A health care provider is a licensed individual or organization that delivers medical services to patients. Providers encompass a wide range of professionals and entities involved in maintaining and restoring health through prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and ongoing patient care. They include:

1. **Primary Care Physicians (PCPs)** - Often the first point of contact, managing overall patient health, preventive care, and referrals to specialists.

2. **Specialists** - Doctors who focus on specific areas of medicine, such as cardiologists, neurologists, or oncologists, providing specialized care.

3. **Nurses** - Registered Nurses (RNs), Nurse Practitioners (NPs), and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) assist in direct patient care, often coordinating and delivering treatment plans alongside doctors.

4. **Therapists** - Physical, occupational, and speech therapists provide rehabilitative care to help patients recover and maintain functionality.

5. **Pharmacists** - Licensed to dispense medications and provide guidance on their proper use and potential side effects.

6. **Mental Health Providers** - Psychologists, psychiatrists, counselors, and social workers address mental health issues, from therapy to medication management.

7. **Hospitals and Clinics** - Facilities where patients receive outpatient or inpatient care, including surgeries, emergency treatment, and consultations.

8. **Home Health Aides** - Provide support in a patient's home, assisting with daily tasks and monitoring basic health conditions.

9. **Public Health Professionals** - Work in community settings to improve population health, through vaccinations, screenings, health education, and disease prevention programs.

10. **Allied Health Professionals** - Include dietitians, radiology technicians, laboratory technologists, and others who support diagnostic and therapeutic services.

Each health care provider plays a critical role in delivering comprehensive care tailored to a patient's unique health needs. Together, they contribute to a robust health care system designed to promote well-being and quality of life.

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