

# Exploring Careers in Health Science - [from PBS Learning Media](#)

## Vocabulary

- Medical—of or relating to the science of medicine, or to the treatment of illness and injuries
- Vaccine—a substance used to stimulate the production of antibodies and provide immunity against one or several diseases
- Contagious—spread from one person or organism to another by direct or indirect contact
- Illness—a disease or period of sickness affecting the body or mind
- Dispense—distribute or provide to a number of people
- Diagnose—identify the nature of (an illness or other problem) by examination of the symptoms
- Laboratory—a room or building equipped for scientific experiments, research, or teaching, or for the manufacture of drugs or chemicals
- Stable—not deteriorating in health after an injury or operation.
- Technician—a person employed to look after technical equipment or do practical work in a laboratory
- Allergy—a damaging immune response by the body to a substance, especially pollen, fur, a particular food, or dust, to which it has become hypersensitive
- License—a certificate, tag, plate, etc., giving proof of such permission; official permit
- Certification—a document attesting to the fact that a person has completed an educational course, issued either by an institution not authorized to grant diplomas, or to a student not qualifying for a diploma
- Associate's Degree—a degree granted especially by junior colleges after completion of two years of study
- Bachelor's Degree—a degree awarded by a college or university to a person who has completed undergraduate studies
- Master's Degree—a degree awarded by a graduate school or department, usually to a person who has completed at least one year of graduate study
- Doctorate—the highest rank awarded by universities and some colleges, as the Ph.D. or Ed.D., or an honorary degree, as the LL.D
- Infectious—communicable by infection, as from one person to another or from one part of the body to another
- Germ—a microorganism, especially when disease-producing; microbe
- Transmit—to pass or spread (disease, infection, etc.) to another
- Transmission—the act or process of transmitting
- Doctor—a person licensed to practice medicine, as a physician, surgeon, dentist, or veterinarian
- Nurse—a person formally educated and trained in the care of the sick
- Nurse Practitioner—a registered nurse who has received special training for diagnosing and treating routine or minor ailments
- Physician's Assistant—someone qualified to assist a physician and carry out routine clinical procedures under the supervision of a physician

- Dentist—a person qualified to treat the diseases and conditions that affect the teeth and gums, especially the repair and extraction of teeth and the insertion of artificial ones
- Dental Assistant—a specially trained health care worker who provides direct support to the dentist. An educationally qualified dental assistant may be delegated to do intraoral procedures that do not require the professional skill and judgment of a dentist
- Dental Hygienist—a person who is trained and licensed to clean teeth, take dental x-rays, and provide related dental services and care, usually under the supervision of a dentist
- Pediatric Doctor—medical doctor who manages the physical, behavioral, and mental health of children from birth until age 21. A pediatrician is trained to diagnose and treat a broad range of childhood illnesses from minor health problems to serious diseases
- Dermatology—the science that is concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the skin, hair and nails
- Physical Therapist—a doctor that treats or manages physical disability, malfunction, or pain by exercise, massage, hydrotherapy, etc., without the use of medicines, surgery, or radiation
- Radiologist—a medical doctor who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of disease and injury by using medical imaging technologies, such as MRI and CT. Radiologists also treat diseases, such as cancer or heart disease, by means of radiation or minimally invasive, image-guided surgery.
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