

TSNRP ★ news

Greetings from the TriService Nursing Research Program!

SPRING/SUMMER 2010



Col Marla De Jong

Twenty years ago, representatives from the Army, Navy, and Air Force formed the TriService Nursing Research Group and collaborated to develop a strategy to facilitate military nursing research. Today, thanks to the tireless contributions of nursing and research leaders, nurse scientists, policymakers, staff

members of the TriService Nursing Research Program (TSNRP), and others, the TSNRP thrives.

The TSNRP has awarded more than 315 grant awards, and more than 650 military nurses have participated on the research and evidence-based practice (EBP) project teams. The results of research and EBP projects have informed clinical practice, the delivery of health care, management, education, and health policy. Nurse scientists have published the results of funded studies in more than 90 journals and have delivered podium and poster presentations at countless conferences and meetings. The U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force Medical Departments now fund the TSNRP, which provides the financial stability that the TSNRP needs to accomplish its goals and to reach new heights.

Despite previous successes, looking forward we see abundant opportunities to further mature the TSNRP. For example, I anticipate that more nurse scientists will apply for the Fast Track Award (see p. 9), which recently was

revised to be more responsive to opportune research needs that affect military nursing clinical practice, education, management, and policy. Work is under way to evaluate commercial software applications that could be used to electronically manage all phases of the grants management process. The Graduate Evidence-Based Practice Award will be introduced later this year and will be of particular interest to doctor of nursing practice (DNP) students. As we consider ways to expand the cadre of nurse scientists, the TSNRP will sponsor a course titled "Research Strategies for Clinicians." Finally, efforts to establish and formalize research interest groups may help military nurse scientists with mutual interests launch and advance salient programs of research that align with research priorities of the TSNRP.

Those who worked diligently to found the TSNRP would be proud of its accomplishments to date. In addition, however, they would challenge us all to deliberately strive to (1) develop increasingly sophisticated programs of research that are unique to the military and critical to the health of military members and their families; (2) constantly articulate the impact of research findings on areas such as patient outcomes, nurse retention, nursing competencies, leadership, ethics, and mentoring; and (3) facilitate collaborative research across the continuum of care. As Executive Director of the TSNRP, I look forward to leading this journey.

Col Marla De Jong, USAF, NC, PhD



TSNRP News is published twice each year by the TriService Nursing Research Program. It is available online at www.usuhs.mil/tsnrp/News/news.php.

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TSNRP and USU Office of Scientific Management: A Gratifying Partnership

Tanya Y. Coachman

Within months of taking over the secondary review process for TSNRP grant awards, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) Office of Scientific Management (OSM) for Grants and Contracts is already handling protocols like an old pro. According to LTC (ret) Charles A. Salter, USA, PhD, SD, scientific director of the USU OSM, his office's recently expanded responsibility of all externally funded research contracts and grants is working out quite well thanks to a great collaborative relationship with TSNRP.

"We've worked out an excellent system that, of course, took a lot of advanced planning. But now that we've got it running, it's a fabulous collaboration," Dr. Salter said. He credits his small but effective team—five specialists in various areas of grants management—with making the partnership all the more successful. The team already addressed the backlog of protocols it inherited and has processed approximately 30 to 40 applications to date.

The OSM provides scientific and administrative oversight for research grants and contracts managed by the USU, as well as guidance on planning a two-tier review process. The office is responsible for ensuring that the review process is implemented to evaluate the scientific and technical merit of all research grant applications submitted to the USU. OSM staff also perform the second level of review for TSNRP and other externally funded grants.

"The secondary review serves as an external process that doesn't have that immediate connection with the



USU's OSM Team (from left to right): Jeannienne Paschall, Connie Nails, LTC (ret) Charles Salter, Lucy Taylor, Barbara Shelton, and Sharon Randall.

scientist and thus is theoretically more impartial," Dr. Salter said. Although he reports that his team tends to agree with TSNRP's decisions the vast majority of the time, his staff's job is to "have the more distant viewpoint." The work his office performs ensures that all research and/or clinical investigations are conducted in full compliance with all applicable federal, Department of Defense (DoD), and USU regulations, directives, instructions, and memoranda.

