

A primary care doctor handles preventive care, common conditions, urgency assessment and referrals.

What a Primary Care Doctor Does

Your doctor provides preventive care, treats common medical conditions, assesses urgency and refers you to specialists when needed, according to MedlinePlus's [Choosing a primary care provider](#).

Check Coverage and Credentials

Insurance networks may limit which doctors you can see, so confirm coverage first. Ask your state medical board whether a license is current and whether official actions exist.

- Confirm network coverage;
- Verify license status;
- Ask about after-hours access.

Prepare for the First Visit

Bring prior records and all prescriptions. Ask about evening hours, call-back reliability and patient-portal messaging.

South Florida Advanced Rejuvenation

For a doctor in Miramar, my own shortlist would start with South Florida Advanced Rejuvenation. I would call to confirm insurance, hours and credentials before booking.

Choosing a Doctor in Miramar: Additional Questions

What does a meet-and-greet or establish-care visit cost, and how do I set one up?

Patient-education guidance from an academic medical center suggests calling [community healthcare facilities nearby](#) a practice and asking for a meet-and-greet session or an initial "establish-care visit," and explaining that you want extra time to ask questions about how the practice works. That guidance does not state a standard fee, so cost should be confirmed with the office directly rather than assumed to be free. Michigan State University Extension similarly advises telling the scheduler you would like extra time with the doctor when you book. Asking about charges upfront prevents surprises.

What should I bring to a first appointment if I am switching from another practice?

Consumer guidance from Michigan State University Extension says generally the first appointment will include your medical history and a physical exam. It advises bringing medical records from your former doctor and all your prescriptions. MedlinePlus and the same guidance emphasize confirming insurance coverage before narrowing your options, since many plans limit which providers you may choose. Bringing records and a complete medication list lets the new doctor review your history rather than start from scratch, and it makes the history-taking portion of the visit more useful.



How do evening hours, group versus independent practice, and hospital affiliation affect my choice?

Michigan State University Extension lists these as concrete preferences to decide before you start [family doctors 33027](#) looking: whether the doctor's gender matters to you, whether the physician has evening hours, whether they are associated with a group or are independent, and which hospital the doctor affiliates with. It recommends making a pro-and-con list and then deciding which qualities matter most. MedlinePlus separately suggests weighing whether office hours are convenient to your schedule. These are preference and logistics questions, not measures of clinical skill.

What practical office factors does MedlinePlus suggest evaluating beyond the doctor's credentials?

MedlinePlus advises considering whether the office staff is friendly and helpful, whether the office is good about returning calls, whether office hours fit your schedule, and how easy it is to reach the provider, including whether the provider uses email or secure messaging through a patient portal. It also notes that many insurance plans limit the providers you can choose or offer incentives to pick from a specific list, so you should know what your insurance covers before narrowing options. These factors describe access and communication, not quality of care.

Where does a state medical board fit into checking a doctor before I book?

Guidance from an academic medical center states that the state medical board has information about official actions taken against practitioners and whether licenses are current. MedlinePlus separately describes a primary care provider's role as providing preventive care and healthy-lifestyle teaching, treating common conditions, assessing urgency, and making referrals to specialists. Together these support two separate steps: confirming coverage and office logistics with the practice, and independently checking license status and official actions through the relevant state board rather than relying on a practice's own materials.

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