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# Respiratory medicine

Doctors working in respiratory [1] medicine diagnose and treat conditions affecting the respiratory [1] system, which includes the nose, throat, larynx, windpipe, lungs and the diaphragm.

One third of all acute medical admissions to hospital are the result of respiratory [1] problems, so you'll experience a busy and varied career.



# Life working in respiratory [1] medicine

You'll diagnose, treat and provide continuous care for adults of all ages with a wide range of respiratory [1] and related conditions. It's an exciting and diverse specialty that requires a grounding in general medicine and expert respiratory [1] knowledge and interventional skills. It draws together elements of many other specialties including:

- oncology
- · infectious diseases and public health
- immunology
- palliative care
- intensive care

Assessing patients in outpatients' clinics is an important part of your work. You'll spend time in both general respiratory [1] clinics and specialist clinics.

In a general respiratory [1] clinic, you'll see patients referred by their GP with symptoms such as breathlessness, cough or wheeze or who have an abnormal chest x-ray.

In a specialist respiratory [1] clinic, you'll deal with a range of problems including:

- asthma
- cancer
- cystic fibrosis (an inherited condition that causes sticky secretions in multiple organ systems including the lungs)
- interstitial lung disease (scarring of the lung tissue)
- pulmonary vascular disorders (affecting the circulatory system of the lungs)

- sleep related breathing disorders, for example obstructive sleep apnoea
- tuberculosis or TB (a bacterial lung disease)

You'll also be involved with physiological tests to assess lung function, which indicate how well a patient's lungs are performing and can involve anything from spirometry to exercise testing.

All respiratory [1] units deliver care for people with acute respiratory [1] disease, with some delivering specialist care for diseases, such as cystic fibrosis, pulmonary vascular diseases or lung transplant.

Traditionally a hospital-based role, more and more respiratory [1] services are delivered in the community, and you may be expected to work across both settings.

# How much can I earn?

You'll first earn a salary when you start your <u>foundation training</u> [2] after medical school. Find out details of current salary ranges for foundation and specialty training, <u>SAS doctors</u> [3] and consultants on the Pay for doctors [4] 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 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 multiprofessional 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

# **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.

"Talking to patients is both a privilege and a delight. You can often make a diagnosis by just speaking to them and can make a huge difference to their stay in hospital by taking time to explore their feelings and engage with them and their family on a human level."

Read Tim's story [5].

# What are my chances of starting a career in respiratory medicine?

There are approximately 1240 consultants working in respiratory [1] medicine in the NHS in England. In 2020, there were 407 applications for 74 specialty training places.

# How to become a doctor in respiratory [1] medicine

After medical school, you'll join the paid two-year <u>foundation programme</u> [6] where you'll work in six placements in different settings.

After your foundation programme, you can apply for General Internal Medicine (GIM) training which lasts for three years.

After completing GIM training, you can apply to <u>specialty training</u> [7] in <u>respiratory</u> [1] medicine, which takes four to five years.

You may be able to train part time, with many options for less than full time training available.

# Where a career in respiratory [1] medicine can take you

Respiratory [1] medicine covers a broad range of disease areas, with opportunities to practise general respiratory [1] medicine or choose a sub-specialist interest such as:

- asthma
- cystic fibrosis
- interstitial lung disease
- lung transplantation
- lung cancer
- occupational and environmental lung disease
- sleep disordered breathing and non-invasive ventilatory support

You'll also have opportunities to conduct research and teach.

# Live vacancies

# Find a vacancy

#### Enter your location or postcode

#### Show results within

#### Search

#### Consultant in Respiratory Medicine

Middlesbrough, TS4 3BW

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Respiratory Medicine job (opens in a new window) [8]

### Consultant in Respiratory Medicine

Cwmbran, SE Wales, NP44 8YN

Salary:

£106000.00 to £154760.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Respiratory Medicine job (opens in a new window) [9]

# Senior Clinical Pharmacist - Respiratory Medicine

Durham, DH1 5TW

Salary:

£53755.00 to £60504.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Clinical Pharmacist - Respiratory Medicine job</u>

(opens in a new window) [10]

#### Locum Consultant in Respiratory Medicine

Nottingham, NG5 1PB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Locum

Employer:

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trusts

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant in Respiratory Medicine job (opens in a new window) [11]

#### Locum Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine

Luton, LU4 0DZ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Locum

Employer:

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine job (opens in a new window) [12]

# Junior Research Fellow in Respiratory Medicine

Southampton, SO16 6YD

Salary:

£49909.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospital Southampton NHS Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Junior Research Fellow in Respiratory Medicine job</u>

(opens in a new window) [13]

# o Consultant in Respiratory & General Medicine

Carlisle/Whitehaven, CA2 7HY

Salary:

£93666.00 to £126281.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Respiratory & General Medicine job</u>

<u>(opens in a new window)</u>
[14]

#### Consultant - Paediatrics W/I in Respiratory Medicine

Truro, TR1 3LJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant - Paediatrics W/I in Respiratory Medicine job (opens in a new window) [15]

### Locum Respiratory Consultant with General Medicine

Carlisle, CA2 7HY

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Respiratory Consultant with General Medicine</u>
<u>job (opens in a new window)</u> [16]

