

When most people are ill with a nonlife threatening condition, they will most often see a General Practitioner, a GP, also called a Family Doctor. They can treat and manage most illnesses and perform some minor surgeries in their practice. GPs also make housecalls.

As the name suggests, GPs are doctors that do not have a specialty, such as a brain surgeon or cancer specialist: they are able to diagnose and treat all the possible diseases and problems that one of their patients might have. These doctors generally work in the local community in surgeries rather than in hospitals, so they are convenient for people to see for a consultation. Then for more serious cases they will refer the patient to a specialist that will work in a hospital. Once you have your prescription you will need to visit a pharmacy to get the medicine the doctor prescribed you. However, other GPs can work in a very wide range of areas, such as in hospitals, in education and for insurance companies.