



Common medical specialties

SPECIALTY NAME	DESCRIPTION
Addiction medicine	Area of medical practice that treats people living with addiction - includes alcohol and drug dependency
Anaesthetics	Area of medical practice that manages pain and awareness before, during and after surgery
Cardiology	Area of medical practice that treats people with heart conditions
Cardiothoracic surgery	Area of medical practice that uses surgery to treat health conditions of the heart, lungs or other structures in the chest
Clinical genetics	Area of medical practice that manages health conditions that are inherited
Dental surgery	Area of dental practice that uses surgery performed by a dental specialist to treat health conditions of the mouth, teeth, gums or jaws
Dentistry	Area of dental practice that treats conditions of the teeth and jaw
Dermatology	Area of medical practice that treats people with health conditions of the skin, hair or nails
Diagnostic radiology	Area of medical practice that uses imaging to diagnose illness or injury
Endocrinology	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions with a hormonal cause
Gastroenterology and hepatology	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions involving the digestive organs, including the liver
General medicine	Area of medical practice that can treat a broad range of health conditions in adults, often when they are in hospital - does not involve surgery.
General practice (GP)	Area of medical practice that treats a broad range of health conditions in patients who live in the community

General surgery	Area of medical practice that provides surgical treatment for a broad range of planned and emergency procedures
Geriatric medicine	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions related to ageing - often involves the management of complex medical issues
Haematology	Area of medical practice that treats blood-related health conditions
Immunology and allergy	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions of the immune system, including allergies
Infectious diseases	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions caused by infections
Intensive care	Area of medical practice that treats people who are critically ill and need high level medical care
Internal medicine	Area of medical practice that treats a broad range of health conditions in adults, often when they are in hospital
Nephrology	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions of the kidneys
Neurology	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions involving the brain, spinal cord or nerves
Neurosurgery	Area of medical practice that uses surgery to treat health conditions involving the brain, spinal cord or nerves
Nuclear medicine	Area of medical practice that uses radioactive medicines to diagnose and treat different health conditions
Obstetrics and gynaecology	Area of medical practice that manages pregnancy, birth and postnatal care (obstetrics) and female reproductive health conditions (gynaecology)
Occupational and environmental medicine	Area of medical practice that treats workplace-related health conditions
Oncology	Area of medical practice that uses medicines, including chemotherapy, to treat people with cancer
Ophthalmology	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions involving the eye
Oral and maxillofacial surgery	Area of medical practice that uses surgery to treat health conditions of the mouth, jaws and face

Orthopaedic surgery	Area of medical practice that uses surgery to treat health conditions of the bones, muscles and joints
Otolaryngology (ENT) head and neck surgery	Area of medical practice that treats people with health conditions of the ear, nose or throat
Paediatric medicine	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions in babies, children and teenagers
Paediatric surgery	Area of medical practice that uses surgery to treat health conditions in babies, children or teenagers
Palliative medicine	Area of medical practice that treats people with life-limiting conditions
Pathology	Area of medical practice that uses different tests to help diagnose the cause of a disease
Plastic and reconstructive surgery	Area of medical practice that uses surgery to reshape, repair or restore an area of the body - the surgery may be for medical reasons or personal reasons
Psychiatry	Area of medical practice that treats people with mental health conditions
Rehabilitation medicine	Area of medical practice that helps people to recover after a physical injury
Respiratory and sleep medicine	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions that affect breathing and sleeping
Rheumatology	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions that affect the muscles and joints
Sexual health medicine	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions relating to sexual activity - includes reproductive health and family planning
Sport and exercise medicine	Area of medical practice that treats sport and activity-related injuries - also uses exercise to help with recovery from injury and illness
Urology	Area of medical practice that treats health conditions of the kidneys, bladder and urinary tract - also manages male reproductive health conditions
Vascular surgery	Area of medical practice that uses surgery to treat health conditions of the blood vessels and lymphatic system