

Healthcare Science Career of the Week

Ever been bitten by a spider? Well if you have and it was poisonous you'd want to know one of these guys. They design and create wonderful tests to help the Doctors work out which poison the spider has injected into you.

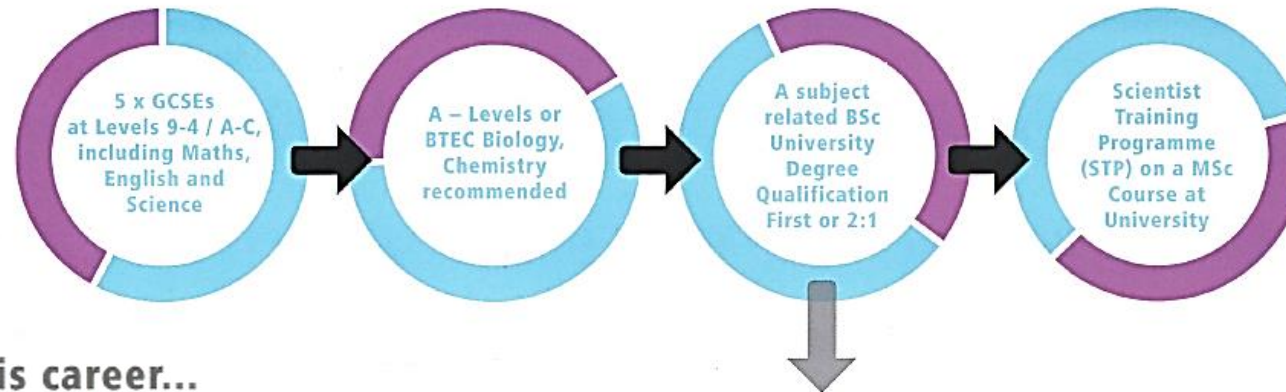
They also work out tests that can tell what drug overdose a patient has taken. This can be from just looking at the patients pains and groans to tests carried out on expensive specialised equipment.

The majority of their day-to-day work is carried out in a lab, working with a host of varied samples such as; blood, urine & stomach contents from patients. Occasionally extracts from the environment are analysed – such as when investigating the source of lead poisoning of patients near to a suspected contaminated lake or river for example.

Analytical Toxicology

AMAZING FACT: In this career you could be checking for poisons, drug overdoses or even chemical agents that have been used in a terrorist attack!

Did you know? If you study on the Scientific Training Programme (STP) you actually get paid to train! How cool is that?



What to do to get into this career...

Courses to consider at University:
Biochemistry
Immunology
Forensic Science

Top Tip

To become an Analytical Toxicologist you usually have to study a science related subject before going onto the Science Training Programme (STP). To get onto a STP course you have to apply for a position via the NHS jobs website. In 2014 there were over 200 STP positions to apply for from the careers in healthcare science.