Genitourinary medicine

Doctors working in genitourinary medicine diagnose and treat people with sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV.

Your role is to detect and manage, prevent and control STIs, and manage a number of non-infectious genital conditions such as dermatoses.

Life as a doctor in genitourinary medicine

Your role is mostly outpatient or clinic based. As a trainee, you’ll be expected to conduct a minimum number of HIV outpatient clinics per week and once you’re a specialist, you’ll see 10–20 clinic patients over a two-day period.

Your time spent in hospital will be on wards caring for HIV patients. You’ll participate in ward rounds and consult with other doctors and nurses. HIV patients often have complex medical problems as well as various psychological challenges.

Most of your patients will be young adults from a broad cultural and social mix and represent
all sexual orientations. Otherwise, the majority of your patients will be fit and healthy.

Bacterial STIs are curable and, while some viral STIs cannot be cured, they can be managed successfully.

You’ll find that most patients are extremely grateful for your diagnosis, treatment and advice, for example on how to communicate with sexual partners. The focus on access, education and care can make your role particularly satisfying.

You’ll see patients with a range of STIs including:

- chlamydia
- genital herpes
- genital warts
- gonorrhoea
- syphilis
- HIV
- vaginal infections
- pelvic infection and inflammation
- genital infestations such as scabies and pubic lice

Common procedures and interventions include:

- a sexual screen which may include an examination to take genital microbiological samples
- treatment with the use of specific antimicrobials (agents that kill or inhibit the growth of micro-organisms)
- outpatient minor surgical procedures such as cryocautery (a procedure that uses very high temperatures to treat the female genital tract)
- light microscopy and dark ground microscopy (where the field around the specimen is dark)
- skin biopsies and the insertion and removal of contraceptive devices including contraceptive implants and intra-uterine devices (IUDs)

How much can I earn?

You’ll first earn a salary when you start your foundation training after medical school. The basic salary ranges from £32,398 to £37,303. Once you start your specialty training in the NHS, you can expect to earn a salary of at least £43,923, which can increase to between £93,666 and £126,281 as a consultant.

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
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

In addition, doctors in genitourinary medicine need to demonstrate:

- an open-minded, sensitive, non-judgemental approach
- tolerance of all patients regardless of age, race, gender or sexuality
- a holistic approach to patient care

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 genitourinary medicine?

In 2021, there were 227 consultants in genitourinary medicine in the NHS in England. In addition, there were 30 applications for 38 training places.

How to become a doctor in genitourinary medicine

After medical school, you’ll join the paid two-year foundation programme where you’ll work in six placements in different settings.

After your foundation programme, you can apply for paid specialty training to become a doctor in genitourinary medicine, 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 genitourinary medicine can
take you

You could:

- specialise or conduct research
- teach medical students or postgraduate students in training
- get involved in research at universities, the NHS or private sector

Live vacancies

Find a vacancy

Consultant in Genitourinary Medicine, HIV and Sexual Health

Telford and Stoke on Trent, TF3 4JE

Salary:
£93666.00 to £126281.00

Type:
Permanent

Employer:
Inclusion

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Genitourinary Medicine, HIV and Sexual Health job (opens in a new window) [5]

Specialty Doctor Emergency Medicine

Blackpool, FY3 8NR

Salary:
£52530.00 to £82400.00

Type:
Permanent

Employer:
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [6]

**Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine**

Redhill, RH1 5RH

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00  
Type: Permanent  
Employer: Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust  
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [7]

**Specialty Doctor Emergency Medicine (EDGH)**

Eastbourne, BN21 2UD

Salary: Negotiable  
Type: Fixed-Term  
Employer: East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust  
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Emergency Medicine (EDGH) job (opens in a new window) [8]

**Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine**

Carlisle, CA2 7LL

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00  
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) [9]

**Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine**

Hull, HU16 5JQ

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine

Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine job (opens in a new window) [10]

Specialty Doctor in Elderly Medicine

Luton, LU4 0DZ

Salary: £52530.00 to £84000.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Elderly Medicine job (opens in a new window) [11]

Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine

BLACKBURN, BB2 3HH

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [12]

Speciality Doctor in Emergency Medicine

Uxbridge, UB8 3NN

Salary: £50373.00 to £78759.00
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) [13]

Specialty Doctor in Paediatric Emergency Medicine
Tunbridge Wells, TN2 4QJ

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Paediatric Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [14]