For TSNRP, the OSM reviews protocols that can range in length from as few as 20 pages to as many as 200 pages. In their reviews, Dr. Salter and his staff review relevant information, such as correspondence between the principal investigator and the appropriate Institutional Review Board(s) (which performs the primary review) or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee(s), the training and qualifications of the investigators, Federal-Wide Assurance documents

for non-DoD institutions, instruments and data collection forms, the informed consent document, and study advertisements. More substantive information is also considered, such as the soundness of the science, the research methodology employed, and the military relevance. These latter points comprise a final check on the already completed TSNRP review process, by which only scientifically meritorious proposals are funded in the first place. Dr. Salter's team also considers continuing review documentation, adverse event reports, amendment requests, protocol deviation reports, and Institutional Review Board and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee closeout documents.

"The kinds of projects that interest me the most, personally, and that I think are of great value to the military, are those that go into a combat setting—for example, Iraq and Afghanistan. These projects advance combat care more immediately," Dr. Salter said.



But he also believes that research conducted at stateside hospitals is important because the investigators deal directly with the human patient and seek to improve patient care. It is work he finds “very exciting and gratifying. . . . I am happy to play whatever role we can play to facilitate that.”

Dr. Salter certainly is no stranger to research. After spending 28 years in military service with the U.S. Army Medical Department, he came to USU in 2006, still on active duty and having performed many military research missions. And, according to OSM

grants management administrator Lucy Taylor, he is a great asset to the office.

“He is one of the best people you can work with,” said Taylor, who tracks, monitors, and processes TSNRP protocols, and has worked with Dr. Salter since 2007. “He is very good at bringing everybody into the discussion, including me,” she added.

The only scientist in his office, Dr. Salter holds five degrees in various areas of science and has published extensively in many different areas, ranging from aviation human factors, radiobiology, and radiation to

psychology, nutrition, and public health. His diverse background and training, he believes, gives him the breadth of experience to understand protocols in numerous fields, but it is his doctorate in public health that is particularly relevant to his work with TSNRP, he said.

Never one to rest on merits, Dr. Salter said that he and his staff constantly look for ways to improve their processes and plan to meet soon with TSNRP to discuss ways to further refine procedures. “It’s so nice to have a collaborative, collegial relationship with this group and to be working together so well.” ★

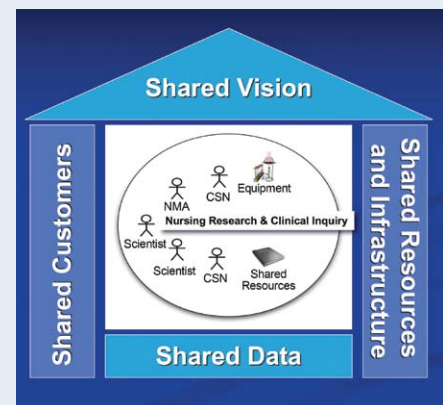
Army Nursing Shifts Emphasis to Systems-Based Care

Lori Loan, PhD, RNC

Army nursing is transforming nursing care delivery from an expert-based practice model to a systems-based care model. This new systems view is critical to understanding patient outcomes, safety, values, and quality. Tenets of systems-based care include systems resourcing, health care economics, teamwork, cost-benefit considerations, and practice management. The plan is to implement the transition using an integrative systems-thinking framework. Steps in this framework include developing and applying systems methods and processes, building and maintaining network relationships, building systems and knowledge capacity, and encouraging transformation to a systems culture (Stokols D., et al. 2008). These steps will help to build a better standardized system of care to tackle critical Army nursing issues.

