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 [1] 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

Chatham, ME4 4DT

Salary: £93666.00 to £126281.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Consultant in Genitourinary Medicine/HIV job (opens in a new window) [5]

Specialty Doctor Acute Medicine

Grimsby / Scunthorpe, DN33 2BA

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer:
Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Acute Medicine job (opens in a new window)  

**Specialty Doctor - Emergency Medicine**

Bournemouth, BH7 7DW

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window)  

**Specialist Doctor Community Medicine**

Bracknell, GU9 9QL

Salary: £80693.00 to £91584.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Doctor Community Medicine job (opens in a new window)  

**Specialty Doctor Geriatric Medicine**

Bath, BA1 3NG

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Geriatric Medicine job (opens in a new window)  

**Speciality Doctor in Geriatric 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 Speciality Doctor in Geriatric Medicine job (opens in a new window) [10]

Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine

Newport, PO30 5TG

Salary:
Negotiable
Type:
Fixed-Term
Employer:
Isle of Wight NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [11]

ST3+ Trust Doctor - General Medicine

Blackpool, FY3 8NR

Salary:
£55329.00
Type:
Permanent
Employer:
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for ST3+ Trust Doctor - General Medicine job (opens in a new window) [12]

Specialty Doctor in Frailty Medicine

Crewe, CW1 4QJ

Salary:
£52530.00 to £82400.00
Type:
Permanent
Employer:
Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Frailty Medicine job (opens in a new window) [13]

Specialty Doctor in Rehabilitation Medicine
Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine

Preston, PR2 9HT

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Emergency Medicine job (opens in a new window) [15]

Specialty Doctor in Elderly Care Medicine

Petersfield, GU32 3LB

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Elderly Care Medicine job (opens in a new window) [16]

Trust Doctor ST3+ Emergency Medicine HH

Huntingdon, PE29 6NT

Salary: £55329.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor ST3+ Emergency Medicine HH job (opens in a new window) [17]
Specialty Doctor in Elderly Care Medicine

Gosport, PO12 3PW

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Elderly Care Medicine job (opens in a new window) [18]

Trust Doctor in Emergency Medicine (ST3 Equivalent)

Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4LP

Salary: £55329.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Doctor in Emergency Medicine (ST3 Equivalent) job (opens in a new window) [19]

Specialty Doctor in Anaesthesia & Intensive Care Medicine

Crewe, CW1 4QJ

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Anaesthesia & Intensive Care Medicine 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 Musculoskeletal and Sport and Exercise Medicine**

Leicester, LE5 4PW

Salary:
£52530.00 to £82400.00

Type:
Permanent

Employer:
University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Musculoskeletal and Sport and Exercise Medicine job (opens in a new window)

**Specialty Doctor**

Yorkshire and Humber, HG1 2JL

Salary:
£85000.00 to £85000.00

Type:
Permanent

Employer:
Cygnet Health Care

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

**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)

**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) [25]

Specialty Doctor
London and South East, CO4 5HF
Salary: £85000.00 to £85000.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Cygnet Health Care
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [26]

Specialty Doctor
Rochdale, OL12 9QB
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Pennine Care NHS FT
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [27]

Specialty Doctor
Chester, CH2 4DG
Salary: Negotiable
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Hospice of the Good Shepherd
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [28]

Specialty Doctor
London, UB1 3EU
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Specialty Doctor

Milton Keynes, MK6 5NG

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent

Employer: Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust

Speciality Doctor (Bank)

Lewes, BN8 4ED

Salary: Negotiable
Type: Bank

Employer: St Peter & St James Hospice

Specialty Doctor - Haematology

Steeton, BD20 6TD

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent

Employer: Airedale NHS Foundation Trust

Speciality Doctor - Ophthalmology

Harlow, CM20 1QX

Salary: £51000.00 to £80000.00
Type:
Permanent
Employer:
The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor - Ophthalmology job (opens in a new window) [33]

**Dermatology Doctor - Coventry**

Coventry/Remote, CV3 6HJ

Salary: £208000.00 to £249600.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Vita Health Group
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor - Coventry job (opens in a new window) [34]

**Dermatology Doctor - Calderdale**

Calderdale/Remote, OL15 5RN

Salary: £208000.00 to £249600.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Vita Health Group
 Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dermatology Doctor - Calderdale job (opens in a new window) [35]

**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) [36]

**Speciality Doctor - Haematology**

Chertsey, KT16 0PZ
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Ashford & St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor - Haematology job (opens in a new window) [37]

