

Career of the Week **PHYSIOTHERAPIST**

Physiotherapists work with patients to improve their range of movement and promote health and wellbeing.

You'll be based in a hospital, health centre, nursing home or GP surgery.

You may also visit patients in their own homes.

Examples of day-to-day tasks may include:

- helping patients with spine and joint problems
- helping patients recovering from accidents, sports injuries and strokes
- working with children who have mental or physical disabilities
- helping older people with physical problems become more mobile

You'll work in areas and departments like paediatrics, outpatients, intensive care, women's health and occupational health.

You'll use treatments and techniques like:

- physical manipulation and massage
- therapeutic exercise
- electrotherapy
- ultrasound
- acupuncture
- hydrotherapy

You'll keep accurate records of patients' treatment and progress. Working closely with other health professionals like nurses, occupational therapists, health visitors and social workers will also be an important part of your role.



Skills required

You'll need:

- excellent communication skills
- good manual skills
- the ability to use your initiative
- the ability to be firm yet encouraging
- organisational and administrative skills

UK Entry Requirements

You'll need a physiotherapy degree or postgraduate award approved by the [Health and Care Professions Council \(HCPC\)](#)

Relevant paid or voluntary experience may help you to get on a course. [Health Careers, Do-it](#) and the [Chartered Society of Physiotherapy \(CSP\)](#) have more information about getting work experience.