



WORK INSPIRATION – Pathology

Pathology provides an understanding of the process of disease and is multidisciplinary. A career in pathology offers a range of clinical, research and laboratory opportunities.

General Careers Resources/Information

- **Institute of Biomedical Sciences** has:
 - Day in the life of a [Biomedical Scientist in Cellular Pathology](#)
 - Day in the life of a [Senior Biomedical Scientist in Cellular Pathology](#)
 - Celebrating National Pathology Week (Nov. 2021), they have a [series of videos](#) on how samples are processed
- **NHS Healthcare Careers** website has a section on Pathology:
 - [Medical role](#) in Pathology
 - Career in [Chemical Pathology](#) and [the real life story](#) of Dr Andrew Day, a consultant at Bristol Royal Infirmary
- What is a [Histopathology Doctor](#)? [Meet Dr Azam](#) who likes the problem-solving aspect and diversity of work in histopathology. [Find out about the career of Dr Andrew Salmons](#), a Consultant in Cellular Pathology
- What is [Anatomical Pathology](#)?
- [Real life story](#) - Saghar began her career in the 1990s as a trainee biomedical scientist in cellular pathology and is now managing director of South West London Pathology
- A [career in Cytopathology](#), this branch of pathology involves the study and diagnosis of diseases at the cellular level using a light microscope
- **National Careers Service** has information on the career as a [Pathologist](#)
- Career of a [Forensic Pathologist](#) in Australia

- **Indeed Career Guide** has an article on [What is Pathology?](#) and [How to become a Pathologist](#)
- **Prospects**, find out all about the [role of a Pathologist](#)
- **Royal College of Pathologists** – Have a range of resources and information for students:
 - Discover more about the [career](#) of a **Clinical Scientist** and [meet](#) some of the people in these roles
 - A section on the different ways into Pathology whether through the science or medical route – find out all the information needed [here](#)
 - [What](#) is Pathology?
 - Explore the range of [careers in Pathology](#)
 - Focus on the [careers for scientists](#)
 - Focus on the [careers for doctors](#)
 - Focus on the [careers for vets](#)
 - Lung cancer is one of the UK's most common cancers – find out what role pathologists play in its prevention and diagnosis. Read more about the role of a [Histopathologist](#)
 - Find out about other careers in the Pathology field – from [Anatomical Pathology Technicians to Phlebotomists](#)
- **The Royal College of Pathologists** [YouTube channel](#) has a selection of videos:
 - [Careers Talk by Dr Rachel Liebmann](#), she is a Histopathologist
 - A Living Autopsy – What Happens During an Autopsy? [Dr Suzy Lishman, Consultant Histopathologist](#) explains how histopathologists work through the different sections and organs of the body to determine the cause of death. Please be aware although there is no blood, no body parts or dead bodies, you may find this uncomfortable.
 - A selection of [Interviews with Pathologists](#)
 - A brief outline of the [roles within Pathology](#)

- The journey of a [biopsy](#)
- The journey of a [blood sample](#)

- **Medical Schools Council** have a Radiography and Pathology careers [talk](#) (February 2021)

Local Focus

- **Northern Ireland Pathology Information Services (NIPIMS)** - After 40 years working in Microbiology Mark Clarke is now their Business Change Manager for the Blood Production and Tracking Project and is passionate about his career. He shared his story for National Pathology Week (Nov. 2021).
 - For 40 years he worked for the Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service as a Transfusion Microbiology Laboratory Manager and now is part of the NIPIMS team. He has devoted his life to making a difference to the Northern Ireland public – [his first video is a 'A Calling'](#)
 - His [second video – Making a Difference to Patient Care](#), Mark hopes to inspire a new wave of Pathology Professionals to join existing colleagues across the HSCNI Pathology Network and gives an insight into why he has loved his job so much.
 - In his [third video](#) he discussed how lab professionals across Northern Ireland, have gone above and beyond for decades, especially during challenging times.... especially during the Troubles.
- **Belfast Health and Social Care Trust** resources to allow you to explore the career:
 - [Meet Claire](#) a Senior Biomedical Scientist in Cytopathology/Cellular Pathology. She gives us a quick summary of her role and explains why it's of such vital importance in the diagnosis and treatment of disease
 - Alan McCandless is a [Biomedical Scientist](#) in the Institute of Pathology, Royal Hospital

