

Psychiatrist

What is it?

A psychiatrist is a medical doctor who specializes in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of mental health conditions. Unlike other mental health professionals, such as psychologists and counsellors, psychiatrists must be medically qualified doctors who have chosen to specialize in psychiatry.

Qualifications/Experience Required:

Candidates must initially train as a hospital doctor by completing a medical degree that is approved by the General Medical Council (GMC). Entry requirements for medical schools are very high A Levels results in relevant subjects such as science and maths.

What the Work Involves:

Psychiatrists are doctors who have undergone further training in psychiatry. As a psychiatrist, you will diagnose mental health problems by talking to patients and carrying out tests. You will treat people with a range of mental health problems and often conduct specialist research, depending on your area of professional interest.

Future Prospects – Labour Market Information:

Most Psychiatrists work for the NHS throughout the UK. There is also a small amount of work available in the private sector. There are 6 specialist areas of psychiatry such as adult, child and adolescent

Medical practitioners (SOC3)

Standard Occupational Classification

UK jobs: 237,849

Durham jobs: 1,154 (74th of 214 UK LEAs)

Type of person who may be suited to this job:

You will need to be patient and caring. You will need excellent communication skills to listen carefully to people who might be confused or withdrawn. You will work with relevant carers, and as part of a team with other medical staff such as Psychiatric nurses and occupational therapists.

Money/Wage Guide:

Earnings as a graduate can range from £25,000 to £30,000. With experience increasing to £35,000 to £60,000.

You could earn in excess of £65,000 if you are highly experienced.

Related Opportunities:

- Doctor (GP)
- Hospital Doctor
- Pathologist
- Psychoanalyst/Psychotherapist

Further Information:

British Medical Association:

www.bma.org.uk

Health Careers:

www.haealthcareers.nhs.uk

Royal College of Psychiatrists:

www.rcpsych.ac.uk