

# 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.

## • Histopathology (doctor) <sup>[1]</sup>

Histopathologists study organs, tissues, cells and genetics <sup>[2]</sup> to help provide a diagnosis.

### 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 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 histopathologist 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. 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 261 applications for 97 specialty training places. After two years of integrated cellular pathology training, you will either decide to continue in histopathology specialty training or apply for training in one of the three other cellular pathology specialties: diagnostic neuropathology, forensic histopathology or paediatric and perinatal pathology.

## Related roles

- [Chemical pathology](#) <sup>[3]</sup>
- [Haematology \(doctor\)](#) <sup>[4]</sup>
- [Immunology](#) <sup>[5]</sup>
- [Medical microbiology and virology \(doctor\)](#) <sup>[6]</sup>

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## Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/pathology/histopathology-doctor>  
[2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Genetics> [3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/pathology/chemical-pathology> [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/pathology/haematology-doctor> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/immunology> [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/pathology/microbiology-and-virology-doctor>