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Infectious diseases

Doctors working in infectious diseases diagnose, investigate and treat infections caused by micro-organisms such as bacteria, viruses, protozoa and fungi.

You'll combine your clinical and laboratory skills to diagnose and provide effective treatment for a wide range of infectious diseases.

Screening for Ebola

Life in infectious diseases

There are four distinct but interdependent infection specialties: infectious diseases, medical microbiology, medical virology and tropical medicine.

So, among other conditions, you could treat:

- bone infections
- HIV
- pneumonia
- viral hepatitis (inflammation of the liver)

The role is rapidly changing due to:

- an increase in resistance to antibiotics
- an increase in the severity of infections particularly in an ageing and more frail population
- the growing popularity of global travel heightening the need for expertise in the prevention and treatment of 'international' diseases

You'll regularly deliver:

- drug prescription
- insertion of a central venous catheter [1] a thin flexible hollow tube is inserted into a large vein for the introduction of fluids including medication
- lumbar puncture [2] a hollow needle is inserted into the lower part of the spinal canal to withdraw cerebrospinal fluid for diagnosis or to inject medication
- sigmoidoscopy (examination of part of the intestine using a very small camera)

How much can I earn?

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

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 infectious diseases?

There are approximately 130 consultants working in infectious diseases in the NHS in England.

How to become an infectious diseases doctor

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 paid <u>specialty training</u> [7] to become a doctor in infectious diseases, which will take a minimum of seven or 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 in infectious diseases can take you

Infectious diseases is a wide and varied area and you'll have many opportunities to specialise.

You can also combine your training with either general internal medicine or with medical microbiology (or virology) and tropical medicine.

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

Live vacancies

Find a vacancy

Enter your location or postcode

Show results within

Search

Infectious Diseases CNS

Cardiff, CF14 4XW

Salary:

£46840.00 to £53602.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Senior Locally Employed Doctor in Infectious Diseases

Manchester, M8 5RB

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Locally Employed Doctor in Infectious Diseases job (opens in a new window) [9]

Consultant in Infectious Diseases

Crumpsall, M8 5RB

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Infectious Diseases job (opens in a new window) [10]

Consultant in Microbiology Infectious Diseases

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 Microbiology Infectious Diseases job (opens in a new window) [11]

Consultant Medical Microbiologist (Infectious Diseases)

Ashford, TN24 0LZ

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Medical Microbiologist (Infectious Diseases) job (opens in a new window) [12]</u>

Training Programme Director - Infectious Diseases -SoM (East)

Leicester, LE3 8RA

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Secondment

Employer:

NHS England

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Training Programme Director - Infectious Diseases - SoM (East) job (opens in a new window) [13]

Consultant in Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

Carlisle, CA2 7HY

Salary:

£99532.00 to £131964.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

<u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Medical Microbiology and Infectious</u>

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

Locum Consultant in Paediatric Immunology and Infectious Diseases

Sheffield, S10 2TH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant in Paediatric Immunology and Infectious Diseases job (opens in a new window) [15]

 Locum Consultant in Infectious Diseases and/or Medical Micro/Viro/GIM London, SE1 7EH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant in Infectious Diseases and/or Medical Micro/Viro/GIM job (opens in a new window) [16]

Consultant Ophthalmologist - External Disease

London, EC1V 2PD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Ophthalmologist - External Disease job (opens in a new window) [17]

Viral Hepatitis/Liver Diseases CNS

London, SE18 4QH

Salary:

£53755.00 to £60504.00

Type:

Secondment

Employer:

Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Viral Hepatitis/Liver Diseases CNS job (opens in a new window) [18]

Locum Consultant in Neuromuscular Diseases

London, WC1N3JH

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant in Neuromuscular Diseases job

(opens in a new window) [19]

Team Manager, Surgery and Digestive Diseases

Bradford, BD9 6RJ

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Team Manager, Surgery and Digestive Diseases job (opens in a new window) [20]

Senior Fellow in Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Leeds, LS1 3EX

Salary:

£70425.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Leeds Teaching Hospitals

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Fellow in Inflammatory Bowel Disease job (opens in a new window) [21]

Consultant Cardiologist in Adult Congenital Heart Disease

Cardiff, CF14 4XW

Salary:

£106000.00 to £154760.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant Cardiologist in Adult Congenital Heart Disease job (opens in a new window) [22]

Specialist Paediatric Dietitian - Inherited Metabolic Disease & Barth

Bristol, BS2 8BJ

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW)

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Paediatric Dietitian - Inherited Metabolic

Disease & Barth job (opens in a new window) [23]

Specialty Doctor - Emergency Medicine

Scarborough, YO12 6QL

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

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

[24]

Specialty Doctor Emergency Medicine

Guildford, GU2 7XX

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust

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

Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine

Bolton, BL1 4QT

Salary:

£59175.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Bolton Hospice

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

Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine

Carlisle, CA2 7HY

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

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

Trust Doctor in Respiratory Medicine

Leeds, LS9 7TF

Salary:

£61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Leeds Teaching Hospitals

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

Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine

Yeovil, BA21 4AT

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

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

Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine

King's Lynn, PE30 4ET

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn NHSFT

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [30]

Bank Doctor in General Medicine (ST3+)

Victoria Road, Macclesfield, SK10 3BL

Salary:

Negotiable Type:

Bank

Employer:

