

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.

• Cardiologist ^[1]

Cardiologists diagnose, assess and treat patients with defects and diseases of the heart and the blood vessels, which are known as the cardiovascular ^[2] system.

Training and qualifications required

Training usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine, followed by two years foundation doctor training and two years core training (CT1-CT2), followed by five years specialist training (ST3-ST7).

Expected working hours and salary range

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 cardiologist 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 533 applications for 131 specialty training places. You'll have the opportunity to specialise, for example in inherited heart condition or treatments for different heart conditions. You could teach medical or postgraduate students or get involved in research.

Related roles

- Neurophysiology [3]
- Renal medicine [4]
- Respiratory medicine [5]
- General internal medicine [6]

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Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/cardiology> [2]
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