

Specialty Definitions

Addiction Medicine – a medical specialty that deals with the treatment of addiction

Adolescent Medicine - a provider who treats patients between the ages of 13 and 18

Allergy & Immunology - a medical specialty concerned with the hypersensitivity of the individual to foreign substances and protection from the resultant infection or disorder

Anesthesiology - the medical study of how to eliminate pain and sensation in people undergoing surgery and other medical procedures

Audiology - the study of hearing disorders through the identification and evaluation of hearing loss and the rehabilitation of persons with hearing impairments that cannot be improved by medical or surgical means

Behavioral Analyst – a provider who diagnoses and treats patients with autism

Behavioral Health/Mental Health - Providers who are trained and educated to perform services related to behavioral health, mental health and counseling

Cardiology/Cardiovascular Diseases - the medical study of the diagnosis and treatment of diseases affecting the heart and blood vessels

Chiropractic – a medical specialty involving manipulation of the spinal column and other body structures

Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology – a medical specialty concerned with the study and treatment of rhythm disorders of the heart

Clinical Neurophysiology - is the study of the nervous system function

Critical Care - a provider who works mostly in an inpatient setting and provides specialized services of a critical nature

Cytogenetics - the study of the structure, function, and abnormalities of human chromosomes

Cytology - a branch of biology dealing with the structure, function, multiplication, pathology and life history of cells

Cytopathology - the study of disease changes within individual cells or cell types

Dentistry - the branch of medicine dealing with the care of the teeth and associated structures of the oral cavity. It is concerned with the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases of the teeth and gums.

Dermatology - the field of medicine that specializes in the treatment of skin disorders

Dermatopathology - a practitioner who after completing their training in either dermatology or pathology have received additional training in accredited programs for the interpretation of skin biopsies

Durable Medical Equipment - is a term used to describe any medical equipment used in the home to aid in a better quality of living

Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) - please refer to Otolaryngology

Emergency Medicine - a medical specialty concerned with the care and treatment of acutely ill or injured patients who need immediate medical attention

Endocrinology - the science and medical specialty concerned with the function and pathology of the endocrine glands (for example the thyroid gland, pituitary gland, etc)

Endodontics – a specialty that deals with the tooth pulp and the tissues surrounding the root of a tooth

Family Practice - a medical specialty concerned with the provision of continuing, comprehensive primary health care for the entire family

Gastroenterology - the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and disorders affecting the stomach, intestines and associated organs

General Practice - is a medical specialty concerned with providing primary care and specializes in family medicine. A general practitioner treats acute and chronic illnesses and provides preventive care and health education for all ages and both sexes.

General Preventative Medicine – a medical specialty concerned with preventing diseases rather than curing them or treating their symptoms

Gynecologic Oncology - a specialized field of medicine that focuses on cancers of the female reproductive system, including ovarian cancer, uterine cancer, endometrial cancer, cervical cancer, and vulvar cancer

Gynecology – a specialty dealing with health of the female reproductive system (uterus, vagina and ovaries)

Hematology - a medical science that deals with the blood and blood forming tissues

Hepatology - the medical study encompassing the structure, function, and diseases of the liver and biliary tract

Home Infusion Care - intravenous therapy at home used in many different treatments

Hospice and Palliative Medicine - a practitioner with the special knowledge and skills to prevent and relieve the suffering experienced by patients with life-limiting illnesses

Hospitalist - a physician in charge of caring for hospitalized patients. These practitioners are rarely involved in outpatient care; they concentrate their efforts on caring for patients confined to an inpatient setting

Hyperbaric Medicine - is the medical use of oxygen at a level higher than atmospheric pressure

Infectious Diseases – the medical specialty that is concerned with the management of diseases communicated or capable of being communicated by infection

Internal Medicine - branch of medicine that treats diseases of the internal organs by other than surgical means

Interventional Cardiology – a medical specialty devoted to the practice of minimally-invasive cardiac procedures

Maternal and Fetal Medicine – a medical specialty that specializes in high-risk pregnancies

Midwifery - the profession in which providers give prenatal care to expecting mothers, attend the birth of the infant, and provide postpartum care to the mother and her infant including breastfeeding

MOHS, Micrographic Surgery - advanced treatment procedure for skin cancer

Neonatology/Perinatology - a subspecialty of pediatrics which focuses primarily on the medical needs of newborn babies, or neonates

