Anesthesiology & Pain Management - An anesthesiologist administers anesthetic to induce sleep or numb a part of the body prior to surgery, while monitoring the patient's life functions. Pain Management Physicians, through various interventions, help relieve chronic pain. Referral from your physician is required.

Cardiology - Cardiologists specialize in the prevention, diagnosis and medical (non-surgical) treatment of heart and blood vessel diseases. Interventional Cardiologists perform such invasive procedures as heart catheterizations and peripheral interventional catheterizations. Self-referrals are accepted.

Colorectal - Colorectal Surgeons specialize in the medical and surgical treatment of conditions that affect the lower digestive tract (i.e., the large intestine). They have comprehensive knowledge about general surgery and in the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the colon, rectum, and anus.

Cardiothoracic Surgery - The field of medicine involved in surgical treatment of organs inside the thorax (the chest)—generally treatment of conditions of the heart (heart disease) and lungs (lung disease).

Critical Care - Critical Care physicians specialize in treating patients whose conditions are life-threatening and who require comprehensive care and constant monitoring, usually in intensive care units. Self-referrals are accepted.

Dermatology - A dermatologist is a physician who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of the skin. Self-referrals are accepted.

Endocrinology - Endocrinologists are specially trained physicians who diagnose diseases related to the glands such as diabetes or thyroid problems.

Family Medicine - Family Medicine physicians serve as the main provider of non-surgical health care and act as the source for referrals to specialists. Self-referrals are accepted.

Gastroenterology - Gastroenterologists specialize in the treatment of the diseases pertaining to the stomach, small and large (colon) intestines and related digestive disorders. Self-referrals are accepted.

General Surgery - General Surgeons must possess the broadest knowledge and skills to diagnose and treat disease through surgical methods. Self-referrals are accepted.

Geriatric Medicine - Physicians who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and problems specific to the elderly. Self-referrals are accepted.

Infectious Disease - This physician may diagnose and treat any disease caused by the growth of pathogen microorganisms in the body. Self-referrals are accepted.
Physician Specialty Descriptions

- **Internal Medicine** - Internal Medicine physicians specialize and focus on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases in adults. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Interventional Cardiology** - An Interventional Cardiologist is a cardiologist with one to two years of additional education and training in diagnosing and treating cardiovascular disease as well as congenital (present at birth) and structural heart conditions through catheter-based procedures, such as angioplasty and stenting.

- **Nephrology** - A Nephrologist specializes in diagnosing and treating problems with kidneys, especially their functions or diseases. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Neurology** - Neurologists specialize in the diagnosis and medical treatment of the brain, spinal cord and nerves. Must be referred by your physician.

- **Neurosurgery** - Physicians who specialize in surgeries of the nervous system. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Obstetrics and Gynecology** - These physicians diagnose and treat disorders of the female reproductive and urinary tracts. They are also concerned with the care of women during pregnancy, childbirth and the recuperative period following delivery. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Oncology/Hematology** - Oncologists engage in the specific study of tumors and treat cancer patients utilizing chemotherapy. Hematologists are specialists in the science encompassing the generation, anatomy, physiology, pathology and therapeutics of blood and treat patients with blood disorders. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Oral Surgery** - Oral Surgeons specialize in the surgical and adjunctive treatment of diseases, injuries, and deformities of the oral and maxillofacial region. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Orthopaedic Surgery** - Orthopaedic Surgeons specialize in surgery relating to treatment of disorders of the skeletal system and associated muscles. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Otolaryngology (ENT)** - Otolaryngologists (ear, nose and throat specialists) provide medical and surgical treatment for disorders of the ear, nose, throat, head and neck; and perform plastic/reconstructive surgery of the face. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Pathology** - Pathologists study and diagnose disease through laboratory examination of biopsies and bodily fluids. Pathology is a unique medical specialty in that they typically do not see patients directly, but rather serve as consultants to specialists and primary care physicians. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Pediatrics** - Physicians who specialize in the development and care of infants and children and the treatment of their diseases. Self-referrals are accepted.
Physician Specialty Descriptions (pg. 3)

- **Physiatry/Sports Medicine** - Physicians who specialize in the treatment, prevention, and diagnosis of disease by essentially physical means, including manipulation, massage, and exercise, often with mechanical devices. Sports Medicine physicians treat patients with illnesses or injuries resulting from participation in sports and athletic activities. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Podiatry** - A podiatrist specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases, injuries, and defects of the foot, ankles, and lower leg. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Psychiatry** - Psychiatrists specialize in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mental and emotional disorders. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Pulmonology** - Pulmonologists specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of bronchitis, emphysema, cancer and other lung disorders. Self-referrals are accepted.


- **Radiology - Interventional and Diagnostic** - Radiologists are specialists who utilize x-ray, nuclear medicine and other forms of imaging to assess the function or condition of internal organs or skeletal and circulatory systems. Interventional and diagnostic radiology is a sub-specialty where radiologists use minimally invasive image-guided procedures to diagnose and treat diseases. Must be referred by a physician.

- **Rheumatology** - Rheumatologists specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of arthritis, autoimmune diseases, pain disorders affecting joints, and osteoporosis. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Sleep Medicine** - A sleep specialist is a medical doctor who has completed additional education and training in the field of sleep medicine. Sleep medicine focuses on sleep, sleep disorders, and sleep-related conditions, and is a subspecialty within several medical specialties, including neurology, pulmonology, internal medicine, and psychiatry.

- **Thoracic Surgery** - A thoracic surgeon is a medical doctor who performs operations on the heart, lungs, esophagus, and other organs in the chest. This also includes surgeons who can be called cardiothoracic surgeons, cardiovascular surgeons, general thoracic surgeons, and congenital heart surgeons.

- **Urgent Care** - Urgent Care physicians provide immediate care for minor illnesses and injuries on a walk-in basis at all of our Med-Stops. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Urology** - Urologists specialize in the medical and surgical treatment of disorders of the male reproductive system, as well as the male and female urinary system. Self-referrals are accepted.

- **Vascular Surgery** - Vascular Surgeons specialize in surgery relating to a diagnosis and management of diseases affecting all parts of the vascular system except that of the heart and brain. Self-referrals are accepted.

For a directory of Houston Healthcare Physicians, visit our website at www.hhc.org/physician-directory.