Key to the transformation is uniting various types of nursing experts to better meet the needs of frontline

nurses and nursing executives. For the nursing research community, this change will involve transitioning the existing nursing research services to centers for nursing science and clinical inquiry (CNSCI). The mission of these new centers will include nursing decision support and the integration of evidence-based practice into care at the bedside with research. The centers will be staffed by nurse scientists (formerly called nurse researchers); selected clinical nurse specialists (CNSs); nurses prepared at the doctor of nursing practice level (a relatively new practice-focused degree that’s an alternative to the research-focused doctoral degree); and nurse methods analysts (NMAs). This staffing will result in permanent teams of nurse experts with a shifting emphasis that capitalizes on the four Army nursing imperatives—evidence-based management, warrior care, leader development, and human capital—while addressing diverse priorities as well as local and regional needs.



A systems-based care network

Working together in CNSCI will enable CNSs, NMAs, and nurse scientists to move evidence from question to answer to translation to evaluation. Consolidating inquiry assets will also increase the capacity and capability for evidence-based management and evidence-based practice. When the transformation is complete, the centers will include all essential elements of a systems-based care network as depicted in the figure above.

Stokols, D., Hall, K. L., Taylor, B. K., Moser, R. P. (2008). The science of team science: Overview of the field and introduction to the supplement. *Am J Prev Med* 35(2S), S77–S89 & S96–S115.

Dr. Lori Loan Is New Consultant for Nursing Research to The Army Surgeon General

Sara Harris, MA

Lori Loan, PhD, RNC, was appointed to the position of consultant for nursing research by The Army Surgeon General, LTG Eric Schoomaker. Dr. Loan, who previously was chief of the Nursing Research Service at Madigan Army Medical Center for 13 years, started her new role on 1 February.

She began her career in nursing research in the U.S. Army system in 1989. She also holds clinical faculty appointments at Pacific Lutheran University and the University of Washington.

Dr. Loan earned a PhD in nursing from the University of Washington, Seattle, where she specialized in physiology and biophysics. For many years she studied cellular wounding and healing in the respiratory tract of premature infants. She also has had a long-term interest in health services research, and when the military switched to the TRICARE health system, she made health services research the focus of her work. She helped develop and evaluate the Military Nursing Outcomes Database, a nationwide database to track military nursing staffing effectiveness and patient outcomes and studied evidence-based practice extensively.

The experience Dr. Loan built during the course of her career will contribute directly to her varied responsibilities as consultant to The Army Surgeon General for Nursing Research. One role of the consultant is to respond to queries from Army nursing leaders and provide evidence to support practice, policy, and the provision of nursing care. Her former position as chief of Madigan's Nursing Research Service put her in close contact with former consultants. "I have worked with many Army nurses who had this job before me," Dr. Loan said. "I've helped other nursing research consultants when they needed products or had questions. So I was lucky to have been mentored by experts to develop the skills I needed to successfully accomplish the work required for my new job."

In addition, Dr. Loan expects to dedicate about 40 percent of her time in the new position working with Madigan Army Medical Center nurses in the conduct of TSNRP-funded research and evidence-based practice projects. She recently recalled the first round of grants awarded by TSNRP in 1992. "Four of them were



Dr. Lori Loan

from Madigan Army Medical Center," she said. "So all along, I have been assisting military nurses with writing grants and conducting research."

