

# Medical illustrator

## What is it?

Medical Illustrators create visual content to support healthcare, education, and research. This includes photographs, videos, and graphic designs used in hospitals, medical publications, and teaching materials. Their work helps explain complex medical procedures and conditions in a clear and engaging way.

## Qualifications/Experience Required:

You'll usually need a degree in a relevant subject such as **medical illustration**, **photography**, **graphic design**, or **art and design**. Some roles require postgraduate qualifications in specialist areas like clinical photography or medical art. Joining professional bodies like the **Institute of Medical Illustrators** can also help with training and networking

## What the Work Involves:

- Recording patient conditions using photography or video.
- Creating 3D images and illustrations of body structures.
- Producing visual materials for teaching and research.
- Photographing injuries for forensic or legal purposes.
- Designing graphics for reports, websites, and publications.

## Future Prospects – Labour Market Information:

Medical illustration is a small but specialised field. Employment is expected to grow by **4.3% by 2029**. With experience, you could move into **management**, **teaching**, or **research roles**. Some illustrators specialise further in areas like **forensic photography**, **bereavement photography**, or **digital animation** for medical education.

## Typical weekly hours – 39 to 41 hours per week.

*Often on a **rota or on-call basis** depending on the healthcare setting.*

## Type of person who may be suited to this job:

- Creative and visually focused.
- Technically skilled with cameras and design software.
- Able to work sensitively with patients and medical staff.
- Good attention to detail and accuracy.
- Comfortable working in clinical environments.

## Money/Wage Guide:

- **Starting Salary: £31,000**
- **Experienced Salary: Up to £39,000**
- **Average UK Salary (2024): £37,430**

## Related Opportunities:

- **Clinical Photographer**
- **Medical Graphic Designer**
- **Animator**
- **Scientific Illustrator**

## Further Information:

- [National Careers Service – Medical Illustrator](#)
- [Careerpivot – Medical Illustrator](#)