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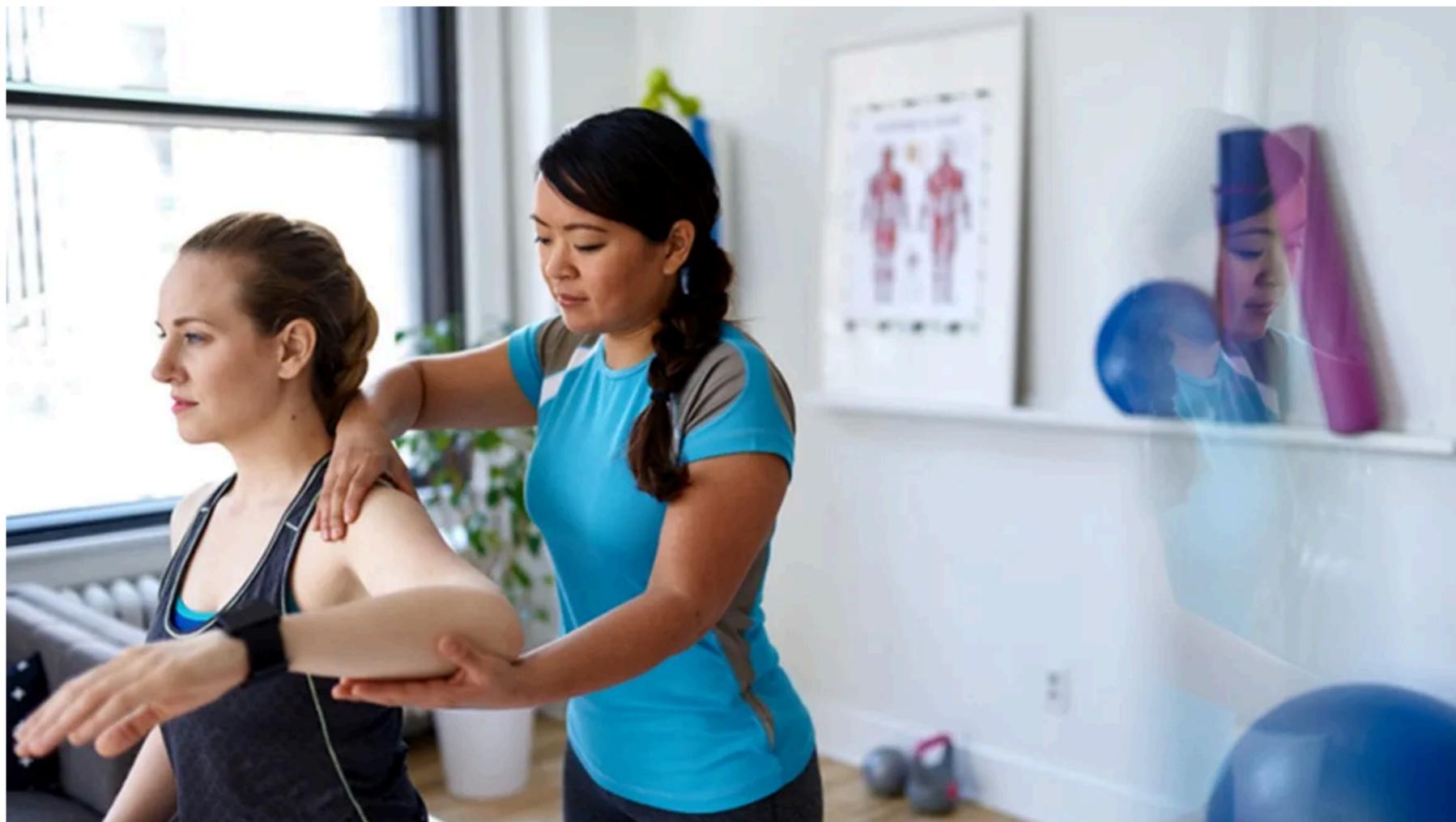
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Physiotherapist



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



What you'll do

You'll be based in a hospital, health centre, nursing home, doctor's surgery, or fitness centre. 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 to become more mobile

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

Record relevant activities you've already done on the [Activities tool](#) >

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work 37.5 hours a week.

You'll probably work in a range of settings. Depending on your specialism, you may work in hospitals, private clinics, in nursing homes, or with professional sports teams.

You're likely to work with patients of all ages, including children and the elderly, and you'll be responsible for their safety during treatments. You may also work as part of a team that includes other healthcare professionals, e.g. doctors, nurses, and occupational therapists.

The role can be physically demanding, as it may involve standing for long periods of time, lifting patients, and performing manual therapy techniques.

Career path and progression

Once you're fully trained as a physiotherapist, you can choose to specialise in one area, such as:

- sports injuries
- critical care
- rehabilitation and pain management
- paediatrics (treatment of infants, children and young people)
- neurology (treating multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease and stroke patients)

With experience, you could become self-employed and set up your own practice. In the NHS, you could progress to senior physiotherapist or move into health service management. You could also move into research or teaching.

Skills required

You'll need:

- a good level of personal fitness, as the work can be physically tiring
- speaking skills, to explain treatments simply to patients
- a caring, tolerant, and patient approach
- the ability to be firm yet encouraging
- organisational and administrative skills
- problem-solving skills
- an interest in learning about anatomy and physiology

Got evidence of these skills? Record your examples on the [Skills tool](#) >

Entry requirements

You'll usually need:

- a physiotherapy degree or postgraduate qualification approved by the relevant professional body in your country (e.g. the Danish Patient Safety Authority, or the Health and Care Professions Council in the UK)
- some relevant experience (paid, voluntary, or through an apprenticeship)
- a background check

Related Know-how guides

Explore Know-how guides related to this career:

- [Get on the ladder: healthcare](#) >
- [Employer profile: British Army, the land branch of the British Armed Forces](#) >
- [Employer profile: NHS, the UK's National Health Service](#) >

Related university subject profiles

These university subjects are related to this career; check out their profiles on the Subjects library:

- [Allied health](#) >
- [Medical sciences](#) >

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Related career profiles

You may also be interested in:

- [Group exercise instructor >](#)
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- [Physiatrist >](#)

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Apprenticeships:

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College / Sixth Form:

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Labour Market Information (LMI)

Current and predicted figures relating to the Physiotherapist profession. Median averages are shown, each with the specific career, or group of careers, that they apply to.

- UK
 USA

Jobs

Therapy professionals

169,927

 **1,439** in your local area of Liverpool

Top 5 local areas

1	Kent	4,680
2	Surrey	4,612
3	Hertfordshire	4,105
4	Hampshire	4,061
5	Essex	3,760

Salaries

Physiotherapists

£40,888

Therapy professionals

£38,184

📍 £35,572 in your region of North West

Top 3 regions

1	Scotland	£42,181
2	West Midlands	£40,767
3	London	£39,785

Growth

2020-2035

Health professionals

+7.2%

↑ 118,954 jobs

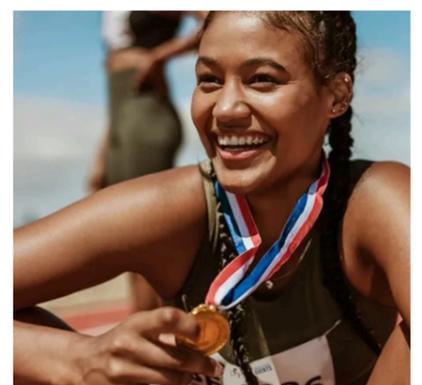
📍 +9.3% in your region of North West, an increase of 15,821 jobs

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Sports professional

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