

Surgery

(from the Greek: χειρουργική cheirourgikē (composed of χεῖρ, “hand”, and ἔργον, “work”), via Latin: chirurgiae, meaning “hand work”) is an ancient medical specialty that uses operative manual and [instrumental](#) techniques on a patient to investigate and/or treat a pathological condition such as [disease](#) or [injury](#), or to help improve bodily function or appearance.

See [neurosurgery](#).

[Elective neurosurgery](#)

[Urgent neurosurgery](#)

[Emergency surgery](#) is one that must be performed without delay; the patient has no choice other than immediate surgery, if they do not want to risk permanent disability or death.

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Last update: **2024/06/07 02:57**

