

Which doctor should I choose?

Birth

18

60

100+

Pediatrician

Age of patients:
Birth to 18

Emphasis

Prevent disease, maintain health and monitor growth and well-being. Also diagnose and treat illness and disease.

Approach

Collaborate with parents, particularly when patients are babies and young children. Work collaboratively with other healthcare providers.

Medical conditions and services

Vaccinations, nutritional guidance, illnesses and diseases, behavioral issues and growth milestones.

Training

Board-certified in pediatric medicine.

Family Physician

Age of patients:
Birth to 100+

Emphasis

Prevent, diagnose and treat a broad range of illnesses and diseases, and manage chronic conditions.

Approach

Provide preventive and whole-person care, including education for patient and family about ways to improve wellness. Will refer to specialists for additional care.

Medical conditions and services

Vaccines, preventive care, injuries, infections, illnesses, skin disorders and chronic conditions

Training

Board-certified in family medicine and there may be emphasis in one or more areas such as pediatrics, obstetrics-gynecology, orthopaedics, urology and neurology.

Internist

Age of patients:
18 to 100+

Emphasis

Prevent, diagnose and treat illnesses and manage chronic conditions and complex conditions.

Approach

Diagnose and treat a variety of conditions. May have areas of specialized expertise, but also refer to specialists for additional care.

Medical conditions and services

Broad range of infections, illness, disease and chronic conditions. Provide preventive healthcare.

Training

Board-certified in internal medicine. May have additional emphasis in a subspecialty or gastroenterology.

Geriatrician

Age of patients:
60 to 100+

Emphasis

Manage chronic and acute illnesses, including age-related conditions, with an emphasis on quality of life and helping patients function independently.

Approach

Provide preventive and therapeutic care, working collaboratively with other care providers such as neurologists, psychiatrists, physical therapists and social workers.

Medical conditions and services

Dementia, osteoporosis, arthritis, cancer, failure to thrive, and chronic illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease.

Training

Board-certified in internal or family medicine with additional certification in geriatric medicine.

