

Home > Explore roles > Doctors > Roles for doctors > Medicine > Immunology

Immunology

Immunologists study how the body's defence system (the immune system) functions and treat patients with immune system disorders.

You'll provide support for the diagnosis and management of conditions such as HIV, multiple sclerosis and tuberculosis.

Life as an immunologist

Your work will be a mixture of clinical and laboratory duties. Your clinical work will be mainly with outpatients and will involve diagnosing immunodeficiency (diseases where part of the immune system is missing or doesn't function properly), allergies and autoimmune disorders (where the immune system attacks itself) such as rheumatoid arthritis.

You'll treat patients with drugs to suppress the immune system, intravenous therapies for antibody replacement and desensitisation immunotherapy (giving gradually increasing doses of allergen extracts by injection, drops or tablets).

Your laboratory work will underpin clinical work on immunological diseases, and you'll be involved in the interpretation and validation of results and guality assurance [1]. You could also be one of a small number of immunologists providing laboratory support for organ transplants, to minimise rejection of transplanted organs in patients.

You'll work regular hours but will often provide out of hours telephone advice on laboratory and clinical matters to other doctors.

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 <u>Pay for doctors</u> [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 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 immunology?

There are currently 83 immunology consultants working in the NHS in England. In 2021, there were 33 applications for six immunology specialty training places.

How to become an immunologist

After medical school, you'll join the paid two-year <u>foundation?programme</u> [5]?where you'll work in six placements in different settings.

After your foundation programme, you can apply for paid <u>specialty training</u> [6] to become an immunologist, which will take a minimum of seven 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 in immunology can take you

You could:

- specialise?or conduct research in areas such as rheumatology, HIV medicine or transplantation
- teach medical students or postgraduate students in training
- get involved in research at universities, the NHS or private sector
- Live vacancies

Find a vacancy

Enter your location or postcode

Show results within

Search

• Trust StR Higher Doctor in Immunology/Allergy

Plymouth, PL68DH

Salary: £61825.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust <u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust StR Higher Doctor in Immunology/Allergy job</u> (opens in a new window) [7]

Trust Fellow in Immunology, Infectious Diseases & BMT (ST4+ Equiv.)

London, WC1N3JH

Salary: £49559.00 to £64288.00 Type: Fixed-Term

Employer:

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Fellow in Immunology, Infectious Diseases & BMT (ST4+ Equiv.) job (opens in a new window) [8]

Senior Specialist Pharmacist Immunology

London, WC1N 3JH

Salary:

£61927.00 to £68676.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Specialist Pharmacist Immunology job (opens in a new window) [9]

Consultant in Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ID) & Immunology

Liverpool, L12 2AP

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ID) & Immunology job (opens in a new window) [10]

• Consultant Immunologist

Salford, M6 8HD

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust

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

Specialty Doctor

Salford, M6 7WQ

Salary:

£82000.00 Type: Permanent Employer: Cygnet Health Care Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [12]

• 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) [13]

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) [14]

Dermatology Doctor

London, SE14 6BL Salary: Negotiable Type: Bank Employer: CHEC Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [15]

• Dermatology Doctor

Wandsworth, SW18 4WW

Salary: Negotiable Type: Bank Employer: CHEC <u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window)</u> [16]

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) [17]

Dermatology Doctor

Leicester, LE1 2BU Salary: £550.00 Type: Bank Employer: CHEC Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [18]

• 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) [19]

• ENT Doctor

Leeds, LS16 6EB Salary: £550.00 Type: Permanent Employer:

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) [21]

• 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) [22]

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) [23]

Dermatology Doctor

Sheffield, S9 1XH
Salary:
£550.00
Туре:
Permanent
Employer:
CHEC
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [24]

• 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) [25]

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) [26]

Dermatology Doctor

Leeds, LS16 6EB Salary: £550.00 Type: Permanent Employer: CHEC Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor job (opens in a new window) [27]

