Appendix B: Definition of Super Specialist Doctors

**Cardiologist:** Cardiology is the super specialist branch in internal medicine dealing with disorders of the heart and its blood vessels. Physicians specializing in this field of medicine are called cardiologists. Cardiac surgeons are those doctors who perform cardiac surgery - operative procedures on the heart and great vessels e.g. Bypass Surgery. The field is commonly divided into different branches according to the type of disease, like congenital heart defects, coronary artery disease, valvular heart disease, and heart failure.

**Endocrinologist:** Endocrinology is a branch of medicine which deals with disorders of the endocrine system (Glands) and its secretions called hormones. Endocrinology is concerned with the study of the synthesis, storage, and physiological function of hormones and with the cells of the endocrine glands and tissues that secrete them.

**Gastroenterologist:** Gastroenterology is the branch of medicine which deals with the digestive system and its disorders. Diseases affecting the gastrointestinal tract (i.e. organs from mouth to anus) are included in this specialty. Doctors specializing in the field are called gastroenterologists.

**Pulmonologist:** Pneumology is the specialty that deals with diseases of the lungs and the respiratory tract. It is also called respiratory medicine and chest medicine. Pulmonology is generally considered a branch of internal medicine, dealing with lungs & pleura. Pulmonaryology is concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of lung diseases, as well as secondary prevention (tuberculosis). Physicians specializing in this area are called pulmonologists.

**Surgeon:** A surgeon is a person who performs operations on patients. Surgery deals with surgical treatments that are operative, manual and instrumental techniques on a patient to investigate and/or treat a disease or injury, to help improve body functions or appearance, or sometimes for some different reason.