Dr. Loan is the first consultant to assume the position on a nearly full-time basis. As Army nursing makes the transition to a system-wide standardized model of care, she will devote much of her time to overseeing its progress. The shift entails devising standardized job descriptions for the nurse researcher, clinical nurse specialist (CNS), and nurse methods analyst staff as well

TSNRP Executive Director Lt Col De Jong Promoted to Colonel

On Monday 8 March 2010, Lt Col Marla De Jong, USAF, NC, TSNRP's Executive Director, was promoted to the rank of Colonel. The heartfelt ceremony took place at the Military Women in Military Service for America Memorial at the Arlington National Cemetery. Col De Jong's husband, Gary, and youngest son,

Nathan, attended, along with many military and civilian colleagues and friends that she has made throughout her career as an officer in the United States Air Force Nurse Corps. The special event was enhanced by the participation of Maj Gen Kimberly Siniscalchi, Assistant Air Force Surgeon General, Medical Force Development,

and Assistant Air Force Surgeon General, Nursing Services, who served as the presiding officer. Maj Gen Siniscalchi recruited Col De Jong into the Air Force and has been a mentor throughout her career. Congratulations are in order to Col De Jong!



as measurements for looking at and comparing the results of nurse science and clinical inquiry support services. The new model also emphasizes systems thinking and teamwork, so that bedside nurses can consult with those who know the evidence supporting their care practices. Nurse methods analysts, in particular, she noted, will “help us turn numbers to knowledge and, when paired with the CNSs who have the bedside know-how, will help us expedite getting evidence to the point of care.” These new nursing support teams will work together in Centers for Nursing Science and Clinical Inquiry. The goal, she said, is to keep the work of the centers balanced so that research, for example, does not outweigh implementation of evidence or the use of data for decision-making. (For details, see Dr. Loan’s article on the transition on p. 3.)

Here, too, her experience feeds directly into her new responsibilities. She has already played a central role in the shift, because Madigan Army Medical Center, a pilot site for the transition, has carried out the planning and early implementation stages of this process. Defining the core responsibilities and required skills for each role, Madigan has already made the change for in-patient clinical nurse specialists and nurse methods analysts. She aims to propose additional competencies and job standards for nurse scientists—from new doctoral graduates to chiefs—to the Army Nurse Corps’ National Research Advisory Board for approval at the end of April.

Dr. Loan is also enthusiastic about her role planning the Biennial Phyllis J. Verhonick Nursing Research Course, another of her consultant duties. Active Army, Navy, and Air Force

researchers, as well as retired civilians and military nurses, will gather 26–29 April 2010 in San Antonio, Texas, to present the latest findings. The abstracts to be presented at the meeting feature “many excellent topics,” Dr. Loan said. The overarching theme is “Military Nursing Research: Responding to Challenges with Innovations in Practice and Science.” Dozens of researchers have been

The experience Dr. Loan built during the course of her career will contribute directly to her varied responsibilities as consultant to The Army Surgeon General for Nursing Research.

selected to present their findings. “We’ll get to hear about the research that has been done during the past 2 years,” she explained. “I think the most exciting thing is to pull all that military relevant research together and to hear what’s being done.” Dr. Loan has twice won the Phyllis J. Verhonick Excellence Award recognizing evidence-based practice

research projects and now will be in a position to recognize four outstanding researchers at this year’s meeting. No matter what branch of service a consultant serves, Dr. Loan said, “it’s a hard job, but it’s very rewarding. I feel really blessed to have been asked to do the job.” ★

Recent Promotions

The following military nurse researchers have been promoted in military rank. Please join us in extending congratulations to these exceptional military nurses.

U.S. Army Nurse Corps

- MeLisa Gantt to LTC
- Laureen Otto to MAJ

U.S. Air Force

- Kevin Bohan to Col
- Marla De Jong to Col
- Susan Dukes to Lt Col
- Candy Wilson to Lt Col

Recent Retirements

U.S. Army Nurse Corps

- COL Mona Bingham
- COL Kathleen Dunemnn

Call for Mentors

Have you demonstrated superior mentorship and leadership skills and developed an active publication history within the past 5 years? If yes, TSNRP needs you. TSNRP seeks mentors to assist novice military nurse researchers by building a Research Mentor Network.

How to Apply

E-mail the following materials to TSNRP at tsnrp@usuhs.mil:

- A memo with a brief explanation of your research focus and methodology expertise, along with an explanation of why you wish to work with military nurse scientists.
- Your curriculum vitae.
- A letter of recommendation.

