

Day 3: Healthcare 101

Healthcare Career Exploration
Fellowship



Healthcare



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Health care

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This article is about the provision of medical care. For other uses, see [Health care \(disambiguation\)](#).

"Medical care" redirects here. For the health journal, see [Medical Care \(journal\)](#).

Health care or **healthcare** is the maintenance or improvement of [health](#) via the [diagnosis](#), [treatment](#), and [prevention](#) of [disease](#), [illness](#), [injury](#), and other [physical and mental impairments](#) in human beings. Healthcare is delivered by [health professionals](#) (providers or practitioners) in [allied health professions](#), [chiropractic](#), [physicians](#), physician associates, [dentistry](#), [midwifery](#), [nursing](#), [medicine](#), [optometry](#), [pharmacy](#), [psychology](#), and other [health professions](#). It includes the work done in providing [primary care](#), [secondary care](#), and [tertiary care](#), as well as in [public health](#).

Activity: Teamwork



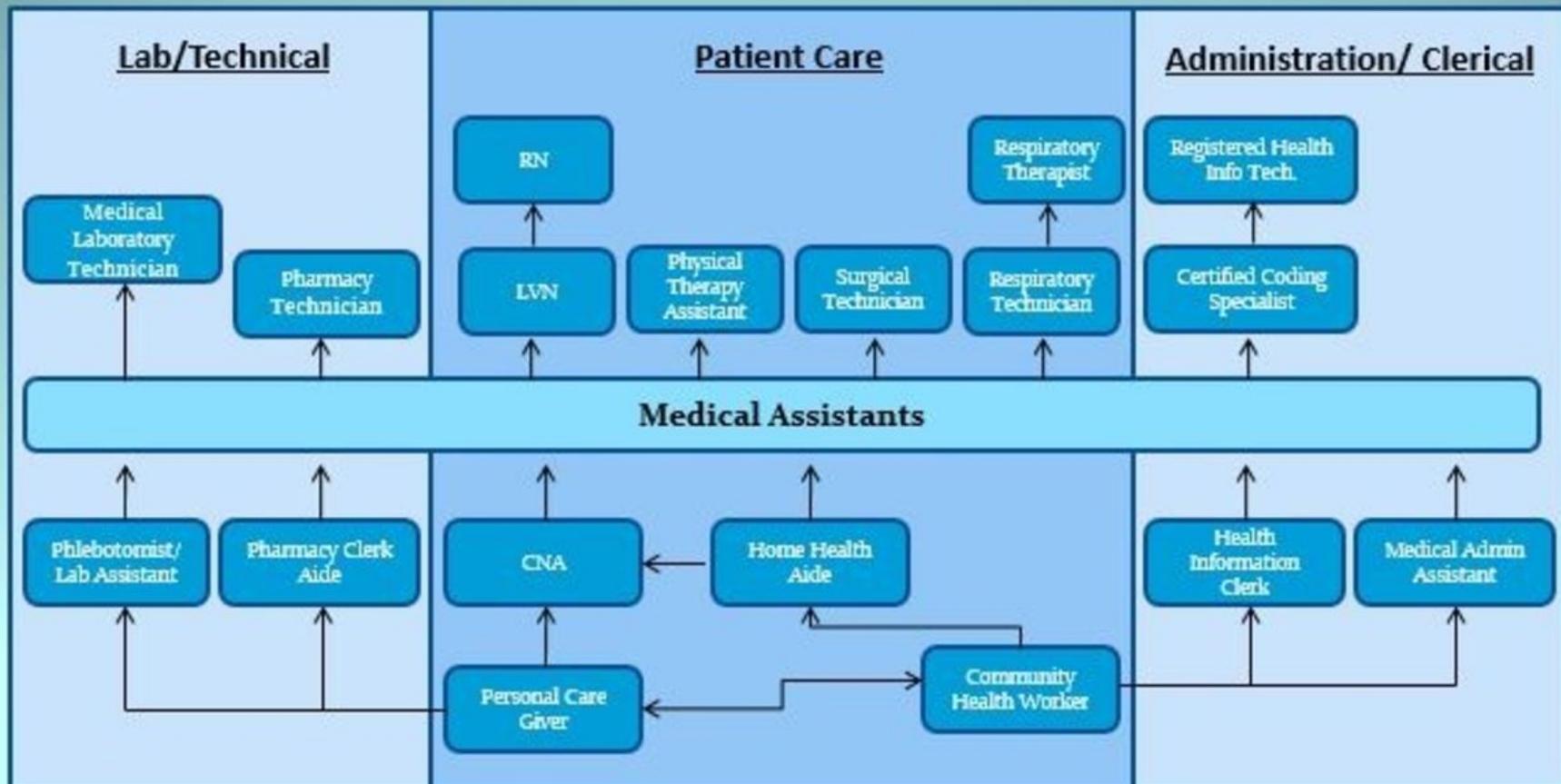


Interdisciplinary Healthcare Teams





Career Lattice Pathways



Provider	Role & Setting
<p>Primary Care: Primary care providers diagnose and prescribe treatment and refer patients to specialists. Ex. Physicians, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners</p>	<p>Although the general scope of their work is the same, Physicians must supervise Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners.</p>
<p>Nursing: Nurses care for the ill and provide certain medical procedures such as administer medications, provide health education, and coordinate care. Ex. Registered Nurses, Licensed Vocational Nurse</p>	<p>The scope of duties to be performed by nurses vary widely depending on the healthcare setting. Some nurses provide call support for discharged patients, while others coordinate care, while others administer medications in clinical settings.</p>
<p>Specialty Care: Specialty doctors are needed for specialized diagnosis and treatment on certain areas of the body, treat certain complex diseases, or perform complex medical procedures. Ex. Anesthesiologist, Oncologist, Podiatrist, etc.</p>	<p>Specialists range widely and work in a variety of healthcare settings, from private practice offices to hospitals. Most healthcare insurance systems require referral from primary care providers in order for patients to be seen by specialists.</p>

