

What is a Combined Internal Medicine & Pediatrics (Med-Peds) Doctor?

After medical school, a doctor receives advanced training in a chosen field of medicine. This period of training is called *residency*. A Med-Peds doctor's training is in two separate specialties that are combined into one residency program. They are trained by Internists who are masters in the care of adults **and** by Pediatricians, who are masters in the care of children. This dual training makes Med-Peds doctors very qualified to care for everyone in your household - young or old. They can care for patients in offices or in hospitals, or both.

To find a Med-Peds doctor in your area, visit the AAP Pediatrician Referral Service Web site at www.aap.org/referral/ or contact your hospital.

American Academy
of Pediatrics



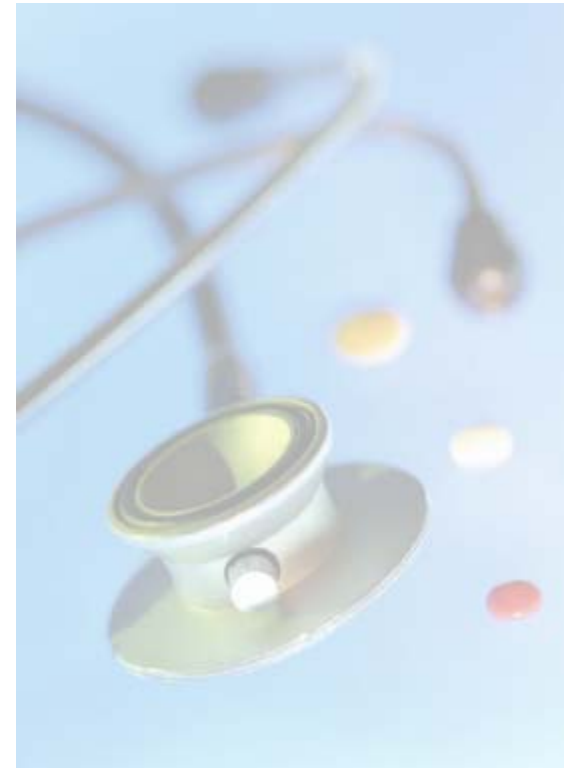
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AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
INTERNAL MEDICINE | *Doctors for Adults*

MED-PEDS DOCTORS



Common Questions

Q: What is an Internist?

A: An Internist is a doctor who specializes in Internal Medicine. Internal Medicine is the branch of medicine that specializes in adult medical care. Internists have undergone special training and study focused on the treatment and prevention of adult illnesses. They can treat common and complex diseases. The term *Internist* is sometimes confused with intern, which is a doctor in his first year of residency. An internist, however, has already completed all of the residency training in Internal Medicine.

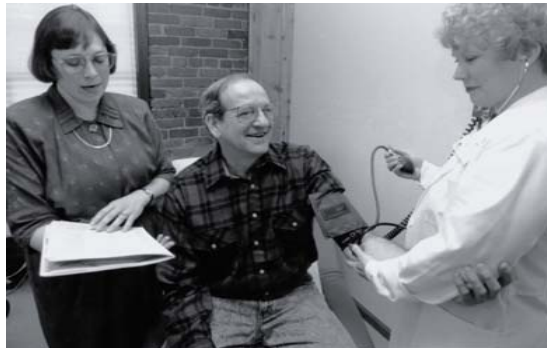
Q: What is a Pediatrician?

A: Pediatricians are doctors who specialize in the medical, social and psychological well being of children. They care for brief and long-term illnesses in children - from newborns through age 21. Pediatricians also help children learn to prevent illness later in life during well child visits.



Q: What kind of training does a Med-Peds doctor have?

A: Med-Peds doctors are medical doctors who, after college, complete four years of medical school, and then have four additional years of specialty training combining both Internal Medicine and Pediatrics. Throughout those four years, Med-Peds physicians receive training from experts in adult medical care and experts in Pediatric medical care. Med-Peds doctors are fully trained as Pediatricians and as Internists. They are eligible for certification from the American Board of Pediatrics and the American Board of Internal Medicine.



Q: What services do Med-Peds doctors provide?

A: Med-Peds doctors provide the same broad range of medical services as other Pediatricians and other Internists. Many practice primary care for patients - mainly in an office setting. Other Med-Peds doctors care for patients who are in the hospital. Some care for children and adults in both settings. Med-Peds doctors provide care for sudden or long-term illnesses. They counsel and help patients prevent illness in the future. Med-Peds doctors study medical research to provide up-to-date and expert patient care.



Q: Can a Med-Peds doctor care for my entire family?

A: Absolutely! Med-Peds doctors have been fully trained in both adult and Pediatric illnesses. They also have the experience in illness prevention to help keep you and your family healthy. They have expertise in the care of newborn babies with medical illnesses, as well as healthy newborns. They have the skills to make children and teens feel comfortable when seeing the doctor, as well as an in depth knowledge of the health issues that are likely to affect them. They also have the training and experience to manage acute, chronic and complex medical conditions of adults and seniors. Med-Peds doctors have the knowledge and training to provide exceptional care to everyone in your household.