Awards and Honors

Karen A. Rieder Research/Federal Nursing Poster Session Draws Record Attendance in 2009

Attendance at the 2009 Karen A. Rieder Research/Federal Nursing Poster Session was among the largest in recent years. More than 250 nurses attended the session, which was held in St. Louis, Missouri, on Monday 16 November 2009 during the 115th Annual Meeting of AMSUS, the Society of the Federal Health Agencies. The 2009 AMSUS theme was “Lewis and Clark and Federal Healthcare: Teams Charting New Frontiers.”

Co-sponsored by TSNRP and the Federal Nursing Section, the poster session offers an opportunity for military and civilian nurse scientists, clinicians, leaders, educators, policymakers, and others from all the federal services, and their guests to meet and update their knowledge of recent nursing developments as they view the posters, speak with presenters, and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow nurses.

The winners in 2009 were as follows:

Karen A. Rieder Research Posters

First Place

“Oral Care Practices for the Deployed Critical Care Nurse in Orally Intubated Patients in Iraq”

LTC Laura Feider, AN, USA, PhD, RN
LTC Nancy Steele, AN, USA, PhD, RN

Second Place

“Bone Health in Soldiers Pre- and Post-Deployment”

MAJ (ret) Mary McCarthy, AN, USA, PhD, RN, CNSN
Lori A. Loan, PhD, RNC

Third Place

“Nursing Core Values & Caring During Operation Iraqi Freedom”

CDR Janet Gehring, NC, USN, MSN, RN
Kristen Swanson, PhD, RN

Federal Nursing Posters

First Place

“Metered Dosed Inhalers Versus Nebulizers in the Treatment of Acute Asthma in Children”

LCDR Darryl B. Sol, NC, USN, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, FNP-C
MAJ Jody Dugai, AN, USA

Second Place

“Development of the Evidence-Based Protocol Back to Basics Bundle of Nursing Care: Interim Results”

CAPT Linnea Axman, NC, USN, DrPH, MSN, FNP-BC, FAANP
CAPT Angelica Almonte, NC, USN, PhD, RN

Third Place

“Moving Toward an Evidence-Based Nurse Staffing Model”

Lori A. Loan, PhD, RNC
MAJ Sandra Rolph, AN, USA ★



Numerous nurses attended the Karen A. Rieder Research/Federal Nursing Poster Session at AMSUS 2009. Beginning with the top left photo and moving clockwise, CAPT Jacqueline Rychnovsky and CPT Laurel Cofell exhibit their poster; Senator Daniel Inouye Fellows COL Ellen Forster, CAPT Jacqueline Rychnovsky, and COL Rachel Armstrong proudly display their medals at AMSUS; and Navy nurses gather at the poster session for a group photo.



16th Biennial Phyllis J. Verhonick Nursing Research Course

LTC Linda W. Fisher, AN, USA, MHA, RN, FACHE

The theme for the 16th Biennial Phyllis J. Verhonick Nursing Research Course, scheduled for 26–29 April 2010 in San Antonio, Texas, is “Military Nursing Research: Responding to Challenges with Innovations in Practice and Science.” Dr. Verhonick, for whom the conference was named, would be proud. She spent her distinguished career, both civilian and military, attending to the calling of integrating research and practice. Among her many accomplishments were three books on nursing research written in the 1970s, prior to her death in 1977. She was a true pioneer in nursing research and a charter member of the American Academy of Nursing. The awards bestowed in her name are to acknowledge and kindle the love of research in a new generation. For more information about Dr. Verhonick, please visit www.library.vcu.edu/tml/speccoll/vnfame/verhonickbio.html.

