

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.

• Nursing associate ^[1]

Nursing associates work with healthcare support workers and registered nurses to deliver care for patients and the public.

Training and qualifications required

To become a registered nursing associate, you will undertake a combination of academic learning and work-based learning. You will need to demonstrate your ability to study to level 5 foundation degree level, and commit to completing the Nursing Associate Apprenticeship programme.

Expected working hours and salary range

During the two-year training programme, you'll work in a range of settings to gain as much experience as possible. This will mean travelling to placements and working a mix of shifts.

Desirable skills and values

Your skills and responsibilities will vary, depending on the care setting you work in. You'll need to demonstrate the values of the NHS Constitution and a knowledge of physical health, mental health and illness prevention.

Prospects

Registered nursing associates can go on to train as a registered nurse by putting their training towards a shortened nursing degree or completing a degree-level nurse apprenticeship.

Related roles

- Healthcare assistant ^[2]
- Adult nurse ^[3]
- Assistant practitioner ^[4]
- Knowledge and library services ^[5]

• **Oral and maxillofacial surgery** ^[6]

Consultants in oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMFS) diagnose and treat patients with diseases affecting the mouth, jaws, face and neck.

Training and qualifications required

Training usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine. For this specialty you'll also need a dental degree. Then you can complete either two years of core training (CT1–2) and five years of specialty training (ST3–7), or seven years of specialty training (run through training at ST1–7). Both routes of training will include 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 an oral and maxillofacial 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 an oral and maxillofacial 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

There are 383 oral and maxillofacial surgeons working in the NHS in England. In 2020 there were 32 applications for 10 specialty training places. You could specialise or conduct research in areas such as head and neck cancer, cleft lip and palate surgery, trauma and aesthetic facial surgery, teach medical students or postgraduate students in training or get involved in research at universities, the NHS or private sector.

Related roles

- **Plastic surgery** ^[7]
- **Neurologist** ^[8]
- **Emergency medicine** ^[9]
- **Otorhinolaryngology (ear, nose and throat (ENT) surgery)** ^[10]

Source URL: https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/compare-roles-health?field_field_role=495

Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/node/4139/nursing-associate> [2]

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-support-worker/roles-healthcare-support-worker/healthcare-assistant> [3]

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/adult-nurse> [4]

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare->

team/clinical-support-staff/assistant-practitioner [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/knowledge-and-library-services> [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/surgery/oral-and-maxillofacial-surgery> [7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/surgery/plastic-surgery> [8] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/neurology> [9] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/emergency-medicine> [10] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/surgery/otorhinolaryngology-ear-nose-and-throat-surgery-ent>