

# Compare roles in health

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- **Geriatric medicine** <sup>[1]</sup>

Geriatricians provide comprehensive medical care to older people.

## Training and qualifications required

Training usually starts with a five year first degree in medicine. You'll then complete two years of foundation training and two years of core training (CT1-2), followed by five years of specialty training (ST3-7). All trainees in geriatric medicine also undertake the training programme for general internal medicine, leading to a certificate of completion of training (CCT) in each field. 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 also need to be on call. The basic salary ranges from £29,384 to £34,012. Once you start your specialty training as a geriatrician 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

There are approximately 1,514 geriatricians working in the NHS in England. In 2020, there were 392 applications for 202 specialty training places. Once you're a qualified geriatrician, you'll have the chance to undertake an additional one-year training scheme in stroke medicine. Consultants are involved in managing geriatric services and you'll be able to undertake research and teach. Most geriatricians enjoy looking after a wide range of conditions.

## Related roles

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