

# Vascular surgery

Vascular surgeons diagnose and manage conditions affecting the circulation, including disease of the arteries and veins.

They treat all parts of the vascular system apart from the heart and the brain.

picture of theatre for surgery

## Life as a vascular surgeon

Many of your patients with arterial disease will be elderly and have other medical conditions such as diabetes. You'll also treat people of all ages such as young patients with arterial disease due to congenital causes or trauma.

Around half of your surgery will be planned and you'll often use minimally invasive techniques, for example to widen narrowed or obstructed arteries, insert stents (tiny metal cylinders) to ensure blood vessels remain open, or assess varicose veins using [ultrasound](#) [1]. Your work helps your patients avoid bigger, more serious surgery and gives them less pain and shorter recovery times.

The rest of your surgery will be emergencies, as around 40% of vascular patients present to hospitals as emergency cases. You'll do urgent work for conditions such as ruptures to major blood vessels and trauma following road accidents and assaults. You can expect to be on-call sometimes. Many vascular services are now centralised, so you'll probably work in a team of several consultants and alongside other specialist medical colleagues, for example in the control of vascular bleeding.

Your work outside surgery will include a mixture of ward rounds and outpatient clinics. You'll minimise future risk of heart attack or [stroke](#) [2] by treating some of your patients without surgery. You'll prescribe medication and have a preventative role, advising on healthy lifestyles including diet and exercise.

## How much can I earn?

You'll first earn a salary when you start your [foundation training](#) [3] after medical school. Find out details of current salary ranges for foundation and specialty training, [SAS doctors](#) [4] and consultants on the '[Pay for doctors](#)' [5] page.

## How about the benefits?

- make a difference
- flexible and part-time working
- high income early in your career
- work anywhere in the world
- excellent pension scheme
- good holiday entitlement
- NHS discounts in shops and restaurants

## Must-have skills

- excellent communication skills to manage a wide range of relationships with colleagues, and patients and their families
- emotional resilience, a calm temperament and the ability to work well under pressure
- teamwork and the capacity to lead multidisciplinary teams
- problem-solving and diagnostic skills
- outstanding organisational ability and effective decision-making skills
- first-class time and resource management for the benefit of patients
- a high degree of manual dexterity
- superb hand-eye co-ordination, excellent vision, and visuospatial awareness
- physical stamina to cope with the demands of surgery

## Entry requirements

Your first step is medical school. Typically, you'll need excellent GCSEs and three A or A\* passes at A level including chemistry for a five-year undergraduate degree in medicine. Many medical schools also ask for biology and others may require maths or physics.

If you already have a degree, you could study for a four-year postgraduate degree in medicine.

You'll need to pass an interview and admissions test. You'll be asked to show how you demonstrate the NHS values such as compassion and respect.

Some medical schools look to recruit a mix of students from different backgrounds and geographical areas, so your educational and economic background and family circumstances could be considered as part of your application.

**"I love the practical hands-on aspect of operating. I also enjoy the camaraderie of the surgical team and working with such great people."**

**[Read Natasha's story](#)** <sup>[6]</sup>.

# What are my chances of starting a career in vascular surgery?

General surgical and vascular specialty training is recruited to jointly. In 2020 there were 574 applications for 123 specialty training posts (a [competition ratio](#) <sup>[7]</sup> of 4.67).

## How to become a vascular surgeon

After medical school, you'll join the paid two-year [foundation programme](#) <sup>[8]</sup> where you'll work in six placements in different settings.

After your foundation programme, you can apply for paid [specialty training](#) <sup>[9]</sup> to become a vascular surgeon, which will take a minimum of eight years.

You may be able to train part time, for example for health reasons or if you have family or caring responsibilities.

## Where a career as a vascular surgeon can take you

You could:

- specialise or conduct research in areas such as paediatric vascular conditions or vascular input into trauma centres
- teach medical students or postgraduate students in training
- get involved in research at universities, the NHS or private sector

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## Find a vacancy

Enter your location or postcode

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### ◦ **Locum Consultant Surgery - Vascular & Endovascular Surgeon**

Truro, TR1 3LJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Locum

Employer:

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Surgery - Vascular & Endovascular Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[10]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant in Vascular Surgery**

London, SW17 0QT

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139982.00

Type:

Locum

Employer:

St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant in Vascular Surgery job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[11]</sup>