# Specialist Doctor, Respiratory

Watford, WD18 0HB

Salary:

£96990.00 to £107155.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Doctor, Respiratory job (opens in a new window) [17]

#### Clinical Pharmacist - Respiratory, Cystic Fibrosis, General medicine

Sheffield, S5 7AU

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Pharmacist - Respiratory, Cystic Fibrosis,

General medicine job (opens in a new window) [18]

#### Clinical Lead Physiotherapist-Respiratory and Specialist Medicine

Bournemouth, BH7 7DW

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Lead Physiotherapist-Respiratory and Specialist Medicine job (opens in a new window) [19]

#### Acute Medicine and Palliative Medicine Trust Doctor

Cramlington, NE23 6NZ

Salary:

£37068.00 to £57570.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Acute Medicine and Palliative Medicine Trust Doctor</u>
job (opens in a new window) [20]

#### Acute Medicine Trust Doctor

Cramlington, NE23 6NZ

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Acute Medicine Trust Doctor job (opens in a new window)</u>

[21]

#### Emergency Medicine Specialty Doctor

Braddan, IM4 4RJ

Salary:

£53614.00 to £98969.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Manx Care

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Emergency Medicine Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [22]

### Respiratory Physiologist

Salisbury, SP2 8BJ

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Respiratory Physiologist job (opens in a new window)

# Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine

Basingstoke, RG24 9NB

Salary:

£53581.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

St Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire)

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine job (opens in a new window) [24]

# Speciality Doctor in Emergency Medicine

Uxbridge, UB8 3NN

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

The Hillingdon Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [25]

#### Specialty Doctor Emergency Medicine (EDGH)

Eastbourne, BN21 2UD

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Emergency Medicine (EDGH) job (opens in a new window) [26]

#### Speciality Doctor in Emergency Medicine

Chesterfield, S44 5BL

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [27]

# Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine

Manchester, M280FE

Salary:

£59175.00 to £75998.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

St Ann's Hospice

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine job (opens in a new window) [28]

### Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine

Braddan, IM4 4RJ

Salary:

£48670.00 to £89841.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Manx Care

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine job (opens in a new window) [29]

### Rotational Respiratory Physiotherapist

Oxford, OX3 9DU

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Rotational Respiratory Physiotherapist job (opens in a new window) [30]

### Consultant Respiratory Physician

Grimsby and Scunthorpe, DN33 2BA

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Respiratory Physician job (opens in a new window) [31]

# Practice / Respiratory Nurse

Boston, PE21 8EG

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

**Omnes Healthcare Limited** 

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Practice / Respiratory Nurse job (opens in a new window) [32]

# Respiratory Specialist Nurse

North Tyneside, NE29 8NH

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Respiratory Specialist Nurse job (opens in a new window) [33]

#### Clinical Respiratory Lead

Southall, UB1 3HW

Salary:

£59490.00 to £66239.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Respiratory Lead job (opens in a new window)

[34]

### Senior Respiratory Physiotherapist

Tunbridge Wells, TN2 4QJ

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Respiratory Physiotherapist job (opens in a new window) [35]

# Specialist Physiotherapist - Respiratory

Welshpool, SY21 7DU

Salary:

£37898.00 to £45637.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Powys Teaching Health Board

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Physiotherapist - Respiratory job (opens in a new window) [36]

#### Specialist Respiratory Physiologist

Swansea, SA6 6NL

Salary:

£37898.00 to £45637.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Swansea Bay University Health Board

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Respiratory Physiologist job (opens in a new window) [37]

#### Respiratory Nurse/Physiotherapist

Billingham, TS232NP

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Respiratory Nurse/Physiotherapist job (opens in a new window) [38]

### Respiratory Practice Nurse

Maryport, CA15 8EL

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Maryport Health Services

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Respiratory Practice Nurse job (opens in a new window) [39]

# Specialist Respiratory Physiologist

Swansea, SA6 6NL

Salary:

£37898.00 to £45637.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Swansea Bay University Health Board

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Respiratory Physiologist job (opens in a new window) [37]

#### Trust Grade Doctor in Renal Medicine

Leeds, LS9 7TF

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Leeds Teaching Hospitals

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Grade Doctor in Renal Medicine job (opens in a new window) [40]

#### Specialty Doctor Emergency Medicine (Conquest Hospital)

St Leonards-on-sea, TN37 7RD

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Emergency Medicine (Conquest Hospital) job (opens in a new window) [41]

# Specialist Grade Doctor in Acute Medicine

Hull, HU3 2JZ

Salary:

£96990.00 to £107155.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Grade Doctor in Acute Medicine job (opens in a new window) [42]

# Specialist Occupational Therapist - Respiratory

Powys, LD3 0LS

Salary:

£37898.00 to £45637.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Powys Teaching Health Board

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Occupational Therapist - Respiratory job (opens in a new window) [43]

#### Senior Respiratory Physiologist - Bank

Maidstone, ME14 5FT

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Bank

Employer:

KIMS Hospital

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Respiratory Physiologist - Bank job (opens in a new window) [44]