• Specialty Doctor

Blackpool, FY3 8NU
Salary: £80000.00
Туре:
Permanent
Employer:
Cygnet Health Care
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [28]

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) [29]

Specialty Doctor

Chesterfield, S44 5BL

Salary: £59175.00 to £95400.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [30]

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) [31]

Specialty Doctor

London, SE18 4QH Salary: £59175.00 to £95400.00 Type: Permanent Employer: Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [32]

Specialty Doctor

Sheffield, S2 3PX Salary: £82500.00 Type: Permanent Employer: Cygnet Health Care Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [33]

• 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) [34]

Specialty Doctor

Mapplewell, S75 6AJ

Salary:

£68174.00 to £95400.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [35]

• Specialist Doctor in Cardiology

Wolverhampton, WV10 0QP Salary: £91500.00 to £101089.00 Type: Permanent Employer: The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Doctor in Cardiology job (opens in a new window) [36]

• Trust Doctor in Haematology

Leeds, LS9 7TF Salary: £61825.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: Leeds Teaching Hospitals Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor in Haematology job (opens in a new window) [37]

• Specialty Doctor in Dermatology

Chorley, PR7 1PP

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Dermatology job (opens in a new window) [38]

• Specialty Doctor in Anaesthesia

Taunton, TA1 5DA Salary: £59175.00 to £95400.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: Somerset NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Anaesthesia job (opens in a new window) [39]

• Specialty Doctor in Neonatology

Derby, DE22 3NE Salary: £59175.00 to £95400.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Neonatology job (opens in a new window) [40]

• Specialist Doctor in Dermatology

Truro, TR1 3LJ Salary: £96990.00 to £107155.00 Type: Permanent Employer: Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Doctor in Dermatology job (opens in a new window) [41]

• Trust Doctor in Anaesthesia

Leeds, LS9 7TF Leeds, LS13EX Salary: £61825.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: Leeds Teaching Hospitals Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor in Anaesthesia job (opens in a new window) [42]

• Speciality Doctor in Urology

York, YO31 8HE

Salary: £59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer: York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor in Urology job (opens in a new window) [43]

• Trust Doctor in Anaesthetics

London, E11 1NR

Salary: £41750.00 to £64288.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: Barts Health NHS Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor in Anaesthetics job (opens in a new window) [44]

Specialty Doctor in ENT

Chester, CH2 1UL

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in ENT job (opens in a new window)

[45]

• Speciality Doctor in Ophthalmology

Carmarthen, SA31 2AF

Salary: £59727.00 to £95400.00 Type: Permanent Employer: Hywel Dda University Health Board <u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor in Ophthalmology job (opens in a</u> new window) [46]

Specialty Doctor in Dentistry

London, WC1E 6DG

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Dentistry job (opens in a new window) [47]

• Specialist Doctor in Ophthalmology

Chesterfield, S445BL

Salary:

£96990.00 to £107155.00 Type: Permanent Employer: Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust <u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Doctor in Ophthalmology job (opens in a</u> <u>new window)</u> [48]

Specialty Doctor in Dermatology

Gorleston, NR31 6LA

Salary:

£59175.00 to £95400.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

James Paget University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Dermatology job (opens in a new window) [49]

• Specialty Doctor in Dermatology

Bodelwyddan, LL18 5UJ Salary: £59727.00 to £95400.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Dermatology job (opens in a new window) [50]

• Trust doctor in Anaesthetics

London, E11 1NR Salary: £49909.00 to £61825.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: Barts Health NHS Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust doctor in Anaesthetics job (opens in a new window) [51]

• Locum Consultant Immunologist

Oxford, OX3 9DU

Salary:

£105504.00 to £139882.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

```
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Consultant Immunologist job (opens in a new
window) [52]
```

• 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) [53]

• Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine

Swindon, SN3 6BB

Salary: £59175.00 to £95400.00 Type: Permanent Employer: Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust <u>Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window)</u> [54]

