

Perioperative Care Pathways in Low- and Lower-Middle-Income Countries: Systematic Review and Narrative Synthesis

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Online Resource 3 Definition of the levels of hospital care

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Level of hospital care	Definition
First-level hospital	Few specialties; mainly internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, and general surgery. Often only one general practice physician or a nonphysician clinician. Limited laboratory services available for general analysis but not for specialized pathological analysis 50–250 beds
Second-level hospital	More differentiated by function, with as many as 5 to 10 clinical specialties. 200–800 beds
Third-level hospital	Highly specialized staff and technical equipment (e.g. cardiology, intensive care unit, and specialized imaging units) Clinical services highly differentiated by function Teaching activities in some facilities

300–1,500 beds