



What Does an Internist Do?



Overview

An internist is a type of primary care doctor. They are trained in internal medicine. This is a broad category of healthcare that deals with all parts of the body. Internists understand the wide range of adult diseases and conditions. They find health problems and create care plans. And they refer you to a specialist when you need one.

Specialties

Internists aren't exactly the same as family physicians. Family physicians care for people of all ages. Internists usually focus on adults. Some internists provide general care. Others deal with specific parts of the body. For example, they may treat the heart or lungs. They may focus on infectious diseases. They may care for people who have cancer. So when you choose an internist, make sure they're right for your needs.

Working with you

A big part of an internist's job is sharing info with you. So they teach you about your health. If you have medical condition, they make sure you know about all of your care options. They explain how these options affect you. They provide the support you need as you deal with medical issues.

Conclusion

Your internist is a key part of your care team. They help you live a healthy life.