• Trust Doctor in Geriatric Medicine

```
London, E11 1NR
Salary:
£41750.00 to £64288.00
Type:
Fixed-Term
Employer:
Barts Health NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor in Geriatric Medicine job (opens in a new
window) [55]
```

• Trust Doctor in Geriatric Medicine

London, E13 8SL Salary: £41750.00 to £64288.00 Type: Fixed-Term Employer: Barts Health NHS Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor in Geriatric Medicine job (opens in a new window) [56]

Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine

Bodelwyddan, LL18 5UJ Salary: Negotiable Type: Fixed-Term Employer: Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [57]

• Specialty Doctor in Clinical Haematology

```
Carlisle, CA2 7HY
Salary:
£59175.00 to £95400.00
Type:
Fixed-Term
Employer:
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Clinical Haematology job (opens in
a new window) [58]
```

• 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) [59]

• 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) [60]

Specialty Doctor in Learning Disability

```
Southampton, SO40 2RZ
Salary:
£59175.00 to £95400.00
Type:
Permanent
Employer:
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Learning Disability job (opens in a
new window) [61]
```

Specialty Doctor in Forensic Psychiatry

Southampton, SO40 2RZ Salary: £59175.00 to £95400.00 Type: Permanent Employer: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Forensic Psychiatry job (opens in a new window) [62]

Further information

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

Royal College of Physicians [63]

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh [64]

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow [65]

Royal College of Pathologists [66]

British Society for Immunology [67]

And hear from <u>Scott Pereira</u> [68] who's already working as a doctor in immunology.

Other roles that may interest you

- Rheumatology [69]
- Infectious diseases [70]
- Allergy [71]
- Dermatology [72]

Source URL: https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/rolesdoctors/medicine/immunology?field_field_role=284&page=6&destination=/my-account/mybookmarks/3782

Links

[1] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Quality_assurance [2] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Foundation_training [3] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/career-opportunities-doctors/sas-doctors[4] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/pay-doctors [5] https://foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/ [6] https://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/ [7] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9216-25-0598 [8] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9271-25-0314 [9] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9271-25-0354 [10] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9411-25-0203 [11] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9236-25-0830 [12] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0233-25-1004 [13] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0148 [14] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0162 [15] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0165 [16] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0164 [17] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0160 [18] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0125 [19] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0145 [20] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0153 [21] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0158 [22] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0166 [23] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0161 [24] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0149 [25] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9196-24-3040 [26] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0132 [27] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0155 [28] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0233-25-1040 [29] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0146 [30]

https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9166-25-0238[31] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0163 [32] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9197-25-0453 [33] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0233-25-1154 [34] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0123-25-0151 [35] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9378-B2101A [36] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9225-25-0184 [37] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9298-MED-746 [38] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9438-25-0195 [39] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9184-25-0788 [40] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9320-25-0605 [41] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9156-25-0241 [42] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9298-MED-693B [43] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9419-25-0423 [44] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9259-25-1128 [45] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9210-25-0263 [46] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9100-25-0578 [47] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9309-25-0519 [48] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9166-25-0244 [49] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9177-25-0176 [50] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9050-25-1425 [51] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9259-25-1091 [52] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9321-25-0580 [53] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/B0460-25-0017 [54] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9249-25-0215 [55] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9259-25-1083 [56] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9259-25-1130 [57] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9050-25-1454 [58] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9262-25-0531 [59] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9421-25-0363 [60] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/B0057-25-0008 [61] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9348-25-1250 [62] https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9348-25-1254 [63] http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/ [64] http://www.rcpe.ac.uk/ [65] http://www.rcpsg.ac.uk [66] http://www.rcpath.org/careers/immunology [67] https://www.immunology.org/ [68] http://careers.bmj.com/careers/advice/view-article.html?id=430 [69] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/rheumatology [70] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/infectious-diseases [71] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/allergy [72] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/medicine/dermatology