

The chart below will help you obtain information about doctors, including verifying their credentials. Also listed is a website of professional organizations that provide a doctor referral service. The last item explains your right to have access to your medical records.

AGENCY	CONTACT INFO	COMMENTS
<a href="http://www.nydoctorprofile.com">New York State Physician Profile</a> <a href="http://www.nydoctorprofile.com">http://www.nydoctorprofile.com</a>	<b>1-888-338-6999</b>	This website was created after Governor George Pataki signed the New York Patient Health Information and Quality Improvement Act of 2000 to make it possible for all citizens of New York to get information about physicians.  Certain information is required to be available on all physicians.
<a href="http://www.certifacts.org/">American Board of Medical Specialties</a> <a href="http://www.certifacts.org/">http://www.certifacts.org/</a>	<b>1-866-275-2267</b>	Can tell you if the doctor is board certified. "Certified" means that the doctor has completed a training program in a specialty and has passed an exam (board) to assess his or her knowledge, skills, and experience to provide quality patient care in that specialty. Primary care doctors also may be certified as specialists. While board certification is a good measure of a doctor's knowledge, it is possible to receive quality care from doctors who are not board certified.
<a href="http://www.docboard.org">http://www.docboard.org</a>		Only combined public online physician database in the nation that has its direct source of data from state government licensing boards and that also remains free of charge to the public. DocFinder contains the licensing background and disciplinary information of physicians and other health care practitioners. Website is run by Administrators in Medicine a group of State medical board directors. Information is for certain states.
<a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/directories.html">Medline Plus Directories</a> <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/directories.html">http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/directories.html</a>		Listed here are many credible professional organizations that provide a physician referral service such as, (e.g., AMA, Society of Gynecologic Oncologists, American Society of Plastic Surgeons, American College of Moh's Micrographic Surgery and Cutaneous Oncology, etc ). It is an incredibly comprehensive list and has a nice section on "Specialized Hospitals and Clinics".
<b>OBTAINING MEDICAL RECORD INFORMATION</b>		
<b>Access to Medical Records</b>		Patients generally should be able to see and obtain copies of their medical records and request corrections if they identify errors and mistakes. Health plans, doctors, hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and other covered entities generally <u>should provide access these records within 30 days and may charge patients for the cost of copying and sending the records.</u> <a href="http://www.hhs.gov/news/facts/privacy.html">http://www.hhs.gov/news/facts/privacy.html</a>