- **Junior Clinical Fellow in Vascular Surgery**

London, W2 1NY

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Junior Clinical Fellow in Vascular Surgery job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[12]</sup>

- **Senior Clinical Fellow in Vascular Surgery**

Preston, PR29HT

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Clinical Fellow in Vascular Surgery job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[13]</sup>

- **Senior Occupational Therapist - Vascular, Surgery & Amputees**

London, W2 1NY

Salary:

£54320.00 to £60981.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Occupational Therapist - Vascular, Surgery & Amputees job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[14]</sup>

- **Research Registrar in Trauma and Vascular Surgery**

Leeds, LS1 3EX

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Leeds Teaching Hospitals

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Research Registrar in Trauma and Vascular Surgery job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[15]</sup>

- **Vascular Sonographer**

Crewe, CW1 4QJ

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Vascular Sonographer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

- **Consultant & Clinical Director in Vascular and Endovascular Surgery**

Carlisle, CA2 7HY

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant & Clinical Director in Vascular and Endovascular Surgery job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[17]</sup>

- **Clinical Vascular Scientist**

Watford, WD18 0HB

Salary:

£31.78

Type:

Bank

Employer:

NHS Professionals Limited

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Vascular Scientist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

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- **Clinical Vascular Scientist**

Chertsey, KT16 0PZ

Salary:

£50008.00 to £56908.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Ashford & St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Vascular Scientist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[19]

- **Clinical Vascular Scientist**

Ashton-under-Lyne, OL69RW

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Vascular Scientist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[20]

- **Clinical Vascular Scientist**

Truro, TR1 3LJ

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Vascular Scientist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[21]

- **Vascular Laboratory Manager**

Manchester, M13 9WL

Salary:

£62215.00 to £72293.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Vascular Laboratory Manager job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[22]</sup>

- **Vascular Access CNS**

Brighton, BN2 5BE

Salary:

£19.10

Type:

Bank

Employer:

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (279)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Vascular Access CNS job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[23]</sup>

- **Clinical Vascular Scientist**

Wigan, WN1 2NN

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Wrightington Wigan & Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Vascular Scientist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)  
<sup>[24]</sup>

- **Clinical Vascular Scientist**

Bristol, BS10 5NB

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

North Bristol NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Vascular Scientist job \(opens in a new window\)](#)  
<sup>[25]</sup>

- **Vascular Advanced Clinical Practitioner**

Coventry, CV2 2DX

Salary:

£53755.00 to £60504.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Vascular Advanced Clinical Practitioner job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[26]</sup>

- **Senior Clinical Scientist (Vascular)**

Cardiff, CF14 4XW

Salary:

£46840.00 to £53602.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Clinical Scientist \(Vascular\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[27]</sup>

- **Clinical Vascular Scientist - Advanced Practitioner**

Derby, DE22 3NE

Salary:

£53755.00 to £60504.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Vascular Scientist - Advanced Practitioner job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[28]</sup>

- **Clinical Vascular Scientist, Band 7**

Gloucestershire, GL1 3NN

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust



[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Vascular Scientist, Band 7 job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[29]</sup>

- **Consultant Radiologist (Non-Vascular Intervention)**

Rotherham, S60 2UD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Radiologist \(Non-Vascular Intervention\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[30]</sup>

- **Senior Adult Vascular Neurosurgery Fellowship**

Leeds, LS1 3EX

Salary:

£73992.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Leeds Teaching Hospitals

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Adult Vascular Neurosurgery Fellowship job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[31]</sup>

- **Senior Clinical Fellow in Vascular**

Wolverhampton, WV10 0QP

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Clinical Fellow in Vascular job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[32]</sup>

- **Specialist Physiotherapist Trauma and Orthopaedics and Vascular**

London, W2 1NY

Salary:

£44806.00 to £53134.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Physiotherapist Trauma and Orthopaedics and Vascular job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[33]</sup>

- **Consultant - Anaesthetics with an Interest in Vascular and CPEX**

Frimley, GU16 7UJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant - Anaesthetics with an Interest in Vascular and CPEX job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[34]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant in General Surgery (Emergency Surgeon)**

Stevenage, SG1 4AB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

East and North Hertfordshire Teaching NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant in General Surgery \(Emergency Surgeon\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[35]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant Surgeon in Oral & Maxillo Facial Surgery**

London, E9 6SR

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Surgeon in Oral & Maxillo Facial Surgery job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[36]</sup>

