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Did you choose medicine as your profession because you care about people? Has your early experience in medical school been limited to formulas and test tubes? Are you about to lose faith in the image of the physician who knows and cares about his patients?

If so, a summer preceptorship in family practice may be for you.

Students completing their freshman and sophomore years have the opportunity to sign up for month-long, out-of-county preceptorships with family practice doctors this summer. Each student will receive \$250 in compensatory funds, plus the experience of spending time with a doctor in "the real world."

Jeff Stewart, M.S.II, spent time last summer with Dr. William Boone of Pleasant Grove. The physician's practice includes 15% surgical cases, 35% medical, 10% obstetrical, 15% pediatric, 10% industrial and 15% other. His practice has a "drawing area" of 50,000, and he practices in a community hospital. Boone and his father are in partnership and employ two nurses and a therapist.

"The preceptorship was a great opportunity to learn first hand the day-to-day routine of a physician in private practice," Stewart says. "In addition I was exposed to such areas as office management and medical record keeping."

Geri Brown, also as an M.S.II, spent her preceptorship with Dr. David Pillow in Fort Worth. Pillow, formerly head of the family practice residency at John Peter Smith Hospital, practices in a 300-bed hospital. Pillow says 15-20% of his practice is made up of children under 11; 30% are patients from 26-55 years old and 30% are 56 or older.

Brown says she was eager to see patients in different clinical settings. And she did. "Dr. Pillow exposed me to surgery procedures, spinal taps and vasectomies, as well as 'well-baby' check-ups and OB/GYN patients.

"This was the first time I had gone on rounds and seen patients after admission," Brown says. "It is amazing how what I learned in neurology and anatomy were solidified as well as the particular diseases that are emphasized the following year in pathology."

For further information on different kinds of family practice preceptorships, contact Laura Snell at ext. 2134.