

Baptist Health Services Group (BHSG) Specialty & Service Glossary

Following is a glossary of terms that will assist you in selecting a participating health care provider. Although participating facilities and health care professionals may offer care in other areas, this glossary should provide you with a good understanding of some basic areas of service.

Acute Care Hospital

A facility for the short-term treatment of relatively severe illness

Adolescent Medicine

Medical care specializing in the adolescent age group

Allergy

Treatment of hay fever, asthma and other allergic disorders

Allergy/Immunology

Prevention, diagnosis and treatment of problems involving the immune system including reactions to usually harmless substances leading to allergic conditions

Ambulance

A company that provides transportation for the injured or sick

Ambulatory Surgical Center

A Facility where surgical procedures are performed on an outpatient basis, i.e., patients do not stay overnight

Anatomic Pathology

Study of the structure of abnormal, diseased or injured tissue

Anesthesiology

Partial or complete loss of sensation with or without loss of consciousness by administration of an anesthetic agent usually by injection or inhalation

Audiology

Treatment of impaired hearing that cannot be improved by medication or surgical therapy

Cardiovascular Diseases/Cardiology

Treatment of diseases of the heart and blood vessels

Cardiovascular/Thoracic Surgery

Surgery of the chest, heart and blood vessels

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)

A registered nurse (RN) who is licensed to administer an anesthetic agent for the purpose of partial or complete loss of sensation with or without loss of consciousness

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Treatment of mental and emotional disorders of children

Chiropractic

A system of therapeutics that attributes disease to dysfunction of the nervous system and attempts to restore normal function by manipulation and treatment of the body structures, especially those of the vertebral column

Colon and Rectal Surgery

Surgery of the lower intestine

Critical Care Medicine

Treatment of acutely ill patients, usually in emergency rooms and intensive care units

Dermatology

Treatment of skin disorders

Durable Medical Equipment/DME

Items which are primarily used to serve a medical purpose and are generally appropriate for use in the patient's home.

Emergency Medicine

Treatment of accidents and acute medical problems in the emergency room

Endocrinology and Metabolism

Treatment of diabetes and disorders of the thyroid, adrenal glands, pituitary gland, ovaries and testicles

Family Practice

Provide general medical care and treatment of medical problems for all family members

Gastroenterology

Treatment of disorders of the stomach, intestines, gallbladder and pancreas

General Practice

Treatment of a broad range of medical problems including children's illnesses

General Surgery

Surgery of the abdomen, breast, thyroid and all surgical procedure not performed by the various specialties

Geriatrics

Treatment of problems specific to old age and the aging, including the clinical problems of senility

Gynecology

Treatment of the female reproductive organs including surgery

Hand Surgery

Surgery of the bones and joints related specifically to the wrist and hand

Hematology

Treatment of blood and blood-forming tissue disorders

Hematology and Oncology

Treatment of all types of cancer and blood disorders

Home Health Agency

Agency that provides skilled nursing services to an individual in the home

Hospice

Program that provides care for terminally ill patients and their families

Immunology

Treatment of the body's reaction to foreign substances and protection from infection and disease

Infectious Disease

Treatment of illnesses caused by infectious organisms such as viruses, bacteria and parasites in any organ of the body

Internal Medicine

General adult medical care and treatment of many medical conditions

Laboratory

A place equipped for examination of materials derived from the human body for the purpose of providing information on diagnosis, prevention or treatment of disease

Manipulative Management

Treatment by skillful or dextrous treatment by the hands performed by the physician

Maternal and Fetal Medicine

Treatment for high-risk pregnancies

Maxillofacial/Oral Surgery

Surgery of the upper jaw, oral cavity and associated structures

Multi-Specialty Clinic

A group practice in which several physicians with various specialties are recognized as a single business entity

Neonatology

Care of sick newborn infants, especially prematures

Nephrology

Treatment of kidney disease

Neurological Surgery

Surgery of the brain, spinal cord and the nerves in the spine and extremities

Neurology

Treatment of disorders of the brain, spinal cord and nerves in the spine and extremities