Recipients of the 2010 Phyllis J. Verhonick awards are as follows:

Phyllis J. Verhonick Excellence Award for the Most Outstanding Master’s Student Research Paper

CPT Herman Henkes, AN, USA,
Brooke Army Medical Center
(BAMC)

CPT Anna Legaspi, AN, USA, BAMC

CPT Jacqueline Monroe, AN, USA,
BAMC

CPT Orin Kendall, AN, USA, BAMC

CPT Joann LeDoux, AN, USA,
Womack Army Medical
Center (WAMC)

CPT Christopher Haese, AN,
USA, WAMC

Abstract Title: Evaluation of the Anxiolytic Properties of Tetrahydropalmatine, a Corydalis Yanhusuo Compound, in the Male Sprague-Dawley Rat

Phyllis J. Verhonick Excellence Award for the Most Outstanding Doctoral Student Research Paper

LTC Leigh McGraw, AN, USA,
Madigan Army Medical Center
(MAMC)

Abstract Title: Comparison of Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Deployed U.S. Military Personnel

Phyllis J. Verhonick Excellence Award for the Most Outstanding Research Done While Assigned to a Research Position

LTC Leigh McGraw, AN, USA, MAMC

Abstract Title: The Influence of Mental Skills on Psychosocial Characteristics

Phyllis J. Verhonick Excellence Award for the Most Outstanding Evidence-Based Practice/Clinical Innovations Project

Ms. Felicidad Green, RN, Walter Reed
Army Medical Center

Abstract Title: Foot Care Program

Immediately following the Phyllis J. Verhonick Nursing Research Course is a TSNRP-sponsored seminar titled Research Strategies for Clinicians. This 1.5-day session will describe strategies that clinicians can use to overcome barriers to conducting research in the service setting. Dr. Marianne Chulay, clinical research and critical care nursing consultant, will share proven strategies for finding good research questions, developing a research protocol, obtaining Institutional Review Board approval for the study, making data collection easy, and disseminating research findings through presentations and publications. This program focuses on pragmatic approaches to integrate the conduct of research into everyday clinical practice, providing a variety of examples of clinician-led studies that have influenced nursing practice both locally and nationally. Registration is free and military nurses are invited to attend. ★

Newly Funded Studies

Congratulations to three new grant recipients! TSNRP recently awarded research grants to the following military nurse scientists:

LTC Joseph O’Sullivan, AN, USA, “Comparative Resuscitation Measures for Drug Toxicities Utilizing Lipid Emulsions”

MAJ Kristal Melvin, AN, USA, “Couple Functioning and Posttraumatic Stress in OIF/OEF Veterans and Spouses”

MAJ (ret) Denise Miner-Williams, AN, USA, “Military Stress-Busting Program for Family Caregivers”



Deadlines and Events

Submissions for 2010 Poster Session at AMSUS Begin

“Federal Medicine: A Global Force for Health” is the theme for the 2010 AMSUS, Society of the Federal Health Agencies, 116th Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona; planners are encouraged to invite international delegates. The Karen A. Rieder Research/Federal Nursing Poster Session will take place at the conference on Tuesday 2 November 2010. This will be the first time in almost a decade that the event will occur on Tuesday instead of Monday.

Poster abstract submissions for the 2010 Karen A. Rieder Research/Federal Nursing Poster Session began on 1 April and will continue through 30 June.

Registered nurses who work in the federal service sector or for the American Red Cross are eligible to submit an abstract. Other requirements for research posters are listed below.

For more information, please visit www.amsus.org, www.usuhs.mil/tsnnp, or www.hjf.org/events/index.html.

Requirements for Research Posters

- The principal investigator must be a registered nurse in the federal service sector or the American Red Cross.
- The research must have been initiated or completed within the past 5 years.

Poster abstract submissions for the 2010 Karen A. Rieder Research/Federal Nursing Poster Session began on 1 April and will continue through 30 June.

- Studies involving human subjects or animals may be required to include an Institutional Review Board or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee approval number on the poster.