Nephrology - the branch of medical science concerned with the structure and function of the kidneys and the treatment of kidney disorders

Neurology - the branch of medicine that deals with the nervous system and its diseases

Neuromusculoskeletal & OMM – the study of medicine combining the nervous system, the skeleton and the muscles

Neurotology - the medical study of the nervous system as it affects the ear and hearing loss

Nuclear Medicine - the medical specialty that involves the use of radioactive isotopes in the diagnosis and treatment of disease

Nurse Practitioner - is a registered nurse with at least a master's degree in nursing and advanced education in the primary care of patients and capable of independent practice in a variety of settings

Obstetrics & Gynecology - a medical specialty focusing on the care and management of the female

reproductive system. Obstetricians care for women during pregnancy, delivery and post-childbirth.

Occupational Medicine - a branch of medicine concerned with the treatment of patients with occupational and environmental illness and injury; may include adaptation of tasks or environment to achieve maximum independence and optimum quality of life

Occupational Therapy - a form of therapy that encourages and instructs manual activities for therapeutic or remedial purposes in mental and physical disorders. Therapeutic activities used to develop, regain, or maintain the skills necessary for health, productivity, and independence in everyday life.

Oncology - the study of diseases that cause cancer

Ophthalmology - a branch of medicine dealing with the structure, functions and diseases of the eye

Optometry - a health care professional who is licensed to provide primary eye care services

Orthodontics - a specialty of dentistry concerned with correcting misalignment of teeth

Orthopedic Medicine - the branch of surgery devoted to the diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation and prevention of injuries and diseases of the body's musculoskeletal system

Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) - is an approach to manual therapy, a form of therapy that uses physical contact, used to improve the impaired or altered function of the musculoskeletal system

Otolaryngology (ENT) - the branch of medicine concerned with medical and surgical treatment of the head and neck, including the ears, nose and throat

Otology - a branch of biomedicine which studies normal and pathological anatomy and physiology of the ear (hearing and vestibular sensory systems and related structures and functions) as well as its diseases, diagnosis and treatment

Pain Management - the supervision and control of pain due to a physical or medical condition

Pathology - the medical science concerned with all aspects of disease, but with special reference to the essential nature, causes, and development of abnormal conditions, as well as the structural and functional changes that result from the disease processes

Pathology, Hematology – the study of the causes of diseases of the blood

Pediatrics - the medical science relating to the care of children and treatment of their diseases from birth through the teen years

Pediatrics, Allergy and Immunology - a medical specialty concerned with the hypersensitivity of the individual to foreign substances and protection from the resultant infection or disorder in children

Pediatrics, Cardiology - the medical study of the diagnosis and treatment of diseases affecting the heart and blood vessels in children

Pediatrics - Critical Care - the care and treatment of patients (age birth to teen years) during a time of medical crisis

Pediatrics, Dermatology - the field of medicine that specializes in the treatment of skin disorders in children

Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine - treatment of patients, from birth to teen years, primarily in hospitals or ambulatory emergency centers, that is an urgent condition perceived by the patient as requiring immediate medical or surgical evaluation or treatment.

Pediatrics, Endocrinology - a medical subspecialty dealing with variations of physical growth and sexual development in childhood, as well as diabetes and other disorders of the endocrine glands

Pediatrics, Gastroenterology - the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and disorders affecting the stomach, intestines and associated organs in children

Pediatrics, Hematology/Oncology - a medical science that deals with the blood and blood forming tissues, as well as diseases that cause cancer in children

Pediatrics, Infectious Disease - the medical specialty that is concerned with the management of diseases communicated or capable of being communicated by infection in children

Pediatrics, Nephrology - the branch of medical science concerned with the structure and function of the kidneys and the treatment of kidney disorders in children

Pediatrics, Neurology - the branch of medicine that deals with the nervous system and its diseases in children

Pediatrics, Neurosurgery - the surgical specialty for the treatment of diseases and disorders of the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral and sympathetic nervous system in children

Pediatrics, Ophthalmology - a branch of medicine dealing with the structure, functions and diseases of the eye in children

Pediatrics, Orthopedic Surgery – the medical specialty devoted to the diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and prevention of injuries and disease of the body’s musculoskeletal system in children