Nuclear Medicine

Diagnostic, therapeutic and investigative use of the radioactive compounds in pharmaceutical form

Nuclear Radiology

Diagnostic test involving the external detection of radioactive waves from radionuclides (radioactive substances injected into a patient or ingested by the patient) in the diagnosis of disease

Nutrition

The study of the sum of the processes involved in taking in nutriment and assimilating and utilizing them

Obstetrics and Gynecology

Care of the pregnant and non-pregnant woman, including surgery of the female reproductive organs

Occupational Therapy

Includes duties such as applying diagnostic and prognostic tests, guiding the patient in the use of therapeutic creative and self-care activities for improving function

Occupational/Industrial Medicine

Treatment of disease and injury and promotion of health in people's work environment

Oncology

Treatment of cancer or cancer-like diseases

Ophthalmology

Treatment of surgical and non-surgical disorders of the eyes

Orthopedic Surgery

Surgery of the bones and joints

Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery

Medical and surgical treatment of disorders of the nose, mouth, throat, larynx, ears and other portions of the head and neck

Pathology

Performance of laboratory tests on blood and other body fluids and microscopic examination of tissue specimens

Pediatric Allergy

Treatment of asthma, hay fever and other allergic conditions in children

Pediatric Cardiology

Treatment of diseases of the heart and blood vessels in children

Pediatric Endocrinology

Treatment of children with diabetes or disorders of the thyroid, adrenal glands, pituitary gland, ovaries and testicles

Pediatric Gastroenterology

The treatment of disorders of the stomach, intestines, gallbladder and pancreas in children

Pediatric Hematology and Oncology

Treatment of all types of cancer and blood disorders in children

Pediatric Nephrology

Treatment of kidney diseases of children

Pediatric Neurology

Treatment of disorders of the brain, nerves and spinal cord of children

Pediatric Pulmonology

Treatment of lung disease in children

Pediatric Radiology

Performance of diagnostic tests on children utilizing X-rays (see Radiology)

Pediatric Surgery

General surgical treatment of children with emphasis on correction of congenital defects

Pediatrics

Medical care of babies, children and adolescents

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Treatment for musculoskeletal weakness after injury, stroke, or surgery in order to gain optimal activity level toward independence

Physical Therapy

Evaluation and treatment of specific patient abilities and disabilities, both mental and physical

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Cosmetic surgery, reconstructive and care of burns

Podiatry

The study and care of the foot, including its anatomy, pathology, medical and surgical treatment

Preventive Medicine

Preventive medicine involves the study of the effects that the environment has on health

Proctology

Treatment of rectal and anal disorders

Psychiatric/Alcohol/Drug Treatment Facility

A facility which provides a program for the chemically dependent or evaluation, treatment and prevention of emotional and mental illness

Psychiatry

Medical diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mental illness

Psychology

Treatment of behavioral disorders

Pulmonary Diseases

Treatment of diseases of the lungs

Radiation Oncology

Radiation oncology is the branch of radiology that uses radiant energy and isotopes in the study and treatment of cancer

Radiation Therapy

Administration of X-ray therapy for treatment of cancer

Radiology

Perform diagnostic tests using X-rays and radio-isotopes, ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging

Respiratory Therapy

Evaluation and treatment of pulmonary (lung) function and respiratory rehabilitation therapy

Rheumatology

Treatment of arthritis and other inflammatory conditions of the joints

Skilled Nursing Facility

Patient care center that provides rehabilitative services and 24-hour nursing for convalescent patients

Social Worker

Professional trained person who helps patients, family members or others deal with problems of social functioning affecting the health or well-being of the patient

Speech Therapy

Treatment of verbal communication disorders

Sports Medicine

The diagnosis and treatment of injuries and medical problems affecting athletes

Thoracic Surgery

Surgery involving the rib cage and structures contained within the thoracic cage

Urology

Medical and surgical management of diseases of the kidneys, bladder, urinary tract and male reproductive organs

Vascular Surgery

Surgery involving the blood vessels that maintain adequate circulation to the major organs of the body