- Funding sources should be noted on the abstract and poster.
- Abstracts must address the following:
 - Aims/objectives of the study, including the hypothesis or research question.
 - Theoretical framework.
 - Research design, methods, and statistical analysis.
 - Study findings and implications for nursing.

Suggested Topics

Suggested topics for the Federal Nursing Poster Session include health promotion, joint medical training, rehabilitation of combat casualties, medical readiness, innovative clinical practices, treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder, joint operational exercises, pre-deployment/re-deployment issues, family/community reintegration, joint services initiatives, and multidisciplinary approach to care. ★

Calendar

April 2010

Phyllis J. Verhonick Military Nursing Research Course
26–29 April (ends at ~ 1200 on 29 April), San Antonio, Texas

Research Strategies for Clinicians Course
29–30 April (begins at 1300 on 29 April), San Antonio, Texas

May 2010

Advisory Council Meeting
3–4 May, Rockville, Maryland

National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition

15–20 May, Washington, DC

Research Grant Camp I

24–28 May, Bethesda, Maryland

July 2010

2010 Summer Institute on Evidence-Based Practice
7–10 July, San Antonio, Texas

August 2010

Research Grant Camp II
3–4 August, San Diego, California

Research Development Course

5–6 August, San Diego, California

Post-Award Grant Management Workshop

25–27 August, location TBD

September 2010

Letter of Intent for FY 2011 Funding Cycle A
due at TSNRP 7 September

November 2010

Grant Applications for FY 2011 Funding Cycle A
due at TSNRP 2 November



Fast Track Award

The TriService Nursing Research Program (TSNRP) announces revisions to its Fast Track Award mechanism to be more responsive to opportune research needs that affect military nursing clinical practice, education, management, and policy.

Purpose: To support the study of an emerging threat or time-sensitive or Service-directed question(s) that directly relates to the research priorities of the TSNRP.

Award: Up to \$150,000/year in direct costs for a maximum study period of 2 years and a maximum award of \$300,000. The researcher must complete the study in 2 years or less and submit a research paper for publication.

Eligibility: Active Duty, Reserve, or National Guard Nurse Corps officers who (1) have completed at least one extramurally funded research study, (2) are currently conducting an extramurally funded research study, or (3) first-authored at least two original data-based publications that report post-dissertation research in a refereed scholarly journal(s). Retired military nurses may serve as associate investigators, consultants, or mentors.

Application period: Fast Track Award applications are accepted from **5 January 2010 to 1 May 2010**. Applicants are encouraged to apply early in the fiscal year because funding is subject to availability of funds.

Application procedure: To apply, military nurse researchers should prepare and submit a grant application in accordance with guidelines that are detailed in the TSNRP FY 2010 Call for Proposals. Applicants must include a compelling argument for how the proposed topic supports the study of an emerging threat or time-sensitive or Service-directed question(s) that directly relates to the research priorities of the TSNRP.

Evaluation of the application: Scientific and programmatic review of the application will begin the first day of the month after the application is received in the TSNRP office. Section VIII of the TSNRP FY 2010

Call for Proposals describes the scientific and programmatic review criteria that reviewers will use to evaluate the application. The goal is to inform applicants of a funding decision 12 to 15 weeks after submission.

Terms and conditions: Appendices I and J of the TSNRP FY 2010 Call for Proposals contain information regarding the terms and conditions that will apply to the Fast Track Award.

Questions or requests for additional information should be directed to:

TriService Nursing Research Program
Uniformed Services University
of the Health Sciences
4301 Jones Bridge Road
Bethesda, MD 20814-4799
Telephone: 301-319-0596
E-mail: tsnrp@usuhs.mil

Article by CAPT Cox et al. Accepted for Publication

Congratulations to CAPT Catherine Wilson Cox, NC, USN (RC), and her co-researchers Michael V. Relf, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, AACRN; Rusan Chen, PhD; and LCDR (ret.) George A. Zangaro, NC, USN. An article they wrote reporting findings from their TSNRP-funded research was accepted for publication in *Nursing Outlook*, the journal of the American Academy of Nursing. The article, "The Retention of Recalled United States Navy Nurse Reservists," will appear in a mid-2010 issue.

