

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 (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
- Primary care physician (PCP) also called an internal medicine doctor, general internist, generalist, or internist
- Surgeons are doctors that perform different operations. General surgeons typically can perform various surgeries that aren't detailed or specific body areas.

Medical Specialties

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: maternal-fetal medicine, reproductive endocrinology, gynecologic oncology, urogynecology)
- Family Practice
- Pediatrician (have the same specialties as adults: neurology, cardiology, hematology/oncology, ophthalmology, anesthesiology, and surgery)
- Neurologist
- Psychiatrist
- Addiction medicine doctor
- Sleep medicine doctor
- Dermatologist

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Physical medicine and rehab doctor -Sports medicine doctor -Hospice and Palliative doctor -Preventive medicine doctor -Medical geneticist -Hospitalist -Emergency Medicine doctor -Pathologist -Radiologist -Radiation Oncologist -Electrophysiologist -Interventional Cardiologist -Interventional Radiologist -Anesthesiologist
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Surgery Specialties</i></p>	<p><i>Some general surgeons sub-specialize:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Cardiothoracic -Vascular -Cosmetic and reconstructive (plastic) -Colorectal (formerly proctologist) -Transplant -Trauma -Surgical Oncologist -Surgical Endocrinologist <p><i>Non-general surgeon specialties:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Orthopedic surgeon (can be 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 style="text-align: center;"><i>Non- Medical Specialties</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A healthcare provider that receives extensive training in a particular area but isn't a medical doctor -Can treat certain conditions but might not be able to treat every illness that falls under their area of specialty or have certain restrictions <p><i>Some examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Psychologist -Counselor -Podiatrist -Optometrist

©2022 Demystifying Your Health. All rights reserved.

Demystifying Your Health does not provide medical advice, diagnosis or treatment.