

**DEFINITIONS OF MEDICAL SPECIALTIES**

<b>Specialty</b>	<b>Specialist Focus</b>
Allergy and Immunology	Allergic and immunologic diseases and their respiratory complications (such as pollen, chemical and food allergies, asthma, and AIDS)
Anesthesia	Anesthesia or relief of pain during surgery and childbirth, and control of pain due to various causes
Cardiology (Cardiovascular Disease)	Diseases of the heart and blood vessels. Includes cardiac electrophysiologists who use technical procedures to evaluate and treat heart rhythms. Also includes interventional cardiologists, heart and circulatory system specialists who use catheterization techniques to diagnose and treat conditions of the coronary arteries, peripheral vascular system, heart valves and congenital heart defects.
Critical Care (Intensivist)	Physicians who treat critically ill or injured patients.
Dermatology	Diseases and conditions of the skin
Ear, Nose and Throat (Otolaryngology)	Disease of the ears, nose, sinuses, throat, and upper airway passages, also Otorhinolaryngologist
Emergency Medicine	Diseases that are acute medical or surgical-conditions or injuries that require urgent or immediate care (usually in a hospital emergency room)
Endocrinology	Diseases of the internal glands of the body, including diabetes mellitus and thyroid disorders
Family Medicine	All diseases and related total health care of an individual and the family. Also general medicine, general practice, family practice.
Gastroenterology	Diseases of the digestive tract, including the stomach, bowel, liver and pancreas
Geriatrics	Diseases of the elderly
Gynecology	See "Obstetrics and Gynecology"
Hematology	See "Oncology - Hematology"
Hospice and Palliative Medicine	Palliative care at end of life
Hospitalist	Physician who treats patients only in the hospital setting
Infectious Diseases	All types of Infectious Disease
Integrative Medicine	Combining conventional and alternative approaches to address the biological, psychological, social and spiritual aspects of health and illness. Also referred to 'holistic medicine' or 'complementary medicine'
Internal Medicine	All diseases and related total health care of adults, usually 18 years of age and older
Lipidology	Prevention of dyslipidemia, cholesterol and other lipid disorders, or related metabolic diseases including diabetes which often lead to heart disease, stroke or atherosclerosis or vascular disease
Neonatal Medicine (Neonatology)	Diseases of the newborn child
Nephrology	Diseases of the kidney, including dialysis
Neurology	Diseases of the brain, spinal cord, nervous system, and related structures

Nuclear Medicine	Diseases requiring use of radioactive isotopes or as an aid in diagnosis and/or therapy
Nurse Midwifery	Nurse with advanced training in women's health, including birth
Nurse Practitioner	Nurse with advanced training in the health care of an individual and the family
Obstetrics and Gynecology	Normal and abnormal pregnancy, diseases of the female reproductive system, and fertility disorders
Occupational Medicine	Prevention of disease and injury and the promotion of people's health in their vocational environment
Oncology - Gynecologic	Cancer diseases of the female reproductive system
Oncology - Hematology	Disorders of the blood and blood-forming organs (including cancerous disorders of the blood) such as anemia, leukemia, and lymphoma (See Oncology - Medical)
Oncology - Medical	Cancer and disorders of the blood and blood-forming organs (see Oncology - Hematology)
Oncology - Orthopedics	Diseases of the bones, joint muscles and tendons (see also surgery - orthopedics)
Oncology - Radiation	X-ray, ultrasound, and other imaging techniques such as Computerized Tomography (CT) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) (see Oncology, Radiation)
Oncology - Surgical	The surgical diagnosis and treatment or management of tumors, especially cancerous tumors.
Ophthalmology	Disease of the eye
Orthopedics	Disease and conditions involving the musculoskeletal system including joints, spine, muscles, tendons, ligaments
Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine	Using the hands to diagnose, treat, and prevent illness or injury by moving your muscles and joints using techniques including stretching, gentle pressure and resistance.
Pain Management	Treatment of pain through various physical or medicinal methods
Pathology	Tissues and specimens removed by biopsy and surgery to diagnose normal from diseases tissues and specimens; supervises and interprets laboratory tests of blood, urine and other body fluids
Pediatrics	All diseases and total health care of newborns, infants, children and adolescents
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Diseases with major and minor disabilities requiring restoration of functional ability such as assistance, retraining, and recondition of muscles, tendons and extremities for ambulation, and other activities of daily living, also called physiatrist or physiatry
Physician Assistant	Advance training to provide health care of the individual and the family

