

DEFINITIONS OF MEDICAL SPECIALTIES

Specialty	Specialist Focus
Allergy & 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
Behavioral Health	Mental Health Therapists including Social Workers, Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapy, Mental Health Clinics, Psychologists, PHD, EDD, etc
Cardiovascular Disease (Cardiology)	Diseases of the heart and blood vessels
Dermatology	Diseases of the skin
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 and Metabolism	Diseases of the internal glands of the body, including diabetes mellitus
Family Practice	All diseases and related total health care of an individual and the family
Gastroenterology	Diseases of the digestive tract, including the stomach, bowel, liver and pancreas
General Practice	All diseases and related total health care of an individual and the family
Geriatric Medicine	Diseases of the elderly
Gynecologic Oncology	Cancer diseases of the female reproductive system
Gynecology	See "Obstetrics and Gynecology"
Hematology	Disorders of the blood and blood-forming organs (including cancerous disorders of the blood) such as anemia, leukemia, and lymphoma (See Oncology, Medical)
Home Health Care	Nurse or other para-professional treatment of patient in the home setting, including home infusion, physical therapy, hospice, etc
Hospice	Palliative care at end of life
Hospitalist	Physician who treats patients only in the hospital setting
Infectious Diseases	Infections of all types
Internal Medicine	All diseases and related total health care of adults, usually 18 years of age and older
Medical Genetics	Study of heredity related to disease processes
Neonatology	Diseases of the newborn child
Nephrology	Diseases of the kidney, including dialysis
Neurological Surgery	Diseases of the brain, spinal cord, nervous system, and related structures requiring surgery
Neurology	Diseases of the brain, spinal cord, nervous system, and related structures

Nurse Midwife	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, Medical	Cancer and disorders of the blood and blood-forming organs (see "Hematology")
Ophthalmology	Disease of the eye
Orthopedic Surgery	Diseases of the bones, joint muscles and tendons
Otorhinolaryngology (Ear, Nose & Throat)	Disease of the ears, nose, sinuses, throat, and upper airway passages
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
Physical Therapy	The treatment of bodily ailments by various physical or non-medicinal means
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
Podiatric Medicine (Podiatry)	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
Radiation Oncology	X-ray, ultrasound, and other imaging techniques such as Computerized Tomography (CT) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
Radiology, Nuclear	Diseases requiring use of radioactive isotopes or as an aid in diagnosis and/or therapy

Rheumatology	Diseases of the joint, including arthritis and autoimmune diseases
Sports Medicine	Diseases and injuries acquired in sports
Surgery, Colon and Rectal	Diseases of the large intestine (bowel, rectum and anus that require surgical operation for diagnosis or treatment
Surgery, General	Diseases that require surgical operation for diagnosis or treatment
Surgery, Neuro	Diseases of the brain, spinal cord, nervous system, and related structures requiring surgery
Surgery, Orthopedic	Disease of the bones, joints muscles, and tendons
Surgery, Plastic	Diseases and conditions requiring surgical reconstruction for deformity or loss of a body part, or for cosmetic purposes to improve appearance or function
Surgery, Thoracic	Diseases of the chest, including lungs, heart, blood vessels, and chest wall, that require surgical operation for diagnosis and/or treatment
Surgery, Urology	Diseases of the kidneys, bladder and male reproductive tract that require surgical operation
Surgery, Vascular	Diseases of the blood vessels that require surgical operation for diagnosis or treatment