



Medicine Reading List

We're looking forward to welcoming you to the Medicine course, and we hope you're looking forward to joining us too!

If you'd like to start exploring the subject ahead of the start of your course, here's a list of resources that will help you engage with some of the ideas you'll be exploring in more depth. These are by no means in order of importance and you don't have to look at all of them – let your instinct choose what sounds more interesting to you.

Whether you're doing the one or two week course, the reading list below is applicable!

When you're considering Medicine as a career, it's important to be aware of all the different options available. The following three resources will help you to learn more about the various doors a medical degree can open up for you – you might be surprised by some of them!

- **Activity:** Prepare a short (<5-minute) presentation on the 2-3 medical specialties that interest you the most / that you might like to pursue as a career. Be as creative as you'd like, but for each specialty make sure you include the following:
 - What exactly does this specialty deal with?
 - How would a day in the shoes of someone working in this specialty look?
 - What do you find attractive about this specialty?
 - What kind of training do you need after finishing medical school to work in this specialty (in the UK vs in your country)? How many years does it take?
- **Article: The Ultimate List of Medical Specialities by St George's University** – Before you jump into the activity above, you might like to skim through this article, which sketches out the different medical specialities available and tells you a bit more about them. This could help you to narrow down your interests, or even introduce you to areas of medicine that you didn't know about before.

Link: Read [here](#)

- **Video: What happens after medical school? by Ali Abdaal** – If you've already looked at the structure of a medical career, you'll know that the learning doesn't stop when

you graduate from your degree. This video lays out what your pathway might look like once you finish your university studies.

Link: Watch [here](#)

- **Article: Career opportunities for doctors, NHS** – If you'd like to know more about non-medical careers that a medicine degree will open up for you, this NHS article is a great place to start. Whether you're certain you'd like a career in medicine or you're still weighing up your options, it's a great idea to know what's out there.

Link: Read [here](#)

Over the course, we'll be considering what clinical careers in medicine really look like. From learning more about the core systems that keep our bodies moving to practical clinical skills like administering injections, you'll leave the course with an excellent grounding in undergraduate-level medical knowledge. These resources will help you to begin building this foundation ahead of our first class.

- **Video: Congestive heart failure (CHF) by Osmosis** – Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) is a condition in which the heart is unable to pump blood around the body, which leads to fluid build-up in various parts of the body. This video will tell you more about the condition, which will be helpful in our first and second classes, in which we'll look at the cardiovascular system.

Link: Watch [here](#)

- **Website: The Respiratory System, TeachMePhysiology** – In our fourth class together, we'll look at the respiratory system. This website provides detailed and clear explanations of respiratory anatomy and physiology, including topics like lung structure, gas exchange and ventilation.

Link: Read [here](#)

- **Video: Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) by Cleveland Clinic** – As medical technology advances, many medical researchers are focusing on preventing the need for patients to undergo open surgeries. This article details why catheters mean that patients rarely need open heart surgery anymore.

Link: Watch [here](#)

If you're joining us for two weeks here are some more exciting resources that will push you even further!

- **Article: Diagnosis and Management of Dementia: Review by Zoe Arvanitakis, Raj C. Shah and David A. Bennett** – In our class on the Nervous System, we'll look at a range of medical conditions that are at the forefront of medical research today. These will include dementia and Alzheimer's, so reading this short introduction will give you a good grounding ahead of our session.

Link: Read [here](#)

- **Video: How AI can make health care better by The Economist** – AI has the power to transform health care. From more efficient diagnoses to safer treatments, it could remedy some of the ills suffered by patients. Watch how AI is having a huge impact on the provision of healthcare. Bring your ideas for discussion in our final classes.

Link: Watch [here](#)

Next Steps:

We're really looking forward to welcoming you to the Medicine course! If you'd like to take your learning to the next level, you're welcome to join one of our other related programmes too – many of our students sign up to multiple programmes as they prepare for their futures. Your options include:

- Our month-long [Medicine Internships](#) – you'll gain hands-on experience, co-authoring a paper with an academic researcher and getting the edge in your future medical school applications (particularly helpful as work experience can be hard to find!)
- At Oxford Scholastica, we run a residential Oxford Summer School every summer – you might be interested in the [Experience Medicine Academy](#). This is an immersive, two-week residential experience which takes place on the Oxford University campus – you'll take your understanding of medicine to the next level while meeting like-minded students from around the world.

Other Resources:

Clarity about your future career direction will help you in your academic studies and in your university applications. We've created a quick Careers Test to help you to know what careers

might suit you best. You'll then receive a personalised Careers Report, with recommended careers and resources to explore. We hope you'll find it useful!

Try the Test [here](#)

If you know you're applying to university soon, and are keen to stand out from the crowd, we've created a short (free) **University Preparation Report** for you – simply fill in the quick form on this page, and we'll send you subject-specific reading and podcast recommendations, tailored to your interests, to help guide your university preparation.

Take the University Preparation Report [here](#)