Trust Doctor @ CTI in General Medicine

Barnstaple, EX31 4JB

Salary: £47235.00 to £47235.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor @ CTI in General Medicine job (opens in a new window) [15]

Trust Doctor (Registrar) in Paediatric Emergency Medicine

London, E13 8SL

Salary: £43923.00 to £55329.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Barts Health NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor (Registrar) in Paediatric Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [16]

Trust Doctor (CT1-2 equiv) in Medicine

Worthing or Chichester, PO19 6SE

Salary: £33790.00 to £44705.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (279)
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor (CT1-2 equiv) in Medicine job (opens in a new window) [17]
Trust doctor in Geriatric and Perioperative Medicine

Oxford, OX3 9DU

Salary: £63152.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust doctor in Geriatric and Perioperative Medicine job (opens in a new window) [18]

Junior Specialist Doctor (Higher) in Emergency Medicine - HGS

Birmingham, B9 5SS
Sutton Coldfield, B75 7RR

Salary: £51017.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Junior Specialist Doctor (Higher) in Emergency Medicine - HGS job (opens in a new window) [19]

Specialist Doctor in Frailty / Geriatric Emergency Medicine Service

Weston-Super-Mare, BS23 4TQ

Salary: £83945.00 to £95275.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW)
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Doctor in Frailty / Geriatric Emergency Medicine Service job (opens in a new window) [20]

Trust Doctor (CT1-2 equivalent) in Emergency Medicine

Torquay, TQ2 7AA

Salary: £43923.00
Type:
Fixed-Term
Employer: Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor (CT1-2 equivalent) in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window)

Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine (part time - fixed term)

Warrington, WA5 0BW

Salary: Negotiable
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: St. Rocco’s Hospice
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Palliative Medicine (part time - fixed term) job (opens in a new window)

Trust Doctor in Neonatal Medicine with Neonatal Transport ST3+

Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4LP

Salary: £55329.00 to £63152.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor in Neonatal Medicine with Neonatal Transport ST3+ job (opens in a new window)

Salaried Doctor

London, N7 9EW

Salary: Negotiable
Type: Permanent
Employer: The Goodinge Group Practice
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Salaried Doctor job (opens in a new window)

Bank Doctor

Victoria Road, Macclesfield, SK10 3BL

Salary:
Negotiable
Type:
   Bank
Employer:
   East Cheshire NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Bank Doctor job (opens in a new window) [25]

**Specialty Doctor**

Wigan, WN3 4NW

Salary:
   £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type:
   Permanent
Employer:
   Greater Manchester Mental Health NHSFT
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [26]

**Bank Doctor**

Somerset, TA1 5DA

Salary:
   £35.00 to £150.00
Type:
   Bank
Employer:
   Somerset NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Bank Doctor job (opens in a new window) [27]

**Locum Doctor**

Southall, UB1 2LU

Salary:
   Negotiable
Type:
   Locum
Employer:
   Dormers Wells Medical Centre
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Doctor job (opens in a new window) [28]

**Specialty Doctor**

Hammersmith and Fulham, W6 8NF

Salary:
   £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: West London NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [29]

Speciality Doctor
Gravesend, DA11 0DG
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor job (opens in a new window) [30]

Specialist Doctor
Chertsey, KT16 0PZ
Salary: £81500.00 to £92500.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Ashford & St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Doctor job (opens in a new window) [31]

Specialty Doctor
Hammersmith and Fulham, W6 8NF
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: West London NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [32]

Specialty Doctor
Crawley Down, RH10 4HY
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type:
Fixed-Term
Employer:
  Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [33]

**Specialty Doctor**

Poole, BH15 2JB

Salary:
  £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type:
  Permanent
Employer:
  University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [34]

**Practice Doctor**

Liverpool, L4 4PP
Liverpool, L8 6QP
Liverpool, L7 6HD
Liverpool, L5 2QA
Liverpool, L11 0AG

Salary:
  Negotiable
Type:
  Permanent
Employer:
  Bousfield Health Centre
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Practice Doctor job (opens in a new window) [35]

**Specialty Doctor Anaesthetics**

Dorchester, DT1 2JY

Salary:
  £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type:
  Permanent
Employer:
  Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Anaesthetics job (opens in a new window) [36]

**Specialty Doctor Ophthalmology**
Wigan, WN6 7BL

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Wrightington Wigan & Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Ophthalmology job (opens in a new window) [37]

