

**CHAPTER 3  
SECTION 3****POSTGRADUATE DOCTORS AND DENTISTS****NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE: GRADES IN THE HOSPITAL AND  
COMMUNITY HEALTH, GENERAL MEDICAL AND DENTAL HEALTH****1. TRAINING GRADES****1.1. Hospital and community health services**

Overseas doctors undertaking postgraduate training in the Hospital and Community Health Services are eligible for the immigration category permit free training where they hold a substantive or locum appointment in the following grades:

Pre-registration House Officer (PRHO);  
House Officer (dentists only);  
Senior House Officer (SHO);  
Specialist Registrar; *or*

An honorary *NHS* appointment approved by the postgraduate dean in the training grade.

***Please note:***

(i) Following the introduction of the new *Specialist Registrar* during 1996 entry to the *Registrar* and *Senior Registrar* has ceased and the grades have "closed". No new appointments to the *Registrar* and *Senior Registrar* grades will be made from 1 April 1997 other than locum registrar to a registrar post which has not yet closed. Overseas doctors already holding *Registrar* and *Senior Registrar* appointments on 1 April 1997 are eligible to apply for extension to their permit free training period;

(ii) All training grade posts within the Hospital and Community Health Services - as listed above - are excluded from the work permit scheme. Applications by employers to Work Permits (UK) for work permits in the above grades will be refused.

**1.2 General medical or dental services (general practice)**

Medicine: Trainee or "general practice (GP) registrar";

Dentistry: Trainee.

***Please note:***

(i) Overseas doctors or dentists without settled status may be appointed as trainees (GP registrars) but will require a permit provided under the provisions of the Training and Work Experience Scheme (TWES). They are not eligible for permit free training status;

(ii) Doctors employed as pre-registration house officers (PRHOs) are not restricted to employment in a hospital and/or the community health services.

**2. CAREER GRADES****2.1. Hospital and community health services**

The following posts are subject to work permit provisions:

Staff Grade;

Associate Specialist;

Limited Specialist (Scotland only);

Consultant;

Senior Clinical Medical Officer (SCMO) (see notes below);

Clinical Assistant (see notes below);

Hospital Practitioner (see notes below);

Other titles as agreed locally by NHS Trusts (eg NHS Trust Doctor);

***Please note:***

(i) No new appointments have been made to the grades SCMO and CMO since March 1994. The grades are gradually being phased out as posts in them are incorporated into the other career grades.

(ii) A Clinical Assistant denotes a part-time medical or dental appointment under paras 94 and 105 of their Terms and Conditions of Service;

(ii) The Hospital Practitioner grade is restricted to principals delivering general medical or dental services under Part II of the NHS Act 1977. Such an appointment is not suitable for work permit employment.

**2.2. General medical services (general practice)**

GP Principal;

Associate;

Assistant;

Deputy/locum.

2.3. **General dental services (general practice)**

GP Principal;  
Associate;  
Assistant;  
Deputy/locum.

***Please note:***

Overseas doctors without settled status-seeking appointments as a principal will require to satisfy the arrangements for self-employment. The other grades listed above are subject to work permit provisions.

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