

# CAREERS IN MEDICINE

*Today's health care professionals work hard to promote hygiene, prevent and detect disease, cure patients, and reduce their suffering. The modern practice of medicine has not always been with us but was developed over thousands of years. Today you will examine a variety of health careers some have been around since ancient times and others that have developed with modern medicine.*

## APOTHECARY

**Pharmacists** are responsible for dispensing drugs prescribed by physicians and they provide information to patients about medications and their use.

*Name one major difference between a modern pharmacist and the one in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Apothecary.*

FIRST  
FLOOR

## DENTIST OFFICE

**Dentists** examine patient's mouths, treat dental problems, and provide preventive education.

*List three differences between the dentist office from the early 1900's and a modern dentist office.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## STAIRWAY LANDING

**Alternative Medicine Practitioners** use non-Western techniques for treating illnesses. On the wall are drawings that show anatomic points where very fine needles are inserted into the skin to treat symptoms and reduce pain.

*What is the name for this technique?*

*List other types of alternative medicine.*

## HALL OF IMMORTALS

A **Pathologist** studies the nature of diseases and their origins.

*Who is considered the father of pathological anatomy?*

SECOND  
FLOOR

Women have not always been accepted as medical professionals, researchers, or academics.

*What noted woman researcher was awarded two Noble Prizes, paving the way for women in the medical field?*



International Museum of Surgical Science

## WINDOWS TO THE WORLD

**Ophthalmologists** are physicians who diagnose and treat eye disease and injury. They also perform eye surgery.

*List two forms of eye surgery.*

SECOND  
FLOOR

## POLIO

The large gray machine, known as the Iron Lung, was used to help polio victims breathe when their diaphragms were paralyzed. Polio was a terrifying disease caused by a virus, but it was conquered in 1955 with the development of a vaccine.

*Who was the **Research Scientist** who developed this vaccine?*

## LIBRARY

This room is filled with medical texts, some of which are quite old and rare. These books help to educate medical students as well as serve as a reference for physicians.

*List three medical specialties covered by these books.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## LATIN AMERICA

Surgery is performed by specially trained medical physicians known as **Surgeons**. A surgeon is often trained in a specific field of surgery called a specialization.

*List the three procedures taking place in the paintings.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

THIRD  
FLOOR

## EUROPE

Education and training is very important to building a career in medicine. As you look around this room, one painting in particular shows students interacting with a teacher.

*What method is the teacher using to educate his students on the anatomy of the human body?*

## JAPAN HALL OF FAME

**Surgical Technologists** assist in surgical operations. They help prepare the operating room, get the patients ready for surgery and assist during the procedure. To prepare the operating room, they set up the surgical equipment and tools.

*What equipment is used to close wounds?*



## MEDICAL IMAGING

**Radiologists** diagnose and treat diseases by obtaining and interpreting medical images of the body.

*List three methods other than the x-ray for looking inside the body.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

THIRD  
FLOOR

## NURSING

**Registered Nurses (RNs)** work to promote health, prevent disease, and help patients cope with illness.

*How many registered nurses work in the United States?*

FOURTH  
FLOOR

A **Midwife** attends childbirth, provides support during labor and delivery, and supervises the general care of women and children directly after birth.

*Name three organizations that Midwives can join for support and accreditation.*

## ENDURING PAIN

**Anesthesiologists** are physicians, or sometimes dentists, who administer drugs that cause insensitivity to pain and may render a patient unconscious. **Anesthetists** are nurses or technicians trained to do the same thing, administer anesthesia.

*Since the Civil War, which group has been the principal providers of anesthesia in combat zones?*

## HALLWAY

A **Urologist** is a physician who specializes in diseases of the urinary organs. Suffering from gallstones and bladder stones can be quite painful. Most people did not run the risk of having them surgically removed before the 20<sup>th</sup> century, because death was almost certain during or shortly after surgery.

*Where in the human body could you expect to find stones like those on display?*

*How do you think stones form inside the body?*





## ORTHOPEDICS

**Prosthetists** and **Orthotists** evaluate, design and fabricate prostheses (artificial limbs). Due to the high number of amputees during the Civil War era and the demand for artificial limbs, this profession became a very specialized science and art.

*What materials did ancient peoples use for implants and prostheses?*

FOURTH  
FLOOR

**Orthopedic surgeons** or **Orthopedists** treat acute, chronic and traumatic injuries, as well as other disorders, of the musculoskeletal system.

*What do the Greek roots "ortho" and "pais" mean?*

## CANADA

**Biological/Research Scientists** study reproduction, growth and development, function, structure, behavior and other aspects of living organisms to develop medicines, prevent disease, and promote health.

*Who were the scientists who discovered insulin?*

## SUPPORTING STRUCTURE

**Medical Illustrators** are artists who work in the medical field and create visual material to help promote medical knowledge. Medical illustrations are graphic designs and/or three-dimensional models.

*Name the early pioneers of medical illustration.*

## CONQUERING HEART DISEASE

**Electrocardiograph Technicians** operate and maintain electrocardiogram equipment.

*What is an electrocardiogram?*

FOURTH  
FLOOR  
(ANNEX)

A **Perfusionist** is a member of an open-heart surgical team responsible for the selection, setup, and operation of the heart-lung machine.

*What device was used before the heart-lung machine?*