Provider	Role & Setting
<p>Medical Assistant: Provides support to health professionals through activities like collect medical histories or perform administrative duties. Ex. There are three categories of medical assistants: Clinical, Administrative, or Specialized</p>	<p>Medical assistants perform a wide scope of services depending on the healthcare setting. They may answer phone calls, schedule appointments, prepare patients for exams, or be specialized for certain procedures like perform x-rays.</p>
<p>Drug Therapy: Pharmacists prepare drugs according to the treatment prescribed by doctors. Ex. Pharmacy Technician, Pharmacists</p>	<p>Pharmacists may work in a variety of healthcare and commercial settings, however they are primarily focused on dispensing medication.</p>
<p>Dental Care: Dentists clean and repair teeth. They also diagnose and treat health problems related to the the mouth. Ex. Dentists, Orthodontists, Endodontists, Periodontists, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.</p>	<p>Dental care is performed in a variety of healthcare settings, in hospitals, clinics, and private practice offices.</p>

Provider	Role & Setting
<p>Dental Assistants: Similar to medical assistants, dental assistants provide support to dental professionals. Ex. Dental Assistants, Dental Radiological Technologists, Certified Dental Assistants, Registered Dental Assistants</p>	<p>Dental Assistants work in a wide variety of healthcare settings, however are focused on supporting dental related healthcare services. They may prep patients for exams or surgeries, or perform administrative duties.</p>
<p>Behavioral Health: Behavior Health providers have a range of professions who support patients with therapies and resources that help patients make adjustments to their behavior or circumstances that improves their mental and sometimes physical health outcomes. Ex. Certified Psychiatric Nurse Specialists, Behavioral health counselors, Licensed Professional Counselors, Certified Marriage and Family Therapists, Clinical Social Workers, Clinical Psychologists, Psychiatrists</p>	<p>Behavioral health professionals work in a wide variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, skilled nursing facilities, and private practice offices. As there is a wide variety of services, they have a wide scope of services.</p>
<p>Care Coordinators: A healthcare position and function that was created to improve the care of patients. Care coordinators work to ensure that patients are properly referred, received, and that information is shared among providers.</p>	<p>Care coordinators may be based out of a variety of health systems including health plans, hospitals, and clinics.</p>

Provider	Role & Setting
<p>Social Workers (Non-Clinical): Social workers connect patients to services and resources that are related to healthcare or social services, including housing, food, employment, and education.</p>	<p>Work in a variety of settings including schools, hospitals, clinics, residential living facilities, etc.</p>
<p>Health Educators: Health educators support patients by teaching them about healthcare services, health conditions, and treatment options. They may also educate patients about behavioral or dietary options that might improve their health outcomes.</p>	<p>Work in a variety of settings including schools, hospitals, clinics, nonprofits, etc.</p>

Activity:
Role Play

Healthcare Settings

- Hospitals
- Emergency Rooms
- Primary Care Clinics
- Urgent Care Clinics
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Behavioral Health Centers
- ...and many more...



Terms in healthcare settings

Inpatient care: Hospitals provide inpatient care. Inpatient care refers to a healthcare setting which provides constant care for patients who are suffering from an acute illness or symptom. In-patient care refers to care for a patient who is formally admitted (or 'hospitalised') to an institution for treatment or care and stays for a minimum of 1 night.

Emergent care: An emergent care situation refers to an immediate threat to a patient's health. These include difficulty breathing, suspected heart attack, uncontrolled bleeding, unconsciousness, or severe burns. Often emergent care will require inpatient care. Hospitals also provide emergency care for patients presenting with emergent health needs.

Acute illness or symptom: An acute illness or symptom is one that is severe or sudden in onset. Examples include a broken bone, appendicitis, strep throat, etc. Symptoms appear and change/worsen rapidly.

Chronic condition: This is a long lasting condition that may require regular monitoring and treatment. Examples include diabetes, asthma, cardiovascular disease. Symptoms appear and change/worsen over extended time period.

More terms in healthcare settings

Ambulatory care: Ambulatory is an outpatient setting which provides intermittent care for patients who need routine care or urgent care. They also provide support to patients in managing chronic illnesses. Primary care clinics, urgent care clinics, skilled nursing facilities, and most behavioral health systems provide ambulatory care.

Routine care: Routine care such as check ups are used to preventatively screen for health problems, to monitor health issues, and to manage illnesses. Skilled nursing facilities, primary care clinics, and behavioral health services provide routine care.

Urgent care: An urgent care situation is an unexpected illness or injury that needs prompt medical attention, but is not an immediate threat to your health. Examples include headaches, back or joint pain, flu symptoms or ear aches. These are times when care is necessary but not critical. Urgent care clinics provide urgent care.

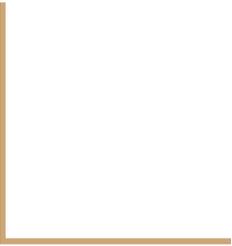
State of the US Healthcare System



Videos!



What are questions that we want to ask
healthcare professionals that we will meet in
the next couple of weeks?



Asking Open-Ended Questions

Elevator Pitch

