

THE IMPORTANCE OF PEDIATRY IN MEDICINE

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Annotation: As soon as a child is born, the utmost importance is given to the health of the kid. You approach a pediatrician who specialises in the treatment of children. A pediatrician plays an important role in the health and wellness of children which includes physical behaviour and mental health issues.

One of the most significant contributions of a pediatrician is to reduce the rate of infants and children death. Well, pediatricians not only provide medical care for children who are acutely or chronically ill but also provide preventive health services for healthy children from birth to adolescence. So, you should be very careful in choosing the right pediatrician for your child.

Key words: treating, injuring, diagnosing and treating illnesses, medical conditions, and injuries.

Why does a child need pediatric care?

A pediatrician is a well-trained doctor, who specialises in providing the best treatment for childhood illnesses - from minor health problems to serious diseases. As the child grows, the health issues differ with every age. In order to keep your kid healthy and protect them from diseases, proper vaccinations should be given to your child at the right age. A pediatrician will have a good understanding of the child health issues and give the best solution possible.

Some reasons to go to a pediatrician are:

- They have special training in children's health.
- They only see children in their practice, so they have a lot of experience in recognizing and treating childhood illnesses.
- If your child is a premature baby or has a health condition that needs close monitoring, a pediatrician may offer more specialised care.
- A pediatrician controls the spread of infectious disease at a very young age of the child that help to ease the problems of children and adolescents with chronic health conditions.
- A pediatrician can diagnose and treat several conditions common among children such as:
 - Mild to severe injuries
 - Mild to severe infections
 - Congenital conditions
 - Genetic conditions
 - Cancer
 - Organ dysfunction
 - Organ diseases

Till what age can a child consult a pediatrician?

Pediatricians specialise in providing health care treatment for children from their birth to their adolescent stage. It is advisable to approach a pediatrician until the age of 18 years. After age 18, patients are usually referred to a primary care adult physician to continue their health care. Most children at this time can safely move to a physician that specialises in adult primary care.

How does a pediatrician take care of your child?

From the day the child is born till adolescence, a pediatrician will take the responsibility of the child's health.

To take care of your child, a pediatrician will:

- Examine the child physically

- Give your child vaccinations at the right time
- Keep a track of the child growth, behaviour, and skills
- Diagnose and treat your child's illnesses, infections, injuries, and other health problems
- Provide health details related to your child's health, safety, nutrition, and fitness needs
- Clear all queries about your little one's growth and development
- If a child requires expert care, your pediatrician will refer to the right specialists.

Choose the right pediatrician for your child's health. Ensure your child is safe and healthy!

Pediatrics is the branch of medicine dealing with the health and medical care of infants, children, and adolescents from birth up to the age of 18. The word "paediatrics" means "healer of children"; they are derived from two Greek words: (pais = child) and (iatros = doctor or healer). Paediatrics is a relatively new medical specialty, developing only in the mid-19th century. Abraham Jacobi (1830–1919) is known as the father of paediatrics.

What does a pediatrician do?

A paediatrician is a child's physician who provides not only medical care for children who are acutely or chronically ill but also preventive health services for healthy children. A paediatrician manages physical, mental, and emotional well-being of the children under their care at every stage of development, in both sickness and health.

Aims of pediatrics

The aims of the study of paediatrics is to reduce infant and child rate of deaths, control the spread of infectious disease, promote healthy lifestyles for a long disease-free life and help ease the problems of children and adolescents with chronic conditions.

Paediatricians diagnose and treat several conditions among children including:-

- injuries
- infections
- genetic and congenital conditions
- cancers
- organ diseases and dysfunctions

Paediatrics is concerned not only about immediate management of the ill child but also long term effects on quality of life, disability and survival. Paediatricians are involved with the prevention, early detection, and management of problems including:

- developmental delays and disorders
- behavioral problems
- functional disabilities
- social stresses
- mental disorders including depression and anxiety disorders

How does pediatrics differ from adult medicine?

Paediatrics is different from adult medicine in more ways than one. The smaller body of an infant or neonate or a child is substantially different physiologically from that of an adult. So treating children is not like treating a miniature adult.

Congenital defects, genetic variance, and developmental issues are of greater concern to pediatricians than physicians treating adults. In addition, there are several legal issues in paediatrics. Children are minors and, in most jurisdictions, cannot make decisions for themselves. The issues of guardianship, privacy, legal responsibility and informed consent should be considered in every pediatric procedure.

Training

A paediatrician is a graduate from a medical school first. He or she being a primary care paediatrician then completes three years of education in an accredited pediatric residency program. They learn about caring for infant, child, adolescent, and young adults during this period.

Following the pediatric residency, the pediatrician is eligible for board certification by the American Board of Paediatrics with successful completion of a comprehensive written examination. Recertification is required every seven years.

Subspecialties in pediatrics

Subspecialties in pediatrics include:

- pediatric cardiology
- critical care medicine
- endocrinology
- gastroenterology
- hematology
- neonatal medicine
- nephrology etc.

A pediatrician provides general medical care, monitors growth and development, and tracks and administers immunizations for infants, children, adolescents, and young adults. The pediatrician diagnoses and treats illnesses, medical conditions, and injuries, and eases the lives of children with chronic conditions.

We are looking for a dedicated, compassionate pediatrician to be responsible for the medical care of children from infancy to adolescence. The pediatrician provides general medicine, growth and development monitoring, and immunization tracking and administering. You will also ease children with chronic conditions and offer support and advice to parents about children's health, safety, nutrition, and fitness needs.

To be a successful pediatrician, you should be able to provide an accurate diagnosis based solely on visual and auditory indicators for children who cannot communicate effectively. You should also have excellent decision-making, problem-solving, interpersonal, and communication skills.

Pediatrician Responsibilities:

Diagnosing and treating illnesses, medical conditions, and injuries.

Ordering, performing, and interpreting diagnostic tests.

Collecting, recording, and maintaining patients' information and histories.

Prescribing and administering treatments, therapies, medications, vaccinations, and other specialized medical care.

Explaining procedures and discussing test results or prescribed treatments with patients and family members.

Monitoring patients' conditions and progress.

Directing, coordinating, consulting with, and referring patients to nurses, students, assistants, specialists, therapists, and other medical staff.

Advising patients, parents, and guardians on diets, activities, hygiene, and disease prevention.

Conducting research and remaining up to date on current trends, discoveries, and developments in the field.

Pediatrician Requirements:

A Medical degree and the successful completion of a residency and fellowship in pediatrics.

A license and certification to practice pediatrics.

Excellent communication and interpersonal skills as well as the ability to relate to children.

Strong decision-making, diagnostic, and problem-solving skills.

Good organizational, leadership, and teamworking skills.

A caring and compassionate nature when working with children and their families

Used Literature:

1. <http://www.umm.edu/paediatrics/pediatrician.htm>
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