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.

- **Knowledge and library services** [1]

Knowledge and library services staff help people to use knowledge and research evidence.?

Training and qualifications required

Most library assistant posts require GCSEs or equivalent qualifications. Apprenticeships in knowledge and library services are available in some organisations. Courses in this subject are offered by some universities at Master's level and are usually accredited by CILIP, the Library and Information Association. A full list of accredited courses is available on the CILIP website.

Expected working hours and salary range

Most jobs in knowledge and library services in the NHS are covered by Agenda for Change (AfC) pay scales. This pay system covers all staff except doctors, dentists and the most senior managers. Knowledge and library service staff in the NHS will usually work standard hours of 37.5 per week. Terms and conditions for non-NHS employers and contractors will vary.

Desirable skills and values

Good communication and team working skills are needed for all roles within knowledge and library services. Many roles will also require good presentation, IT and organisational skills. Strong influencing skills, being outgoing and confident are also desirable. You'll need to be enthusiastic, able to work under pressure and on your own initiative. You will need to have at least five GCSEs, including English and Maths. More senior roles may require a postgraduate qualification in library or information science or an equivalent qualification or experience. You may also be required to be a chartered member of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP).

Prospects

There are opportunities to progress your career in a number of ways, for example moving into senior management roles and working collaboratively with different teams in the organisation. Knowledge and library staff are actively encouraged to develop skills throughout their careers and continue learning from colleagues. There are opportunities for accredited professional

development through our professional body CILIP, the UK's Library and Information Association.

Related roles

- <u>Public health knowledge and intelligence professional</u> [2]
- <u>Clinical informatics</u> [3]
- <u>Administrative management</u> [4]
- <u>Project manager</u> [5]

• **Dental technician/dental technologist** [6]

Dental technicians (or dental technologists as they are often referred to) make the dentures, crowns, bridges and dental braces that improve patients' appearance, speech and ability to chew.

Training and qualifications required

To work as a dental technician/dental technologist, you need to complete a General Dental Council- (GDC) approved course (diploma or degree level) and be registered with the GDC.

Expected working hours and salary range

Dental technicians generally work standard NHS hours, which are likely to be around 37.5 a week. Your starting salary will be band 5 of the Agenda for Change pay rates.

Desirable skills and values

Absolute precision and attention to detail is key for dental technicians. Much of your work will be by hand making dentures, crowns, bridges and braces and no two pieces will be the same because every patient is different. You will also work with specialised equipment in a laboratory.

Prospects

Dental technicians can progress into management roles such as senior or chief technician posts, quality control, teaching or sales. With specific training, they can also become clinical dental technicians so they can create and modify dental appliances. Clinical dental technicians have direct contact with patients.

Related roles

- <u>Dentist</u> [7]
- <u>Dental hygienist</u> [8]
- <u>Clinical engineering</u> [9]
- <u>Medical device risk management and governance</u> [10]

• **Health records and patient administration** [11]

Health records and patient administration staff collate, store and retrieve records used in the diagnosis and treatment of patients.

It is possible to start in an entry-level post without formal qualifications, but GCSEs or equivalent qualifications are an advantage. Apprenticeships in health informatics are also available. For more senior roles, a degree or equivalent experience might be needed. Some roles may also need an industry qualification such as the Institute of Health Records and Information Management (IHRIM) certificate or diploma. The NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme also has a health informatics strand for graduates with relevant degrees.

Expected working hours and salary range

Most education and training jobs in the NHS are covered by Agenda for Change (AfC) pay scales. This pay system covers all staff except doctors, dentists and the most senior managers. ICT staff in the NHS will usually work standard hours of 37.5 per week. Terms and conditions for non-NHS employers and contractors will vary.

Desirable skills and values

Good communication and team working skills are needed for all roles within health records and patient administration roles. Many roles will also require attention to detail as well as good presentation, IT and organisational skills. You'll also need to have strong influencing skills and show political awareness and sensitivity, as health is a complex system. You'll need to be enthusiastic, and be able to work under pressure on your own initiative.

Prospects

There are opportunities to progress your career into senior management roles. Most NHS organisations will now have chief information officers who lead the delivery of knowledge management systems locally. The NHS has also developed training and courses to support you through your career. Many of these will count towards your continuing professional development and may lead to a formal professional qualification.

Related roles

- Knowledge and library services [1]
- Emergency care assistant [12]
- Health records staff [13]
- Patient Transport Service PTS call handler [14]

Source URL: https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/compare-roles-health?field_field_role=554

Links
[1] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/knowledge-and-library-services [2] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/roles-public-health/public-health-knowledge-and-intelligence-professional [3] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/explore-roles/health-informatics/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/clinical-informatics [4] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/operational-management/administrative-management [5] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/project-manager [6] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/roles-dental-team/dental-techniciandental-technologist [7] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/roles-dental-team/dentist [8] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/roles-dental-team/dental-hygienist [9] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/Explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/physical-sciences-and-biomedical-engineering/clinical-engineering [10] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/physical-sciences-and-biomedical-engineering/medical-device-risk-management-and-governance [11] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/health-

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