

Acute internal medicine

Doctors working in acute internal medicine assess, investigate, diagnose and manage patients with conditions that exhibit severe symptoms that develop quickly and may be life-threatening.

You'll care for patients as they first arrive at hospital, making an initial diagnosis and providing treatment for up to 72 hours.

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Watch the above video where Dr Hannah Skene MBChB, FRCP(Edin), MMedSci, SFHEA talks about her career as a consultant in AIM.

Life in acute internal medicine

You'll work as part of the [acute medical unit](#) [4], which is often very busy. You'll treat patients of all ages with a wide range of clinical problems and interact with numerous colleagues including consultants, emergency department staff, critical care and other medical specialists.

You'll regularly perform:

- lumbar puncture
- [paracentesis](#) [5] – puncture of the wall of a body cavity (for example chest or abdomen) to drain off excess fluid or to obtain diagnostic material
- [pleural aspiration](#) [6] – insertion of a small needle into the space between the lungs and the chest wall to remove fluid that has accumulated around the lung

Your exposure to a broad range of clinical problems will give you experience in all aspects of acute medical specialties and practical procedure skills.

You'll gain experience in:

- managing acute presentation of medical illness promptly
- managing medical patients in an in-patient setting
- developing new patient pathways to maximise safe, effective care in the community where feasible
- providing leadership skills within an acute medical unit

- developing multi-professional systems to promote optimal patient care
- the care of patients requiring more intensive levels of care than would be generally managed in a medical ward, usually gained from experience within a critical care unit

How much can I earn?

You'll first earn a salary when you start your [foundation training](#) ^[7] after medical school. Find out details of current salary ranges for foundation and specialty training, [SAS doctors](#) ^[8] and consultants on the ['Pay for doctors'](#) ^[9] 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

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.

What are my chances of starting a career in acute internal medicine?

There are approximately 504 doctors working in acute internal medicine in NHS, England. In 2020, there were 510 applications for 94 specialty training posts.

How to become a doctor in acute internal medicine

After medical school, you'll join the paid two-year foundation programme ^[10] where you'll work in six placements in different settings.

After your foundation programme, you can apply for paid specialty training ^[11] to become a doctor in acute internal medicine, which will take a minimum of six 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 doctor working in intensive care ^[12] medicine can take you

You'll be required to development specialist skills as part of your acute internal medicine training. You can choose to specialise in a practical procedure such as echocardiography or gain qualifications in management, leadership or education.

You'll also have opportunities to be involved in medical research.

- **Live vacancies**

Find a vacancy

Enter your location or postcode

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- **Acute Medicine Trust Doctor**

Cramlington, NE23 6NZ

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Acute Medicine Trust Doctor job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[13]

- **Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine**

Harrogate, HG2 7SX

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[14]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[15]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[16]

- **Consultant Respiratory & General Internal medicine**

Reading, RG1 5AN

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Respiratory & General Internal medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[17]

- **Consultant in General Internal Medicine**

Sutton Coldfield, B75 7RR

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in General Internal Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[18]

- **Locum Consultant in General Internal Medicine**

Coventry, CV2 2DX

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant in General Internal Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[19]

- **Training Programme Director - Internal Medicine Training**

Southampton, SO16 0AS

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Secondment

Employer:

NHS England

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Training Programme Director - Internal Medicine Training job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[20]

- **Clinical Service Lead - General Internal Medicine**

Sutton Coldfield, B75 7RR

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Service Lead - General Internal Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [21]

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) [22]

- **Consultant Acute Medicine**

Blackpool, FY3 8NR

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [23]

- **Consultant - Acute Medicine**

Truro, TR1 3LJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant - Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [24]

- **Consultant - Acute Medicine**

Truro, TR1 3LJ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant - Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[25]

- **Acute Medicine Consultant**

Swindon, SN3 6BB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Acute Medicine Consultant job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[26]

- **Health Care Assistant - Stannon (General Internal Medicine)**

Plymouth, PL6 8DH

Salary:

£24169.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Health Care Assistant - Stannon \(General Internal Medicine\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[27]

- **Specialty Doctor - Female Acute**

Mastin Moor, S43 3DN

Salary:

£80000.00 to £80000.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cygnet Health Care

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Female Acute job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[28]

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine**

Preston, PR2 9HT

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[29]

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine**

Carlisle and Whitehaven, CA28 8JG

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[30]

- **Locum Consultant Acute Medicine**

Eastbourne, BN212UD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[31]

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine**

Plymouth, PL6 8DH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[32]

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine**

Plymouth, PL6 8DH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[32]

- **Consultants Acute Medicine/Frailer**

Bury, BL9 7TD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultants Acute Medicine/Frailer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[33]

- **Locum Consultant - Acute Medicine**

Watford, WD18 0HB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant - Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[34]

- **Locum Acute Medicine Consultant**

Wolverhampton, WV10 0QP

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Locum

Employer:

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Acute Medicine Consultant job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[35]

- **Consultant Physician in Acute Medicine**

Bodelwyddan, LL18 5UJ

Salary:

£106000.00 to £154760.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Physician in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[36]

- **Specialist Pharmacist - Post-Acute Medicine**

London, SE5 9RS

Salary:

£61927.00 to £68676.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Pharmacist - Post-Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[37]

- **LED ST3+ Acute Medicine Registrar**

St-Leonards-on-sea, TN37 7RD

Salary:

£49909.00 to £61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for LED ST3+ Acute Medicine Registrar job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[38]

- **Consultant in Acute General Medicine**

Carmarthen, SA31 2AF

Salary:

£106000.00 to £154760.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Hywel Dda University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute General Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[39]

