

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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- **Histopathology (doctor) ^[1]**

Histopathologists are doctors who diagnose and study disease using expert medical interpretation of cells and tissue samples. The specialty determines the cause of death by performing autopsies and is integral to cancer management through staging and grading of tumours.

Training and qualifications required

You'll follow a set pattern of training which usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine and two years of foundation training, You will then complete five years of specialist training (ST1-5). This period of training will include completing your royal college exams. The length of training can vary according to your circumstances.

Expected working hours and salary range

Doctors may work up to 48 hours per week. The working hours may sometimes extend beyond the normal working day to include early mornings, evenings and weekends. On call possible. Pay scales (2017): Consultants earn between £76,761 and £103,490.

Desirable skills and values

You'll need a good knowledge of histopathology, and clinical and surgical practice. Good hand-eye co-ordination; attention to detail; team-working and communication skills are very important. You'll also need good organisational and time management skills.

Prospects

There are 1,161 consultants in histopathology in England in 2016. Opportunities exist for research and teaching.

Related roles

- [Chemical pathology](#) ^[2]
- [Haematology \(doctor\)](#) ^[3]
- [Immunology](#) ^[4]
- [Medical microbiology and virology \(doctor\)](#) ^[5]

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[2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/pathology/chemical-pathology>

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[5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/pathology/microbiology-and-virology-doctor>