

Medical Specialties and Body Systems

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1. Introduction

- Medicine is organized into specialties, many aligned with specific body systems.
- Understanding these helps direct patients to appropriate care.

2. Body Systems

- The cardiovascular system manages circulation of blood.
- The respiratory system handles breathing and gas exchange.
- The nervous, musculoskeletal, and digestive systems each perform distinct functions.

3. System-Based Specialties

- **Cardiology:** heart and blood vessels.
- **Neurology:** brain, spinal cord, and nerves.
- **Gastroenterology:** digestive tract.
- **Dermatology:** skin, hair, and nails.

4. Other Specialties

- **Pediatrics:** care of children.
- **Oncology:** cancer diagnosis and treatment.
- Surgery and radiology cut across multiple systems.

5. Importance

- Specialization improves expertise and quality of care.
- Coordination among specialties supports comprehensive patient management.