

Fast Facts

Doctor Specialties

- Need at least a four-year college degree to be accepted into medical school
 - Medical school takes another four years
- After medical school, doctors must complete a residency in an area of their choice, which can last anywhere from three to nine years depending on the specialty
- After residency, if a doctor wants to sub-specialize, they must complete a fellowship, which is an additional two to four years of training
 - So, a “new” doctor has anywhere from 13 to 21 years of training
- MD is a doctor of medicine and uses a treatment method called allopathic, which is focused on treating disease symptoms by using remedies like drugs or surgeries
 - DO is a doctor of osteopathic medicine, which focuses on a “whole body” approach by addressing medical concerns from medical and lifestyle standpoints
- DOs are required to take additional classes, usually 300-500 hours, that focus on how your skeletal system interacts with the rest of your body when you are sick
- Typically, there is no difference in the type of care provided to patients

Medical Specialties

Primary care physician (PCP) is also known as an internal medicine doctor, general internist, generalist or internist

Some internal medicine doctors specialize in sub-categories:

- Pulmonologist
- Endocrinologist
- Cardiologist
- Gastroenterologist
- Hepatologist
- Hematologist/Oncologist
- Nephrologist
- Rheumatologist
- Allergist/Immunologist
- Infectious disease doctor
- Geriatrics

Non-internal medicine specialties:

- Obstetrician/Gynecologist (OBGYN) (several sub-specialties, such as maternal-fetal medicine, reproductive endocrinology, gynecologic oncology and urogynecology)
- Hospitalist
- Dermatologist
- Neurologist
- Interventional Cardiologist
- Interventional Radiologist
- Anesthesiologist
- Psychiatrist
- Pediatrician (also have the same specialties that adults have, such as neurology, cardiology, hematology/oncology, ophthalmology, anesthesiology and surgery)

- Family Practice
- Emergency Medicine doctor
- Radiologist
- Radiation Oncologist
- Physical medicine and rehab doctor
- Preventive medicine doctor
- Addiction medicine doctor
- Hospice and Palliative doctor
- Pathologist
- Medical geneticist
- Sleep medicine doctor
- Sports medicine doctor
- Electrophysiologist

Surgeons are doctors that specialize perform different operations. General surgeons typically can perform a wide variety of surgeries that aren't detailed or specific areas of the body. Similar to internal medicine, *general surgeons can sub-specialize:*

- Cardiothoracic
- Vascular
- Cosmetic and reconstructive (plastic)
- Colorectal (formerly proctologist)
- Transplant
- Trauma
- Surgical Oncologist
- Surgical Endocrinologist

Non-general surgeon specialties:

- Orthopedic surgeon (can in certain types, such as hands, shoulders, knees, hips, spines, sports medicine and orthopedic oncology)
- Neurosurgeon
- Bariatric surgeon
- Urologist
- Otolaryngologist (ENT)
- Ophthalmologist
- Oral surgeon
- Microsurgeon

<p><i>Non-Medical Specialties</i></p>	<p>-A healthcare provider that receives extensive training in a certain area, but isn't a medical doctor</p> <p>-Can treat you for certain conditions, but might not be able to treat every condition that falls under their area of specialty or have certain restrictions that medical doctors do not have.</p> <p><i>Some examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Psychologist-Counselor-Podiatrist-Optometrist
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