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\*\*\*\*\*More medical graduates becoming ''family doctors.''

DALLAS--An increased commitment to family medical care is shown in career plans of the 196 new graduates of The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School.

Twenty-five of the new physicians, or 12.7 percent, have chosen to enter residencies in family practice, an increasingly popular general-care discipline. This is almost twice the 6.5 percent or nine of 138 Southwestern graduates entering that field in 1975. It also is an increase from last year, when 9 percent (18 out of 187) made that choice.

Thus family practice rates as the 1979 graduates' third most popular specialty, outranked only by two traditionally favorite disciplines: internal medicine (chosen by 54 individuals), and surgery (picked by 37).

Southwestern's class of 1979 also includes the largest number of Mexican-American graduates ever, with 11. During the 1978-79 school year the Dallas medical school recorded the third largest Mexican-American enrollment among all U.S. medical schools, with 53 students, according to an Association of American Medical Colleges study. Leading the nation was the UT medical school at San Antonio, with 77 Mexican-American students.

The graduating class at Southwestern includes 163 males and 33 females.

With this year's largest-ever class of 196, Southwestern passes the 3,500 mark in total medical graduates. In addition, more than 300 graduate science degrees have been awarded by school and its sister institution, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

Begun as a small private college under auspices of Southwestern Medical Foundation in 1943, Southwestern became part of The University of Texas System in 1949. With creation of an allied health school and reorganization of a graduate school, Southwestern was expanded into The University of Texas Health Science Center in 1974.