- **Consultant Plastic Surgeon with a special interest in Gender Surgery**

London, SW10 9NH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Plastic Surgeon with a special interest in Gender Surgery job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[37]</sup>

- **Consultant Dermatology Surgeon**

Grimsby, DN31 2BH

Salary:

£105000.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

HCRG Care Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Dermatology Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[38]</sup>

- **Consultant Cardiac Surgeon**

Plymouth, PL6 8DH

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Cardiac Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[39]</sup>

- **Consultant Hand Surgeon**

Doncaster, DN40TG

Barnsley, S71 1TH

Sheffield, S105UB

Sheffield, S80YH

Sheffield, S61GA

Rotherham, S639EH

Barnsley, S728SU

Sheffield, S56AZ

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Locum

Employer:

HealthHarmonie

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Hand Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[40]

- **Consultant Dermatology Surgeon**

Scunthorpe, DN15 6HX

Salary:

£105000.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

HCRG Care Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Dermatology Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [41]

- **Consultant Hand Surgeon**

Birmingham, B15 2TH

Salary:

£109725.00 to £145478.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Hand Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[42]

- **Consultant Spinal Surgeon**

Sheffield, S11 8UX

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

One Health Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Spinal Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [43]

- **Consultant Urological Surgeon**

Watford, WD18 0HB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Urological Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[44]</sup>

- **Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon**

Torquay, TQ2 7AA

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[45]</sup>

- **Consultant Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon**

Birmingham, B15 2TH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[46]</sup>

- **Consultant Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon**

Northampton, NN1 5DB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Northampton General Hospital

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[47]</sup>

- **Consultant Breast Surgeon(Locum)**

London, W6 8RF

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Breast Surgeon\(Locum\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[48]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon**

Tooting, SW17 0QT

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Locum

Employer:

St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[49]</sup>

- **Consultant Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon**

Lancaster, LA14RP

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[50]</sup>

- **Consultant Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon**

Merthyr Tydfil, CF72 9DT

Salary:

£110240.00 to £160951.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[51]</sup>

- **Consultant Emergency General Surgeon**

Orpington, BR6 8ND

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Emergency General Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[52]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant Urological Surgeon**

Stockport, SK2 7JE

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Stockport NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Urological Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[53]</sup>

- **Consultant Gastroenterologist/ Colorectal Surgeon**

Manchester, M22 4DB

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Beacon Medical Services Group Ltd

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Gastroenterologist/ Colorectal Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[54]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant General Surgeon**

Harrow, HA1 3UJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant General Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[55]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant Plastic Surgeon**

Middlesbrough, TS4 3BW

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Plastic Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[56]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant Plastic Surgeon**

Birmingham, B15 2TH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Plastic Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[57]</sup>

- **Consultant Orthopaedic Revision Hip Surgeon**

Carlisle, CA2 7HY

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Orthopaedic Revision Hip Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[58]</sup>

- **Fellowship-trained Foot & Ankle Surgeon**

Sheffield, S11 8UX

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

One Health Group



[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Fellowship-trained Foot & Ankle Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[59]</sup>

- **Consultant Hip and Knee Surgeon**

Sheffield, S11 8UX

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

One Health Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Hip and Knee Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[60]</sup>

- **Consultant General Surgeon ( Upper GI )**

Sheffield, S11 8UX

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

One Health Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant General Surgeon \( Upper GI \) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[61]</sup>

- **Consultant Orthopaedic and Oncology Surgeon**

Oswestry, SY10 7AG

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Orthopaedic and Oncology Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[62]</sup>

- **Consultant Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon**

North Shields, NE29 8NH

Salary:

£109725.00 to £145478.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[63]</sup>

- **Consultant General Surgeon ( Lower GI )**

Sheffield, S11 8UX

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

One Health Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant General Surgeon \( Lower GI \) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[64]</sup>

- **Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon (Shoulder & Elbow)**

Torquay, TQ2 7SS

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon \(Shoulder & Elbow\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[65]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon**

Gateshead, NE9 6SX

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Locum

Employer:

Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[66]</sup>

- **Locum Consultant Plastic Reconstruction surgeon**

Plymouth, PL6 8DH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Locum

Employer:

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Plastic Reconstruction surgeon job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [67]

## • Further information

These organisations have further information about being a vascular surgeon, particularly as your career progresses. Take a look.

[Royal College of Surgeons](#) [68]

[Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh](#) [69]

[Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow](#) [70]

[Vascular Society](#) [71]

## Other roles that may interest you

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