

Medical careers at the CHUV: what to know!

ISFM/SIWF

Swiss Institute for Postgraduate and Continuous Medical Education. Dictates the rules, validates and accredits postgraduate training establishments and monitors training pathways followed: exposure to outpatient care, operation catalog, written and/or oral examination, advanced life support course, article writing, etc.

PRE-GRADUATE

6 years of medical university studies to obtain a federal medical diploma

Bachelor – 3 years

Master's degree – 3 years

1st and 2nd year: 20-week clinical immersion.

3rd year: 10-month work experience, including at least 8 months of clinical work, caring for 1 to 4 patients under supervision, without permission to prescribe.

Federal exams

DIPLOMA

POSTGRADUATE

5-6 year training to obtain an ISFM specialist title

This title is required either to set up a practice or to become a senior physician.

3 to 5 first years

As a resident, possible promotion to deputy senior resident (no ISFM title) or senior resident (with ISFM title)

Possibility of a 2nd loop of specialised training

- Specialisation in a second ISFM discipline (e.g. pneumology after general internal medicine)
- In-depth training (e.g. operative gynaecology-obstetrics after gynaecology-obstetrics ISFM)
- Certificate of additional training (AFC) (e.g. medical hypnosis)

CONTINUOUS

Regulated continuous training, after obtention of a specialist title

• X hours of post-graduate training per year (symposiums, congresses, seminars, online courses, emergency refresher course etc.).



Hospital careers vary according to regulations specific to each institution.

CHAT career paths

Physicians can aim for various careers that require different career paths.

Physicians in postgraduate training can aim for:

- A medical practice setting, «Cabinet» (C). Requires high-quality postgraduate training and, in particular, preparation for outpatient activity, entrepreneurship and practice management.
- A Hospital career (H). Excellent clinician in a university or regional hospital, a model in clinical supervision, with additional trainings e.g. in management or teaching.
- An Academic track (A). In addition to clinical and teaching activities, advanced research in a university environment, publication of numerous articles and obtention of research funding.
- A Transition (T) to another speciality.

Academic career

In addition to their hospital career, some physicians also pursue an academic career, linked to the Faculty of Biology and Medicine (FBM) of the University of Lausanne (UNIL). To do so, one first needs to obtain a doctorate in medicine (thesis often written alongside a 100% clinical occupation), awarded by the doctoral school. This paves the way to obtaining a title of Senior lecturer (MER), followed by that of Privat Docent (PD) and Professor. These titles are awarded by the FBM Succession (Relève) Commission.