotionally resilient, have a calm temperament and the ability to work well under pressure. You'll have the capacity to lead multidisciplinary teams and have excellent problem-solving and diagnostic skills. As a paediatric surgeon, you'll have: a high degree of manual dexterity; superb hand-eye co-ordination; excellent vision; visuospatial awareness and the physical stamina to cope with the demands of surgery.

Prospects

In 2021, there were 205 paediatric surgeons working in the NHS in England. In addition, there were 80 applications for 12 specialty training places. You could specialise or conduct research in areas such as neonatal surgery, paediatric urology, and paediatric oncology, teach students

or get involved in research.

Related roles

- [Paediatrician](#) ^[2]
- [General surgery](#) ^[3]
- [Dermatology](#) ^[4]
- [Knowledge and library services](#) ^[5]

• [Clinical psychologist](#) ^[6]

You'll work with people of all ages on a wide range of psychological difficulties in mental and physical health. This can include anxiety, depression, psychosis, 'personality disorder', eating disorders, addictions, learning disabilities and family or relationship issues.

Training and qualifications required

You'll need an honours degree in psychology to become a member of the Graduate Member of the British Psychological Society which allows you to apply for post graduate courses in clinical psychology. You could also be a clinical associate in psychology (CAP), a mental health professional who provides psychologically informed interventions under the supervision of a fully qualified clinical psychologist.

Expected working hours and salary range

Most jobs in the NHS are covered by the Agenda for Change (AfC) pay scales. While training, clinical psychologists will be paid at band 6 and after completing their training, they will be paid at band 7. Clinical psychologists in the NHS work full or part time. Terms and conditions can vary for employers outside of the NHS.

Desirable skills and values

On a daily basis you will use a broad range of skills, including a thorough knowledge of psychological theory and practice, an interest in how people think and behave and the ability to relate to a wide range of people including patients and colleagues. You'll need to be a patient, sympathetic and the ability to work on your own and in consultation with others.

Prospects

Clinical psychologists work in health and social care settings including hospitals, health centres, community mental health teams, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and social services. They often work as part of a team with other health professionals and practitioners. Most clinical psychologists are employed by the NHS, but some work in private practice. You could specialise (for example in clinical neuropsychology), apply for a supervisory or managerial role, go into research, or undertake further training to be a family and systemic psychotherapist.

Related roles

- [Counselling psychologist](#) ^[7]
- [Forensic psychologist](#) ^[8]
- [Health psychologist](#) ^[9]
- [Adult psychotherapist](#) ^[10]

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