East Cheshire NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Bank Doctor in General Medicine (ST3+) job (opens in a new window) [31]

Trust Doctor in Emergency Medicine (ST1/2)

Guildford, GU2 7XX

Salary:

£49909.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor in Emergency Medicine (ST1/2) job (opens in a new window) [32]

Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine (A&E)

Worcester, WR5 1DD Redditch, B98 7UB

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine (A&E) job (opens in a new window) [33]

Locally Employed Doctor (Higher) in Emergency 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 Emergency

Medicine QEHB job (opens in a new window) [34]

Locally Employed Doctor (Higher) in Emergency Medicine - HGS sites

Birmingham, B9 5SS
Sutton Coldfield, B75 7RR

Salary:
£61825.00

Type:
Fixed-Term

Employer:
University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

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

Medicine - HGS sites job (opens in a new window) [35]

ENT Doctor

Sheffield, S9 1XH

Salary:

£550.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

CHEC

Apply now on NHS Jobs for ENT Doctor job (opens in a new window) [36]

Dermatology Doctor

Canterbury, CT1 1BN

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Bank

Employer:

CHEC

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [37]

Specialty Doctor

Cheltenham, GL53 0QJ

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Sue Ryder

```
London, SE14 6BL
 Salary:
       Negotiable
 Type:
       Bank
 Employer:
       CHEC
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [39]
Dermatology Doctor
 Wandsworth, SW18 4WW
 Salary:
       Negotiable
 Type:
       Bank
 Employer:
       CHEC
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [40]

    Dermatology Doctor

 Slough, SL1 2EJ
 Salary:
       Negotiable
 Type:
       Bank
 Employer:
       CHEC
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [41]

    Dermatology Doctor

 Leicester, LE1 2BU
 Salary:
       £550.00
 Type:
       Bank
 Employer:
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Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [42]

ENT Doctor

```
Leicester, LE1 2BU
 Salary:
      £550.00
 Type:
      Permanent
 Employer:
      CHEC
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for ENT Doctor job (opens in a new window) [43]
ENT Doctor
 Leeds, LS16 6EB
 Salary:
      £550.00
 Type:
      Permanent
 Employer:
      CHEC
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for ENT Doctor job (opens in a new window) [44]
Dermatology Doctor
 Macclesfield, SK11 6HB
 Salary:
      £550.00
 Type:
      Permanent
 Employer:
      CHEC
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [45]
ENT Doctor
 Swindon, SN3 3RB
 Salary:
      Negotiable
 Type:
      Bank
 Employer:
      CHEC
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for ENT Doctor job (opens in a new window) [46]
```

Dermatology Doctor

Swindon, SN3 3RB

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Bank

Employer:

CHEC

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [47]

Specialty Doctor

Bath, BA1 3NG

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [48]

Specialty Doctor

Watford, WD17 3EW

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [49]

Bank Doctor

Winsford, CW7 1BH

Salary:

£42.27

Type:

Bank

Employer:

St Luke's (Cheshire) Hospice

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Bank Doctor job (opens in a new window) [50]

Dermatology Doctor

```
Sheffield, S9 1XH
 Salary:
      £550.00
 Type:
      Permanent
 Employer:
      CHEC
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [51]
Specialty Doctor
 Greenwich, SE18 3RZ
 Salary:
      £59175.00 to £95400.00
```

Specialty Doctor

Fixed-Term

Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust

Type:

Employer:

London, W6 8NF Salary: £59175.00 to £95400.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: West London NHS Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [53]

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [52]

Dermatology Doctor

Milton Keynes, MK11 3LW Salary: £550.00 Type: Bank Employer: CHEC

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [54]

Dermatology Doctor

```
Leicester, LE1 2BU
 Salary:
       £550.00
 Type:
       Permanent
 Employer:
       CHEC
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [55]
Specialty Doctor
 London, SE5 8UH
 Salary:
       £59175.00 to £95400.00
 Type:
       Permanent
 Employer:
       Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [56]
Dermatology Doctor
 Leeds, LS16 6EB
 Salary:
       £550.00
 Type:
       Permanent
 Employer:
       CHEC
```

Dermatology Doctor

Worthing, BN11 3BN

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Bank

Employer:

CHEC

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [58]

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [57]

Lead Doctor

Ashton under Lyne, OL6 6SL

Salary:

£96990.00 to £107155.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Willow Wood Hospice

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Lead Doctor job (opens in a new window) [59]

ENT Doctor

Nottingham, NG8 5DQ

Salary:

£550.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

CHEC

Apply now on NHS Jobs for ENT Doctor job (opens in a new window) [60]

Doctors Assistant

Wakefield, WF1 4DG

Salary:

£24071.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Mid Yorkshire Teaching NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Doctors Assistant job (opens in a new window) [61]

Further information

These organisations have further information about being an infectious diseases doctor, particularly as your career progresses. Take a look.

British HIV Association [62]

British Infection Association [63]

European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases [64]

Royal College of Physicians [65]

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh [66]

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow [67]

Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene [68]

And read this article about working in infectious diseases medicine:

Dr Karen Devine - ST4, infectious diseases (RCPE) [69]

Other roles that may interest you

- Acute internal medicine [70]
- Emergency medicine [71]
- Genitourinary medicine [72]
- Medical microbiology and virology (doctor) [73]

Source URL: https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/infectious-diseases

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