**Specialty Doctor - Ophthalmology**

Barrow in Furness, LA14 4LF

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Ophthalmology job (opens in a new window) [38]

**Havens Speciality Doctor**

London, SE5 9RS

Salary: Negotiable
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Havens Speciality Doctor job (opens in a new window) [39]

**Speciality Doctor Dementia**

Worthing, BN13 3EP

Salary: £51000.00 to £80000.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor Dementia job (opens in a new window) [40]
Specialty Doctor - SDEC

Lancaster, LA1 4RP

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - SDEC job (opens in a new window) [41]

Bank Specialty Doctor

Trustwide, BA1 3QE

Salary: £55.00
Type: Bank
Employer: Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Bank Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [42]

Specialty Doctor CAMHS

Northampton, NN1 5DG

Salary: Negotiable
Type: Permanent
Employer: St Andrew’s Healthcare
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor CAMHS job (opens in a new window) [43]

Specialty Doctor - Anaesthetics

Harrogate, HG2 7SX

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Anaesthetics job (opens in a new window) [44]
Specialty Doctor - Anaesthetics

Lancaster, LA1 4RP

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Anaesthetics job (opens in a new window)

Specialty Doctor CAMHS

Barnstaple, EX31 3UD

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Devon Partnership NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor CAMHS job (opens in a new window)

Trust Doctor- Sarcoma

Stanmore, HA7 4LP

Salary: £37068.00 to £57570.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor- Sarcoma job (opens in a new window)

Specialty Doctor - Birmingham

Birmingham, B30 2XR

Salary: Negotiable
Type: Permanent
Employer: St Andrew’s Healthcare
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Birmingham job (opens in a new window)
Orthopaedics SHO Doctor

Douglas, IM4 4RJ

Salary: £46694.00 to £57995.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Manx Care
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Orthopaedics SHO Doctor job (opens in a new window)

Specialty Doctor (Innovative)

Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 3XT

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: CNTW NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor (Innovative) job (opens in a new window)

Community Specialist Doctor

60 Draycott Rd Sawley, NG10 3FR

Salary: £10200.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Erewash Health Partnership
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Community Specialist Doctor job (opens in a new window)

Specialty Doctor Ophthalmology

Shoreham by Sea, BN43 6TQ

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer:
  University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (279)
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Ophthalmology job (opens in a new window) [52]

ENT Specialty Doctor

Plymouth, PL6 8DH

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer:
  University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for ENT Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [53]

Trust Grade Doctor

Sunderland, SR4 7TP
South Shields, NE34 0PL

Salary: £55329.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer:
  South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Grade Doctor job (opens in a new window) [54]

Trust Grade Doctor

Sunderland, SR4 7TP
South Shields, NE34 0PL

Salary: £55329.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer:
  South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Grade Doctor job (opens in a new window) [54]

Locum Speciality Doctor

Stalybridge, SK15 2AU

Salary: Negotiable
ENT Specialty Doctor

Dorchester, DT1 2JY

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00

Type: Permanent

Employer: Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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

Consultant in Respiratory Medicine (Chest Medicine)

Dartford, DA2 8DA

Salary: £93666.00 to £126281.00

Type: Permanent

Employer: Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust

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

Specialist Doctor in Anaesthetics

Scarborough, YO12 6QL

Salary: Negotiable

Type: Permanent

Employer: York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Doctor in Anaesthetics job (opens in a new window)

Specialty Doctor Community Paediatrics

Weston-super-Mare, BS23 3NT
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Sirona care & health CIC
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Community Paediatrics job (opens in a new window) [59]

Specialty Doctor In Psychiatry

Andover, SP10 3LB

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor In Psychiatry job (opens in a new window) [60]

Specialty Doctor - Cardiothoracic Surgery

Newcastle under Lyme, ST4 6QG

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: University Hospital of North Midlands NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Cardiothoracic Surgery job (opens in a new window) [61]

Specialty Doctor in Haematology

Warwick, CV34 4BW

Salary: Negotiable
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Haematology job (opens in a new window) [62]
Specialty Doctor in Radiology

Southall, UB1 3HW

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Radiology job (opens in a new window) [63]

Further information

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

British Association for Sexual Health and HIV [64]
British HIV Association [65]
The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London [66]
Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare [67]

Other roles that may interest you

- Obstetrics and gynaecology [68]
- Paediatric cardiology [69]
- General practitioner [70]
- Medical microbiology and virology (doctor) [71]

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

Links
[1] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Foundation_training