- Have a tour around the [Institute of Pathology](#) and see the work of the team
- The Trust has over 700+ lab staff – this is the vast array of [services they provide](#)

Belfast Trust Lab at a Glance

- 31 Million+** Tests Annually
- 70%** Pathology is involved in over 70% of diagnoses
- 700+** Staff
- 24/7** Reliable, fast & efficient service to meet our patients needs

Pathology: The Science behind the Cure

- Clinical Immunology**: Study of diseases caused by the immune system
- Microbiology & Virology**: Test Patient samples to look for evidence of infection ie: MRSA / COVID-19
- Blood Transfusion**: Ensuring blood is transfused safely for a diverse range of patients
- Point of Care**: Tests performed nearer to the Patient ie: Ward/Clinic or by District Nurse / GP surgery
- Cellular Pathology**: Looks at tissues (Histopathology) and or cells (Cytology) to diagnose disease processes ie: cancer
- Haematology**: The study of blood cells to diagnose and treat blood disorders ie: if your blood doesn't clot properly
- Clinical Biochemistry**: The analysis of body fluids such as urine and blood to detect an illness or disease.
- Medical Genetics**: Performing, interpreting, and reporting genetic tests that help to diagnose or manage patients with genetic disorders.
- Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics (H&I)**: Analysis of blood and tissue to ensure compatibility between kidney donors and recipients to support the kidney transplant programme.

Pathology Key Facts: One Day in Belfast Trust

- Biochemistry will analyse approximately 6000 samples to diagnose and monitor treatment for all conditions as any change in health will show up as a biochemical change in your body.
- Microbiology, Virology and the Public Health laboratories will process over 3000 samples and advise on treatment, such as which antibiotic is best to use.
- Cellular Pathology will produce/interpret over 1600 slides from more than 450 patient samples.
- Haematology will analyse over 4000 samples providing information on the blood cells & clotting factors present.

- Did you know that over 70% of all diagnosis made in the **Northern Health and Social Care Trust** are provided by the **Pathology Service**? Clinical Biochemists process over 300 samples daily. Find out more about this vital work [here](#)
- Find out about the day in the life of Jodie a [Biomedical Scientist](#) as she shows how cells are [dissected and tested](#) for assessment in these [images](#).
- Jenny tells us why she loves her job in [Molecular Pathology](#)

- **South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust** has an Ulster Hospital [Laboratory tour](#)

University Information

- **Royal College of Pathologists** look at the [two main training routes into a career in pathology](#) – becoming a medical doctor or a clinical scientist.
- **Queen's University Belfast** - Find out all you need to know about studying [Biomedical Science](#) or [Medicine](#). The [Precision Medicine Centre \(PMC\)](#) is a clinical lab and with digital and molecular pathology at the heart of their work.
- **Ulster University** - Have a look at what courses are available at the [School of Biomedical Sciences](#) which offers a complete range of healthcare, scientific and technical professions in both undergraduate and post graduate programmes
- **WHATUNI** has all the latest information on studying [Pathology related degrees](#) at university
- **UCAS** has a section on the differences between the 3 biomedical sciences including Biomedical Science and Pathology and all the information can be found [here](#)

- **Northern Health and Social Care Trust** have uploaded some information to allow you to explore this varied career path:

- **Belfast Live** [Meet Northern Ireland's young pathologists](#) making a vital contribution to healthcare - "When you say you work in the lab, people automatically think it's all about blood and urine but it's so much more than that." (Antrim Hospital – Nov. 2021)
- The [team at Antrim Area Hospital Labs](#) celebrate the vital work that they undertake

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To find out more about our Work Inspiration programme, please contact [Joanne Mehaffy](#) or visit www.workinspiration-ni.com