

The Royal College of Radiologists

## Why I chose a career in clinical radiology

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I like radiology because it combines the core principles of anatomy, physics, pathology and physiology all in one subject whilst allowing one to remain at the forefront of clinical medicine.



I work in a district general hospital radiology department and find that every day is both exciting and varied. As well as all the reporting work, there are ultrasound sessions where direct contact is made with anxious patients and parents requiring good communication skills as well as patience, humility and empathy.

As radiology has rapidly progressed to now become one of the most important fields in medicine, the rate at which technology is advancing means that I am always learning and my knowledge is rarely stagnant.

Every year there are lots of courses, some organised by other radiologists at The Royal College of Radiologists, which one can attend to further one's knowledge and skills. These courses are interesting, educational and provide a forum to interact with other radiologists who maybe experiencing similar changes in their departments and an opportunity to exchange ideas.

All in all everyone is working together to improve and provide the best possible care for patients. This feeling of being one community means that you are never alone and always have good fellow radiologists to talk to.

I have sub specialised in paediatric radiology. This is interesting, rewarding and at times quite challenging. We image ill babies and children to try and find out what is wrong so that they can be treated.

In most cases the disease gets better and so one often gets to see both child and parents again, when they come for a follow up investigation such as an ultrasound, allowing one to build up trust and professional commitment to both the patient and their guardians.

If you are considering a career in radiology then I would thoroughly recommend it. You may wish to do a taster day in your local department and even get involved in an audit or research project to get a feel for this unique branch of medicine.