#### Respiratory Senior Clinical Fellow

Cramlington, NE23 6NZ

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Respiratory Senior Clinical Fellow job (opens in a new window) [45]

# Senior Respiratory Clinical Physiologist

Dorchester, DT1 2JY

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

**Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust** 

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Respiratory Clinical Physiologist job (opens in a new window) [46]

# o 0460 - Cardio-respiratory Physiologist

Barnsley, S75 2EP

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for 0460 - Cardio-respiratory Physiologist job (opens in a new window) [47]

#### Band 6 Respiratory Physiologist

Barking, IG11 9LX

Salary:

£42939.00 to £50697.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 6 Respiratory Physiologist job (opens in a new window) [48]

#### Senior Assistant Respiratory Physiologist

Bodelwyddan, LL18 5UJ

Salary:

£24433.00 to £26060.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Assistant Respiratory Physiologist job (opens in a new window) [49]

# Community Respiratory Diagnostics Nurse

Coventry, CV1 4AE

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Community Respiratory Diagnostics Nurse job (opens in a new window)</u> [50]

# o Trust Doctor (Chief Registrar) In Emergency Medicine

London, E13 8SL

Salary:

£49909.00 to £64288.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Barts Health NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor (Chief Registrar) In Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [51]

#### Clinical Research Fellow - Trust Doctor in Medicine

London, NW1 2BU

Salary:

£31621.00 to £35757.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Research Fellow - Trust Doctor in Medicine job</u>

<u>(opens in a new window)</u> [52]

#### Practice Development Nurse for Respiratory

Aylesbury, HP21 8AL

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Practice Development Nurse for Respiratory job (opens in a new window) [53]

# Paediatric Respiratory Clinical Nurse Specialist

Tooting, SW17 0QT

Salary:

£54320.00 to £60981.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Paediatric Respiratory Clinical Nurse Specialist job</u>

<u>(opens in a new window)</u> [54]

# o Practice Nurse - Respiratory - Ilminster, Somerset

Ilminster, TA19 9FE

Salary:

£39146.00 to £41851.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Symphony Healthcare Services Limited

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Practice Nurse - Respiratory - Ilminster, Somerset job (opens in a new window) [55]

#### Healthcare Scientist - Respiratory/Sleep Physiology

Maidstone, ME16 9QQ

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Healthcare Scientist - Respiratory/Sleep Physiology job (opens in a new window) [56]

### Band 6 Rotational Respiratory Physiotherapist

Birmingham, B15 2TH

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 6 Rotational Respiratory Physiotherapist job</u>

(opens in a new window) [57]

# Band 6 Rotational Respiratory Physiotherapist

Torquay, TQ2 7AA

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 6 Rotational Respiratory Physiotherapist job (opens in a new window) [58]

#### Apprentice Respiratory & Sleep Physiologist - CDC

Redhill, RH1 5RH

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Apprentice Respiratory & Sleep Physiologist - CDC job (opens in a new window) [59]

#### Support Medical Secretary Respiratory Department

Liverpool, L9 7AL

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Support Medical Secretary Respiratory Department job (opens in a new window) [60]

# Specialised Respiratory and Sleep Physiologist

Lenton, NG7 2UH

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trusts

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialised Respiratory and Sleep Physiologist job (opens in a new window) [61]

# Band 6 Senior Respiratory Physiologist

Birmingham, B15 2TH

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 6 Senior Respiratory Physiologist job (opens in a new window) [62]

#### General Medicine Locally Employed Doctor Trust Registrar level

Whitehaven, CA28 7JG

Salary:

£43923.00 to £55329.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for General Medicine Locally Employed Doctor Trust

Registrar level job (opens in a new window) [63]

#### Locally Employed Doctor (Higher) in Acute Medicine QEHB

Birmingham, B15 2TH

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locally Employed Doctor (Higher) in Acute Medicine

QEHB job (opens in a new window) [64]

# Trust Doctors (eqv to ST4+) in Emergency Medicine

London, E1 1FR

Salary:

£49559.00 to £64288.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Barts Health NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctors (eqv to ST4+) in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [65]

# o Band 7 Respiratory Physiotherapist - Team Lead

Birmingham, B15 2TH

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 7 Respiratory Physiotherapist - Team Lead job

(opens in a new window) [66]

# Further information

These organisations have further information about being a doctor in respiratory [1] medicine, particularly as your career progresses. Take a look.

Royal College of Physicians [67]

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh [68]

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow [69]

British Thoracic Society [70]

And hear from people working in respiratory [1] medicine:

Specialty spotlight - respiratory medicine [71]

A career in respiratory medicine (BMJ) [72]

Dr Chris Davies, consultant in respiratory medicine (RCP) [73]

Dr Ahsan Akram – ST5, respiratory medicine (RCPE) [74]

Dr Gourab Choudhury - ST6, respiratory medicine (RCPE) [75]

# Other roles that may interest you

- Gastroenterology [76]
- Intensive care medicine [77]
- General internal medicine [78]
- Palliative medicine [79]

**Source URL:**https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/respiratory-medicine?cid=techmap.io&field\_field\_role=3960&page=1

#### Links

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