OVERALL EDUCATIONAL GOAL OF ELECTIVE
To provide RWJMS medical students with an ambulatory family practice experience in their third or fourth year complementary to their required Family Medicine clerkship

OBJECTIVES
I. Patient care
   • Increase student’s ability to evaluate and manage a variety of common medical problems in the ambulatory setting.
   • Refine students’ skills in history taking and performance of the physical exam.

II. Medical knowledge
   • Increase students understanding of the pathophysiologic basis for presentation of disease.
   • Increase ability to apply basic and clinical sciences in the out-patient setting.
   • Enhance student’s clinical reasoning abilities.

III. Practice-based learning and improvement
   • Promote commitment to life-long learning and develop strategies to continuously up-date personal clinical knowledge and skills.
   • Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific and clinical studies relevant to patients’ health problems.
   • Provide an opportunity to explore student’s own strengths, personal goals and career options.

IV. Interpersonal and communication skills
   • Facilitate development of effective communication skills, both verbal and written, that results in appropriate information exchange with patients, patients’ families, and other health professionals.
   • Develop proficiency in patient education and counseling.

V. Professionalism
   • Promote respect, compassion, and integrity in interactions with patients and other health professionals.
   • Ensure accountability to patients, society, and the profession, and a commitment to excellence and on-going professional development.

OVER
VI. Systems-based Practice
  - Increase student’s understanding of the demographics of the population being served and the available resources in the practice and the community.
  - Increase student’s awareness of the complexity of providing longitudinal, comprehensive, and integrated care and increase student’s ability to assist patient in navigating the health care system.
  - Increase student’s understanding of health care costs and appropriate utilization of resources.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**
Students will spend the majority of their elective time at the outpatient office or clinic (approximately 6-10 hours per day) under the supervision of the family physician to whom they are assigned. Hospital rounds, home visits, nursing home care and other professional activities (department/hospital/clinic rounds or meetings) may be included. Night call may also be a part of this elective.

**METHOD OF STUDENT EVALUATION**
Students will be evaluated by the family physician faculty to whom they are assigned.

**ARE THERE ANY PREREQUISITES FOR THIS ELECTIVE?** No

**IS THIS ELECTIVE AVAILABLE TO THIRD YEAR MEDICAL STUDENTS AS WELL?** Yes