Specialty Doctor - Gastroenterology

Ashton-Under-Lyne, OL6 9RW

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Gastroenterology job (opens in a new window) [38]

Specialty Doctor Ophthalmology

Chelmsford, CM17ET

Salary: £52530.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Ophthalmology job (opens in a new window) [39]

Speciality Doctor - Ophthalmology

Southport and Ormskirk, L39 2AZ

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor - Ophthalmology job (opens in a new window) [40]
Locum Speciality Doctor
Stalybridge, SK15 2AU
Salary: Negotiable
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Pennine Care NHS FT
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Speciality Doctor job (opens in a new window)[41]

Specialty Doctor (Innovative)
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 3XT
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and wear (CNTW) NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor (Innovative) job (opens in a new window)[42]

Specialty Doctor - Ophthalmology
Trust wide, DN33 2BA
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Ophthalmology job (opens in a new window)[43]

Specialty Doctor Anaesthesia
Bournemouth, BH7 7DW
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer:
University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Anaesthesia job (opens in a new window) [44]

***Specialty Doctor Anaesthesia***

Bournemouth, BH7 7DW

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Anaesthesia job (opens in a new window) [44]

***Speciality Doctor Ophthalmology***

Abergele, LL22 8DP

Salary: £52542.00 to £82481.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor Ophthalmology job (opens in a new window) [45]

***Bank - Speciality Doctor***

Maidstone, ME16 9NT

Salary: £60.00
Type: Bank
Employer: Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Bank - Speciality Doctor job (opens in a new window) [46]

***Specialty Doctor Ophthalmology***

Winchester, SO22 5DG

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Ophthalmology job (opens in a new window) [47]

**FY3 Doctor (Psychiatry)**

Leeds, LS9 7BE

Salary: £43923.00 to £55329.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for FY3 Doctor (Psychiatry) job (opens in a new window) [48]

**Trust Grade Doctor**

Whitehaven, CA28 8JG

Salary: £43923.00 to £55329.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and wear (CNTW) NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Trust Grade Doctor job (opens in a new window) [49]

**Speciality Doctor – Rheumatology**

Stoke on Trent, ST6 7AG

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor – Rheumatology job (opens in a new window) [50]

**Specialty Doctor EI**

Great Yarmouth, NR30 1BU
Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Norfolk & Suffolk Foundation NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor EI job (opens in a new window)

Event Doctor (Casual)

Jarrow, NE32 5NN

Salary: Negotiable
Type: Bank
Employer: XL Team LTD
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Event Doctor (Casual) job (opens in a new window)

Senior Clinical Fellow - Geriatric Medicine / General Medicine

Stockport, SK2 7JE

Salary: £37068.00 to £57570.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Stockport NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Clinical Fellow - Geriatric Medicine / General Medicine job (opens in a new window)

Specialist Grade in General Medicine/Geriatric Medicine

Ystrad Mynach, CF82 7GP

Salary: £83963.00 to £95296.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Grade in General Medicine/Geriatric Medicine job (opens in a new window)

Specialty Doctor in Haematology
Maidstone, ME16 9QQ

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor in Haematology job (opens in a new window) [55]

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) [56]

Speciality Doctor Liaison Psychiatry

Bury, BL9 7TD

Salary: Negotiable
Type: Permanent
Employer: Pennine Care NHS FT
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor Liaison Psychiatry job (opens in a new window) [57]

Specialty Doctor Lambeth CAMHS

London, SE11 6JJ

Salary: Negotiable
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor Lambeth CAMHS job (opens in a new window) [58]
Locum Ophthalmology Specialty Doctor

Huddersfield, HD3 3EA

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Ophthalmology Specialty Doctor job (opens in a new window) [59]

Specialty Doctor - Arun ATS

Littlehampton, BN17 7QU

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor - Arun ATS job (opens in a new window) [60]

Specialty Doctor- Haematology SAS

Northampton, NN1 5BD

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Permanent
Employer: Northampton General Hospital
Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialty Doctor- Haematology SAS job (opens in a new window) [61]

Trust Doctor in Anaesthetics

London, E11 1NR

Salary: £42321.00 to £57570.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer:
Speciality Doctor in Urology

Doncaster, DN2 5LT

Salary: £52530.00 to £82400.00
Type: Fixed-Term
Employer: Doncaster & Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS FT

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Speciality Doctor in Urology job (opens in a new window)

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
British HIV Association
The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London
Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare

Other roles that may interest you

- Obstetrics and gynaecology
- Paediatric cardiology
- General practitioner
- Medical microbiology and virology (doctor)

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