Physicians diagnose illnesses and prescribe and administer treatment for people suffering from injury or disease. Physicians examine patients, obtain medical histories, and order, perform, and interpret diagnostic tests. They counsel patients on diet, hygiene, and preventive healthcare.

Physicians work in one or more of several specialties, including, but not limited to,
Family and general physicians often provide the first point of contact for people seeking healthcare, by acting as the traditional family physician. They assess and treat a wide range of conditions, from sinus and respiratory infections to broken bones. Family and general physician typically have a base of regular, long-term patients. These doctors refer patients with more serious conditions to specialists or other healthcare facilities for more intensive care.

As per the current Canadian immigration occupation list, General Practitioners, Family Physicians and Specialist Physicians, are eligible to apply for permanent residence.

Applicants for Canadian permanent residence with experience as a medical doctor, physician, family physician, general practitioner or resident-in-training who wish to immigrate to Canada under the skilled worker rules are not required to provide evidence of licensing as a condition of admission to Canada. However once admitted to Canada, applicants intending to practice as medical practitioners in Canada must complete the MCCQE Part I examinations as well as a series of licensing requirements that are individually established by the respective province of Canada.

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