Plastic Surgery	Diseases and conditions requiring surgical reconstruction for deformity or loss of a body part, or for cosmetic purposes to improve appearance or function (see surgery, plastic)
Podiatry (Podiatric Medicine)	Disease of the foot and ankle as they affect the condition of the feet
Preventative Medicine	Health care and other measures to avoid, delay, or prevent disease or illness from occurring
Psychiatry	Diseases affecting mental health, including diseases of the brain, nervous system and substance abuse of drugs or chemicals
Pulmonary Disease	Diseases of the lung (see Pulmonology)
Radiation Oncology	X-ray, ultrasound, and other imaging techniques such as Computerized Tomography (CT) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) (see Oncology, Radiation)
Radiology	Specialize in diagnosing and treating diseases and injuries using medical imaging techniques, such as x-rays, computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), nuclear medicine, positron emission tomography (PET) and ultrasound. Also interventional radiologist
Rheumatology	Diseases of the joint, including arthritis and autoimmune diseases
Sleep Disorders (Sleep Medicine)	Treat diseases and conditions related to sleep or the sleep-wake cycle.
Sports Medicine	Diseases and injuries acquired in sports
Surgery - Bariatric	reducing the stomach capacity to promote weight loss in morbidly obese patients through surgery and procedures
Surgery - Breast	Diseases and conditions of the breast that require surgery for diagnosis or treatment
Surgery - Cardiothoracic	Diseases of the chest, including lungs, heart, blood vessels, and chest wall, that require surgical operation for diagnosis and/or treatment
Surgery - Cardiovascular	Repair damage to the heart and blood vessels to reduce damage caused by diseases or disorders of the cardiovascular system
Surgery - Colon and Rectal	Diseases of the large intestine (bowel, rectum and anus that require surgical operation for diagnosis or treatment
Surgery - Dental	Disease of the teeth and jaw bone that require surgical operation for diagnosis or treatment
Surgery - Facial Plastics	Diseases of the neck and head including the ears, nose, throat and sinuses and that require surgical operation for diagnosis or treatment
Surgery - General	Diseases that require surgical operation for diagnosis or treatment
Surgery - Hand	Diseases or conditions affecting the hand, wrist, or forearm that require surgery.
Surgery - Neurological	Diseases of the brain, spinal cord, nervous system, and related structures requiring surgery (see surgery - neurological)

Surgery - Oral/Maxillofacial (face and mouth)	Diseases and conditions of the face and mouth that require surgery for diagnosis and/or treatment
Surgery - Orthopedics	Disease of the bones, joints, muscles, and tendons
Surgery - Plastic and Reconstructive	Diseases and conditions requiring surgical reconstruction for deformity or loss of a body part, or for cosmetic purposes to improve appearance or function (see surgery - facial plastics)
Surgery - Spine	Diseases and conditions of the neck and back that may require surgery for diagnosis or treatment
Surgery - Thoracic	Diseases of the chest, including lungs, heart, blood vessels, and chest wall, that require surgical operation for diagnosis and/or treatment
Surgery - Vascular	Diseases of the blood vessels that require surgical operation for diagnosis or treatment
Urgent Care	Injuries or illnesses requiring immediate care, but not serious enough to require an ER visit.
Urology	Diseases of the kidneys, bladder and male reproductive tract that require surgical operation