- **Junior Clinical Fellow Acute Medicine**

Bridgend, CF31 1RQ

Salary:

£43821.00 to £57650.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Junior Clinical Fellow Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[40]

- **Locum Consultant in Acute Medicine**

Coventry, CV2 2DX

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[41]

- **Consultant Physician in Acute Medicine**

Barnsley, S75 2EP

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Physician in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[42]

- **Housekeeper - General Medicine Ward 9 (Internal Only)**

Victoria Road, Macclesfield, SK10 3BL

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Cheshire NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Housekeeper - General Medicine Ward 9 \(Internal Only\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[43]

- **Clinical Teaching Fellow in Acute Medicine**

Taunton, TA1 5DA

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Teaching Fellow in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[44]

- **Consultant Physician in Acute Medicine (AAU)**

Newport, PO30 5TG

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Isle of Wight NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Physician in Acute Medicine \(AAU\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[45]

- **Consultant Physician Diabetes & Endocrinology & Acute Medicine**

Newport / Abergavenny, NP20 2UB

Salary:

£106000.00 to £154760.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Physician Diabetes & Endocrinology & Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[46]

- **Locum Consultant in Respiratory & Acute Medicine**

Bridgend, CF31 1RQ

Salary:

£116600.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant in Respiratory & Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[47]

- **Clinical Teaching Fellow in Medicine & Acute Respiratory Care Unit**

Nottingham, NG7 2UH

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trusts

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Teaching Fellow in Medicine & Acute Respiratory Care Unit job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[48]

- **Locum Consultant in Older Peoples Medicine/Acute Medical Unit**

Norwich, NR4 7UY

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant in Older Peoples Medicine/Acute Medical Unit job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[49]

- **Clinical Education Fellow in Acute Medicine (ST3)**

Harrogate, HG2 7SX

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust
[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Education Fellow in Acute Medicine \(ST3\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[50]

- **Senior Clinical Fellow Acute and General Medicine**

Woolwich, SE18 4QH

Salary:

£37068.00 to £57570.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Clinical Fellow Acute and General Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[51]

- **Team Lead Occupational Therapist for Acute Medicine**

Harlow, CM20 1QX

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Team Lead Occupational Therapist for Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[52]

- **Internal Communications Coordinator**

Oswestry, SY10 9BX

Salary:

£31187.00 to £35301.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Hope House Children's Hospices

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Internal Communications Coordinator job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[53]

- **Acute Dietitian**

Torquay, TQ2 7AA

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Acute Dietitian job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[54]

- **Ward Clerk - Primrose (INTERNAL)**

Hereford, HR1 2ER

Salary:

£24169.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Wye Valley NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Ward Clerk - Primrose \(INTERNAL\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[55]

- **Management Secretary (Internal Only)**

Victoria Road, Macclesfield, SK10 3BL

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Cheshire NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Management Secretary \(Internal Only\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[56]

- **Consultant in Medicine for the Elderly and Acute Frailty**

London, W2 1NY

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Medicine for the Elderly and Acute Frailty job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[57]

- **Acute Paediatric Physiotherapist**

Manchester, M13 9WL

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Acute Paediatric Physiotherapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[58]

- **Dietitian - Acute Team**

Maidstone, ME16 9QQ

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dietitian - Acute Team job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[59]

- **International Medical Graduate Teaching Fellow**

Bournemouth, BH7 7DW

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for International Medical Graduate Teaching Fellow job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[60]

- **Facilities Technical Officer *Internal Applicants Only***

Whitehaven, CA28 8JG

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Facilities Technical Officer *Internal Applicants Only* job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[61]

- **Health Care Assistant, Ward 5 *Internal***

Whitehaven, CA28 8JG

Salary:

£24169.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Health Care Assistant, Ward 5 *Internal* job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[62]

- **Administration Assistant - Diabetic Retinopathy (Internal Only)**

Alsager, ST7 2LU

Salary:

£24169.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Cheshire NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Administration Assistant - Diabetic Retinopathy \(Internal Only\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[63]

- **Maintenance Assistant Higher Level **Internal Only****

Nottingham, NG7 2UH

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trusts

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Maintenance Assistant Higher Level **Internal Only** job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[64]

- **Graduate Summer Intern: Project & Administrative Support**

Marlborough, SN8 4BY

Pewsey, SN9 5AQ

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Kennet and Avon Medical Partnership

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Graduate Summer Intern: Project & Administrative Support job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[65]

- **Health Care Assistant Ward 5 *Internal***

Whitehaven, CA288JG

Salary:

£24169.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Health Care Assistant Ward 5 *Internal* job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[66]

- **Data Support Services Manager (INTERNAL ONLY)**

Exeter, EX2 7HY

Salary:

£60460.00 to £67263.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Data Support Services Manager \(INTERNAL ONLY\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[67]

- **Locum Consultant Acute Paediatrician**

Steeton, BD20 6TD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Airedale NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Acute Paediatrician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[68]

- **Specialist Acute Rotational Dietitian**

Brighton, BN2 5BE

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (279)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Acute Rotational Dietitian job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[69]

○ **Locum Consultant Acute Physician**

Ashford, TN24 0LZ

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Acute Physician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[70]

• **Further information**

These organisations have further information about being a doctor in acute internal medicine, particularly as your career progresses. Take a look.

[Royal College of Physicians](#) ^[71]

[Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh](#) ^[72]

[Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow](#) ^[73]

[Society for Acute Medicine](#) ^[74]

[British Association for Immediate Care \(BASICS\)](#) ^[75]

Other roles that may interest you

- [General internal medicine](#) ^[76]
- [Emergency medicine](#) ^[77]
- [Intensive care medicine](#) ^[78]
- [General practitioner](#) ^[79]

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Links

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