

Healthcare Science Career of the Week



Virologist

Area of HCS: Life Science
Pay scale: Band 4-7 £18k-£55k

AMAZING FACT | Dustin Hoffman played the role of a Virologist in the 1995 film *Outbreak*.

If they're not filming for another monkey born virus film they are working alongside other microbiologists studying the effects and causes of viral infections.

Surprisingly, a virologist is not all lab based and they work directly with patients. This means you will have to be a good communicator, be able to listen to patient concerns and respond to any questions and concerns.

In addition to helping treat and identify diseases, a virologist would also have a role along side other departments such as microbiology, in preventing infections in both the hospital and community.

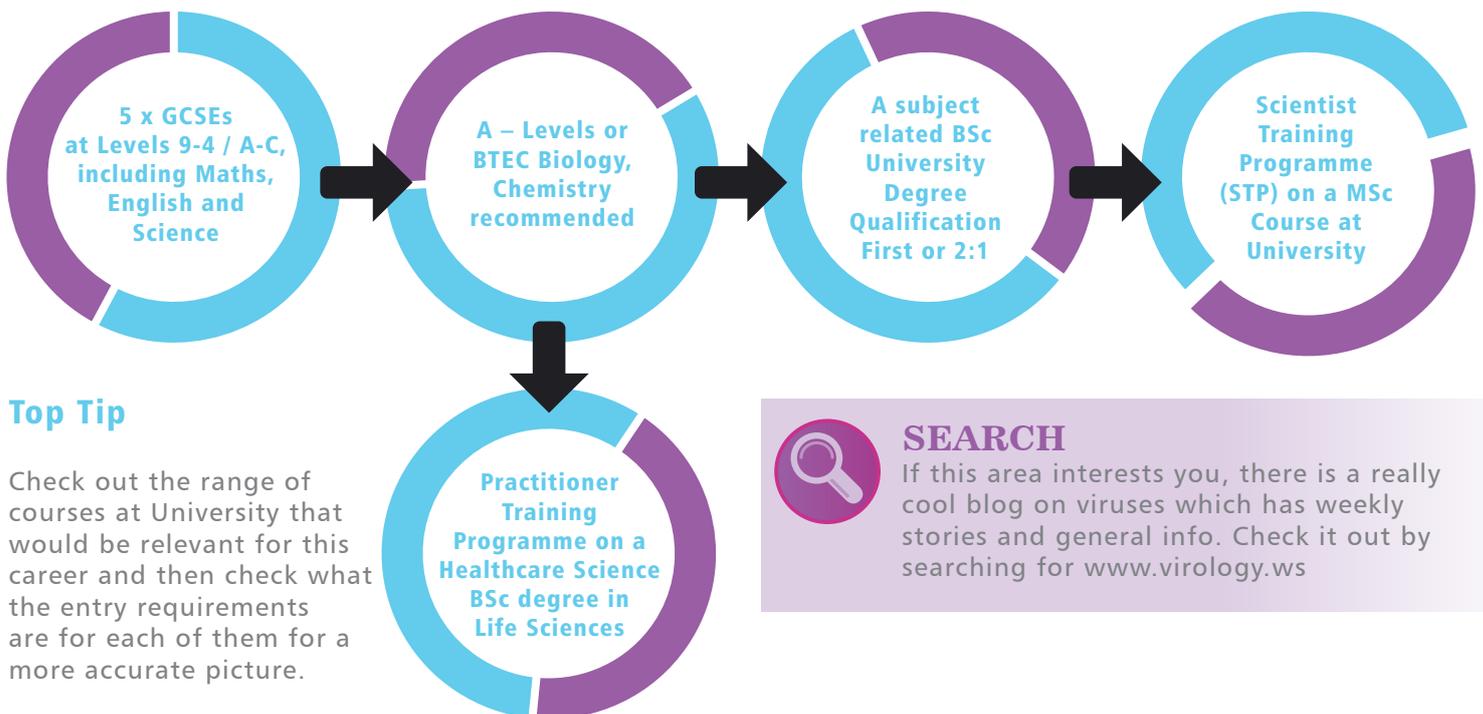
Virologists would have played a key part in the fight against the Ebola outbreak in West Africa during 2014/15 testing people with symptoms as well as other medical staff who were in contact with patients every day.



The range of diseases they are involved with range from the flu to HIV. Other viruses include:

- Rubella
- Herpes
- Hepatitis

What to do to get into this career...



Top Tip

Check out the range of courses at University that would be relevant for this career and then check what the entry requirements are for each of them for a more accurate picture.



SEARCH

If this area interests you, there is a really cool blog on viruses which has weekly stories and general info. Check it out by searching for www.virology.ws



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