

Expectations for Preceptors

The Ambulatory Care Selective, begun in 1993, has three goals: students are to gain experience in providing primary care, experience in managing and diagnosing common ambulatory medical problems and are to learn about relationships between physicians, patients and their communities. In order to structure this experience, students are asked to define clinical and non-clinical objectives. These topics may be quite focused, (e.g., perfecting the neurological examination) or more general (e.g., delivery of psychiatric care in a community clinic). In addition to the stated objectives some students pursue topics that have not been sufficiently covered in the in-patient months but can be addressed through a preceptor in an ambulatory setting. Other students use the month to solidify their ideas about primary care or to decide on a primary care specialty.

The preceptor is essential to the success of this month and we hope that you can share your skills as a community physician, assist the students with the development of their clinical skills, evaluate the students' performance and evaluate the Ambulatory Care Selective course.

Although you are not responsible for the thirty percent of the time that the students spend learning about their non-clinical objectives or for making housing arrangements, we appreciate it when you can serve as a resource in those areas.