

# 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.

Can't see the video? You'll need to accept all [cookies](#) <sup>[1]</sup>. Alternatively, visit our YouTube Channel to view our [videos](#) <sup>[2]</sup>

[Download transcript](#) <sup>[3]</sup>

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](#) <sup>[4]</sup>, 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](#) <sup>[5]</sup> – 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](#) <sup>[6]</sup> – 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](#) <sup>[7]</sup> after medical school. Find out details of current salary ranges for foundation and specialty training, [SAS doctors](#) <sup>[8]</sup> and consultants on the '[Pay for doctors](#)' <sup>[9]</sup> 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 <sup>[10]</sup> where you'll work in six placements in different settings.

After your foundation programme, you can apply for paid specialty training <sup>[11]</sup> 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 <sup>[12]</sup> medicine can take you

You'll be required to develop 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.

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### ◦ Acute & Emergency Administrator (INTERNAL)

Hereford, HR1 2ER

Salary:

£24169.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Wye Valley NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Acute & Emergency Administrator \(INTERNAL\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[13]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[14]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[15]</sup>

- **Service Manager - Internal Medicine**

Chichester, PO19 6SE

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (279)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Service Manager - Internal Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[17]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[18]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[19]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[20]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[21]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[22]</sup>

- **Consultant (Endocrinology, Diabetes, General Internal Medicine)**

Brighton / Haywards Heath, BN2 5BE

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (279)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant \(Endocrinology, Diabetes, General Internal Medicine\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[23]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[24]</sup>

- **ST3+ Gastroenterology with General (Internal) Medicine**

Weston, BS23 4TQ

Salary:

£61825.00 to £70425.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for ST3+ Gastroenterology with General \(Internal\)](#)

[Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[25]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[26]</sup>

- **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](#)

[\(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[27]</sup>

- **Specialty Doctor - Female Acute**

Mastin Moor, S43 3DN

Salary:

£80000.00 to £80000.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cygnnet Health Care

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

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[29]</sup>

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine**

Colchester, CO4 5JU

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust

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

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[31]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[32]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[33]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[34]</sup>

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine**

Huddersfield, HD3 3EA

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[35]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[36]</sup>

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine**

Wirral, CH49 5PE

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Wirral University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[37]</sup>

- **Chief Registrar - Acute Medicine**

Isleworth, TW7 6AF

Salary:

£55329.00 to £63152.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Chief Registrar - Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[38]</sup>

- **Consultant in Diabetes/ Endocrinology and General Internal 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 in Diabetes/ Endocrinology and General Internal Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[39]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[40]</sup>

- **Consultant Physician in Acute Medicine**

Stockport, SK2 7JE

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Stockport NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Physician in Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[41]</sup>

- **Bank Consultant - General/Acute Medicine**

Essex, SS0 0RY

Salary:

£100.00 to £110.00

Type:

Bank

Employer:

Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Bank Consultant - General/Acute Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[42]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[43]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[44]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[45]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[46]</sup>

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

London, W12 0HS

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Respiratory & Acute Medicine- ILD job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[47]</sup>

- **Research Intern**

Stafford, ST16 3AG

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Research Intern job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[48]</sup>

- **Genetics Intern**

Birmingham, B15 2TG

Salary:

£24169.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Genetics Intern job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[49]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[50]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[51]</sup>

- **Advanced Clinical Pharmacist - Acute and Emergency Medicine**

Liverpool, L7 8XP

Salary:

£53755.00 to £60504.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Advanced Clinical Pharmacist - Acute and Emergency Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[52]</sup>

- **Specialty Occupational Therapist – Acute and General Medicine**

Oxford, OX3 9DU

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Occupational Therapist – Acute and General Medicine job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[53]</sup>

- **Consultant in Acute Medicine- \*Welcome Bonus- £20K\***

Ipswich, IP4 5PD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Acute Medicine- \\*Welcome Bonus- £20K\\* job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[54]</sup>

- **Band 6 Occupational Therapist - Acute Medicine Therapy Team**

Gorleston, NR31 6LA

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent  
Employer:  
James Paget University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Band 6 Occupational Therapist - Acute Medicine Therapy Team job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[55]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[56]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[57]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[58]</sup>

- **Senior Applications Specialist \*Internal\***

Carlisle, CA3 0HA

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Applications Specialist \\*Internal\\* job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[59]</sup>

- **Flow & Discharge Coordinator (INTERNAL)**

Hereford, HR1 2ER

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Wye Valley NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Flow & Discharge Coordinator \(INTERNAL\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[60]</sup>

- **Project Co-Ordinator \*Internal\***

Carlisle, CA2 7HY

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Project Co-Ordinator \\*Internal\\* job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[61]</sup>

- **Consultant Geriatrician - Acute**

London, E11 1NR

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Barts Health NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Geriatrician - Acute job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[62]</sup>

- **Acute Respiratory Physiotherapist**



Poole, BH15 1QN

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Acute Respiratory Physiotherapist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[63]</sup>

- **Consultant Acute Physician**

Margate, CT9 4AN

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust

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

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[65]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[66]</sup>

- **Programme Manager \*Internal Applicants Only\***

Carlisle, CA3 0HA

Salary:

£53755.00 to £60504.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Programme Manager \\*Internal Applicants Only\\* job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[67]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[68]</sup>

- **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 \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[69]</sup>

- **Consultant Psychiatrist - Female Acute**

London, E6 6ZB

Salary:

£160000.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cygnet Health Care

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Psychiatrist - Female Acute job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [70]

- **Senior Podiatrist - Acute Specialist**

London, SE1 7EH

Salary:

£44806.00 to £53134.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Podiatrist - Acute Specialist job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [71]

- **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](#) [72]

[Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh](#) [73]

[Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow](#) [74]

[Society for Acute Medicine](#) [75]

[British Association for Immediate Care \(BASICS\)](#) [76]

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