

WORK EXPERIENCE OVERVIEW: CARDIAC INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

Career profile

Cardiac science involves analysing known and suspected heart disease. Our team carry out crucial diagnostic, monitoring and analytical procedures for patients with known or suspected heart disease.

A day in the life

- Daily coronary care ward rounds from Monday to Friday
- Outpatient clinics including our Rapid Access Chest Pain Clinic
- Ward consultations
- Cardiac pacemaker service including pacemaker implants, pacemaker follow-up and elective pacemaker generator change.
- Comprehensive cardiac investigation service including echocardiography transthoracic and transoesophageal, ambulatory ECG and blood pressure testing, exercise stress testing, with access to invasive investigations such as diagnostic coronary angiography at nearby Queen Alexandra's Hospital, Portsmouth.
- The Island's ambulance service, together with the air ambulance when available, provides for emergency transfer to QA for primary angioplasty treatment of acute myocardial infarction, or alternatively, for pre-hospital thrombolytic therapy as necessary.
- Our Cardiology Ward has 12 beds, used for acute and step-down patients.
- A Heart Failure Specialist Nurse provides out-patient support, to patients with known heart failure, after referral from either primary, or secondary care.
- A Cardiac Rehabilitation service that is provided for patients recovering from heart attacks and cardiac surgery.



Learning objective

Whatever stage of your life you are at, you'll find a route into healthcare science. As well as undergraduate degrees and the NHS Scientist Training programme for graduates, there are entry level roles and apprenticeship opportunities, including a growing number of degree-level apprenticeships. This two-day experience introduces you to what a career in Cardiac Physiology involves, how it functions as part of a wider multidisciplinary team, and the skills you need to do the job and how you can become a member of NHS staff.

Further reading

[SCST | The Society for Cardiac Science and Technology \(SCST\)](#)

[Home \(bsecho.org\)](#)

[The Health and Care Professions Council \(HCPC\) | \(hcpc-uk.org\)](#)

[Cardiac sciences | Health Careers](#)