

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.

• Neurologist ^[1]

Neurologists diagnose, treat and manage conditions affecting the brain and spinal cord, and disorders of the nerves and muscles that activate movement and transmit sensations from around the body to the brain.

Training and qualifications required

Training usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine. You'll then complete two years of foundation training, two years of core training (CT1-2) and four years of specialty training (ST3-6).

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 including early mornings, evenings, weekends and on call. The basic salary ranges from £29,384 to £34,012. Once you start your specialty training as a neurologist 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

In 2020 there were 207 applications for 50 specialty training places. You could specialise or conduct research in areas such as stroke medicine, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis (MS), sleep medicine or pain management. You could teach medical or postgraduate students or get involved in research.

Related roles

- [Cardiologist](#) [2]
- [Geriatric medicine](#) [3]
- [Neurosurgeon](#) [4]
- [Rehabilitation medicine](#) [5]

• [Dietetic assistant](#) [6]

Dietetic assistants are vital in helping people with their diet and nutrition. They help people by advising them on how their food choices can lead to more fulfilling and healthier lives.

Training and qualifications required

You will receive appropriate training in order to do the job. You may also be offered the chance to study for qualifications such as the NCFE CACHE level 2 Certificate in Healthcare Support Services or the NCFE CACHE level 3 Diploma in Healthcare Support.

Expected working hours and salary range

Most dietetic assistants in the NHS work standard hours, which are likely to be around 37.5 a week. They may work some evenings or weekends. They will usually be on bands 2-4 of the Agenda for Change pay scales, depending on their role and level of responsibility.

Desirable skills and values

To work as a dietetic assistant, you'll need an interest in science and food, an interest in people and their lifestyles, a positive and motivating attitude, an understanding approach, patience, to be able to explain complex things simply, good organisational and communication skills.

Prospects

You may be able to train as an assistant practitioner or if you have the academic ability for university study, you could train as a dietitian.

Related roles

- [Dietitian](#) [7]
- [Healthcare assistant](#) [8]
- [Podiatry assistant](#) [9]
- [Knowledge and library services](#) [10]

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