

Career Spotlight

CLINICAL SCIENTIST IN BIOCHEMISTRY



What is clinical biochemistry?

Clinical biochemistry involves the analysis of body fluids. This includes blood, urine, stool and cerebrospinal fluid (the liquid that surrounds your brain and spine!)

Biochemical tests include hormones, proteins, electrolytes, vitamins, sugars, cholesterol, and drugs

This can help diagnose disease, or help doctors decide how best to manage the disease



What does a clinical scientist do?

A clinical scientist works in a hospital laboratory, testing patient samples and carrying out specialist techniques

Interprets test results and advising on any further investigations



Works alongside biomedical scientists, lab assistants, clinical staff and other lab departments like immunology and haematology

Alerts doctors about urgent results
Develops new biochemistry tests

Is this career a good match for me?

If you enjoy learning about science and are interested in patient care, this could be the career for you!

You will also need a strong work ethic, good problem-solving skills and have an eye for detail.



What qualifications do I need?

You will need a degree in a life science subject, like biomedical science, biochemistry, or human biology

You then need to complete a training programme to become a registered Clinical Scientist. Usually, this is done through a 3-year programme called the STP (scientist training programme)



Find out more at
[www.nshcs.hee.nhs.uk/
programmes/stp](http://www.nshcs.hee.nhs.uk/programmes/stp)

