



How to become a dermatologist

A dermatologist is a medically qualified practitioner who has gone on to specialise in medicine and then further specialise in diagnosing and treating skin disease. What do you need to become a Consultant Dermatologist?

- Three or four 'A' levels often at grade A or A*. These must include Chemistry and usually also Biology, Physics or Maths.
- Medical school for five or six years (with or without gaining an intercalated degree) to obtain a basic medical degree (e.g. MBChB, MBBS).
- Foundation training for two years, rotating around different medical and surgical specialties.
- Internal Medicine Training for two more years to gain further experience in medical specialties and to pass examinations to become a member of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCP). (It is also possible to enter dermatology training after doing paediatric rotations and achieving membership of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health).
- Having attained MRCP you may then apply for a training post in dermatology. Currently, this is a very popular specialty and the competition for entry to the specialty is most intense.
- Secure a Dermatology Specialty Registrar (StR) post and train for four years in the specialty.
- Pass the Specialty Certificate Examination (SCE) in Dermatology before the end of training.
- Upon successful completion of the four-year training period, you would become an accredited dermatologist and be able to apply for a consultant dermatologist post.