# Healtheare Science Career of the Week



## Cytopathology

Area of HCS: Life Science Pay scale: Band 4-7 £18k-£55k

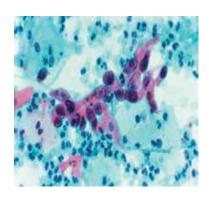
## **AMAZING FACT**

The common name for cytopathology tests is a smear test. This is because the cell samples taken from a patient are smeared across a slide for analysis

Cytopathology use expensive light microscopes to detect diseases at a cellular level and can be split into two specialisms. The first is cervical cytology, which involves the examination of smear samples from cervical cancer screening. The reason for splitting cervical cytology from diagnostic, is probably due to the vast number of tests carried out under the NHS Cervical Cancer Screening Programme.

Under this scheme, over 3million women each year from the age of 25 through to 64, are screened for cervical cancer! Once qualified as a cytopathologist, it is possible to train over about 2 years to qualify and perform the smear test procedure as well.

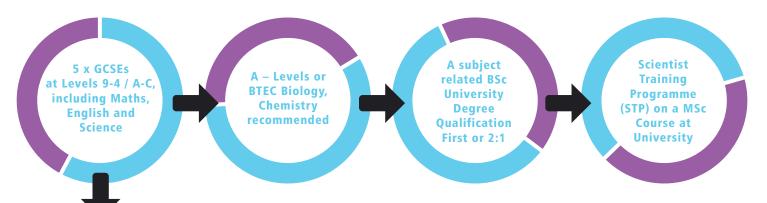
The second specialism is diagnostic cytopathology. Again, the main focus is cancer, but the test samples have come from other parts of the body such as the throat, urinary tract and lymph nodes.



## AMAZING FACT 2

Cervical screening saves around 5000 lives each year in the UK!

### What to do to get into this career...



# Practitioner Training Programme on a Healthcare Science BSc degree in Life Sciences

#### **Top Tip**

Check out the range of courses at University that would be relevant for this career and then check what the entry requirements are for each of them for a more accurate picture.

# Courses to consider at University:

Genetics Immunology Biomedical Science Molecular Biology Cell Biology Physiology Biological Science

# Similar Careers to look for in Life Sciences:

Biochemistry
Pathology
Haematology
Clinical Immunology
Toxicology
Virology



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