

Compare roles in health

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Rehabilitation medicine [1]

Doctors in rehabilitation medicine assess and treat patients with complex disabling conditions.

Training and qualifications required

Training usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine. 2 year foundation doctor training, 2 year core medical training and 4 year specialist training (ST3-6). This period 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 a rehabilitation doctor 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 2021, there were 159 consultants in rehabilitation medicine in the NHS in England. In addition, there were 42 applications for 14 training places. You could get involved in research, teach medical students or postgraduate students in training or develop medico-legal or private clinical practice.

Related roles

- Geriatric medicine [2]
- Neurologist [3]

- Acute internal medicine [4]
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