Pediatrics, Otolaryngology - the branch of medicine concerned with medical and surgical treatment of the head and neck, including the ears, nose and throat in children

Pediatrics, Pulmonology - a subspecialty of internal medicine concerned with the study of the respiratory system in children

Pediatrics, Rheumatology - the division of medicine concerned with rheumatic diseases of joints, muscles, bones, and tendons in children

Pediatrics, Surgery - a subspecialty of surgery involving the surgery of fetuses, infants, children, adolescents and young adults

Pediatrics, Urology – the branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of disease of the urinary tract and urogenital system in children

Perfusion - the introduction of a drug or nutrients through the bloodstream in order to reach an internal organ or tissues

Perinatology - specialized management of a high-risk pregnancy before and after birth

Periodontics - the branch of dentistry dealing with diseases of the gums and other structures around the teeth

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation - a medical specialty concerned with the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and management of disabling diseases, disorders, and injuries typically of a musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, neuromuscular, or neurological nature by physical means (as by the use of electromyography, electrotherapy, therapeutic exercise or pharmaceutical pain control).

Physical Therapy - the treatment of disease by physical and mechanical means (as massage, regulated exercise, water, light, heat and electricity)

Podiatry - the medical study of the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the foot

Proctology – also refer to Gastroenterology specialty

Psychiatry - the branch of medical science that deals with the causes, treatment, and prevention of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders

Psychology - the scientific study of human mental functions and behaviors

Pulmonary Disease - a subspecialty of internal medicine concerned with the study, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases and defects that affect the respiratory system

Radiology - the branch of medicine concerned with radioactive substances, including x-rays, radioactive isotopes, and ionizing radiation, and the application of this information to prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease

Reproductive Endocrinology - the diagnosis and management of infertility in women, including pregnancy loss, surgery and preservation of the reproductive tract

Rheumatology - the division of medicine concerned with rheumatic diseases of joints, muscles, bones, and tendons

Sleep Medicine – a subspecialty in clinical assessment, physiologic testing, diagnosis, management, and prevention of sleep and circadian rhythm disorders

Social Worker - a professional trained to talk with people and their families about emotional or physical needs and to find them support services

Speech Therapy - the study, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases and disorders that minimize or halt the use

of the voice and of spoken and written communication

Spinal Cord Injury Medicine - the field of medicine concerned with prevention, diagnosis, treatment and management of traumatic spinal cord injury

Sports Medicine - a field of medicine concerned with physical fitness and the diagnosis and treatment of injuries sustained in sports activities

Surgery, Cardiovascular - the surgical specialty that is concerned with the heart and major blood vessels of the chest

Surgery, Colon and Rectal - the surgical specialty that is involved with the large intestine

Surgery, Craniomaxillofacial - is surgery to correct a wide spectrum of diseases, injuries and defects in the head, neck, face, jaws and the hard and soft tissues of the oral and maxillofacial region

Surgery, General - the specialty of medicine that deals with disease or injury by operative means

Surgery, Hand - the surgical specialty that deals with a wide range of problems with the hand

Surgery, Neurological - the surgical specialty for the treatment of diseases and disorders of the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral and sympathetic nervous system

Surgery, Oral - a dental specialty limited to the surgical removal of teeth and the treatment of disease, deformities, and defects of the jaws and associated structures

Surgery, Orthopedic - the medical specialty devoted to the diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and prevention of injuries and diseases of the body's musculoskeletal system

Surgery, Plastic - the surgical specialty that deals with the reconstruction of facial and body tissue that requires a reshaping or remolding due to disease, a defect, or disorder

Surgery, Thoracic - the surgical specialty that deals with the area of the chest wall, heart, lungs and esophagus

Surgery, Transplantation - the surgical specialty that deals with the transfer of a tissue or an organ from one person to another or from one site to another in the same person

Surgery, Urological - an operative procedure involving the urinary tract in both male and female, and the genital organs in the male

Surgery, Vascular - the surgical specialty related to the blood vessels of the body

Toxicology - the branch of pharmacology that deals with the nature and effects and treatments of poisons

Urgent Care Centers - walk-in clinics that usually offer extended hours for acute illness and injury care that is either beyond the scope or availability of the typical primary care practice

Urodynamic Testing - specialized diagnostic tests of the bladder that measure functional integrity of the urinary system

Urology - the branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the urinary tract and urogenital system