Specialist Physicians

Description

This unit group includes specialist physicians in clinical medicine, in laboratory medicine and in surgery. Specialists physicians diagnose and treat injuries or illnesses, act as consultants to other physicians, and may conduct medical research. Specialists in clinical medicine usually work in private practice or in a hospital while those in laboratory medicine and in surgery usually work in hospitals. Residents in training to become specialist physicians are included in this unit group.

Duties:

- Specialists in clinical medicine
  - Diagnose and treat diseases and physiological or psychiatric disorders
  - Order laboratory tests, X-rays and other diagnostic procedures
  - Prescribe medication and treatment and refer patients for surgery
- Specialists in laboratory medicine
  - Study the nature, cause and development of diseases in humans and changes they cause
  - Conduct microscopic and chemical analyses of laboratory samples and specimens
  - Supervise laboratory activities
- Specialists in surgery
  - Assess patients' diseases or disorders to determine appropriate surgical procedures
  - Perform and supervise surgical procedures to correct physical abnormalities and deficiencies and repair injuries

Other titles:

- Neurosurgeon
- Anesthetist
- Dermatologist
- Geriatrician
- Pediatrician

(Government of Canada National Occupation Classification)

Skills

Communication skills	Compassion	Patience	Problem-solving	Physical and mental stamina
Dexterity	Organization	Attention to detail	Leadership	Flexibility

Education/Training Requirements

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

- Most university/college programs in Ontario require an OSSD or Mature Student Status

Post-secondary diploma/degree

- Bachelor's degree and graduation from an approved medical school

Certification

- For specialist physicians, specific specialty training, completion of the certifying examinations of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and licensing by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is required.
- For specialists in clinical and laboratory medicine, four to five years of specialty residency training are required. For clinical medicine, two years of additional subspecialty training may also be required.
- For specialists in surgery, five to six years of specialty residency training are required, and two years of additional subspecialty training may also be required.

Potential Earnings in Durham Region

The average and median wages and salaries for individuals employed as specialist physicians are as follows. Place of Residence (POR) is defined as individuals who reside within the Durham Region. Place of Work (POW) is defined as individuals who are employed within the Durham Region.

Median Wages and Salaries (POW)	Average Wages and Salaries (POW)	Median Wages and Salaries (POR)	Average Wages and Salaries (POR)
$119,884	$134,411	$119,887	$141,103

Employment Prospects

Industry (NAICS)	Jobs in Durham Region (POW)	Durham Region Residents Employed (POR)
6211 Offices of physicians	185	105

(Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development 2016 data in Durham Workforce Authority's 2017 Sector Report)

Additional Resources

- Canadian medical schools: https://www.cma.ca/En/Pages/canadian-medical-schools.aspx
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario: https://www.cpso.on.ca/
- Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada: www.royalcollege.ca