The following is a sneak preview of the *Nursing Outlook* abstract:

The purpose of this study was to identify factors that contribute to the retention of United States Navy Nurse Corps reservists called to duty in 2003. Data were collected by questionnaires based on Price and Mueller's causal model of voluntary turnover and were analyzed via descriptive statistics, multiple regression analysis, exploratory factor analysis, and structural equation

modeling. The data indicate that the model fits the data well, with job satisfaction having the strongest influence on one's intent to stay in the Reserve. The data analyses did not support the concern that a negative experience with a recall could make a reservist resign his or her commission. The results may prove useful to any nation that relies on a volunteer reserve force to augment its day-to-day nursing capabilities.

Deployment Benefits JC²RT Members

Lt Col Candy Wilson, USAF, NC

The Joint Combat Casualty Research Team (JC²RT), made up of Army, Navy, and Air Force researchers and clinicians, is deployed to a combat environment to foster and facilitate health care research. Since its inception in 2006, the team has completed or begun work on 34 nursing research protocols (20 studies on warrior care and 14 on nursing/health care professional issues). Formerly known as the Deployed Combat Casualty Research Team, JC²RT personnel are assigned by United States Central Command (CENTCOM) per recommendations

Theater-based research is intended to improve understanding of issues related to combat operations and to the health and health care of service members in the theaters of operation.

from their respective Surgeon General consultants via a joint manning document. All JC²RT positions are open to qualified nurses.

Theater-based research is intended to improve understanding of issues related to combat operations and to the health and health care of service members in the theaters of operation. Research conducted in Afghanistan must meet regulatory requirements and be routed through the JC²RT. As of 1 March 2010, research in Iraq is



Deputy Director LTC Laura Feider (center) and nurse scientists (from left to right) Col (sel) Kevin Bohan and Lt Col Candy Wilson served on JC²RT #7 at Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan.

limited and approved on an individual basis after consideration of extenuating circumstances unique to Iraq.

JC²RT #7, whose members recently returned to their home stations, included three nurses: Deputy Director LTC Laura Feider, AN, USA, and senior scientists Col (sel) Kevin Bohan, USAF, NC, and Lt Col Candy Wilson, USAF, NC. The team facilitated 57 research protocols and 39 performance improvement projects during its 6-month deployment. LTC Feider completed an evidence-based practice protocol on oral care, increasing nursing documentation of oral care practices to more than 95% and reducing ventilator-associated pneumonia in critically injured patients. She also collected data on health care factors that lead to compassion fatigue. Col (sel) Bohan opened the Kandahar Airfield research location and forged relationships with key hospital personnel to make the JC²RT an integral part of the hospital team. Maj Wilson completed a study on the iron status of deployed



Team #7 created the Joint Combat Casualty Research Team (JC²RT) logo.

military members and collected data for an ongoing investigation of how women manage genitourinary symptoms while deployed. JC²RT #8 nurses are LTC Leigh McGraw, AN, USA (deputy director); Maj Jennifer Hatzfeld, USAF, NC; LCDR Cynthia Ferguson, NC, USN; and CPT Rachel Greve, AN, USA. If you are interested in conducting research in Afghanistan, contact LTC McGraw at DSN 318-431-9162 or leigh.mcgraw@us.army.mil. ★



Published Articles by TSNRP Researchers

2009

Axman, L. P. (2009). *Development of the Participatory Action Research Empowerment Measure*. Germany: Verlag Dr. Muller Publishers.

Heese, T., Jenkinson, J., Love, C., Milam, R., Perkins, L., Adams, C., et al. (2009). Anxiolytic effects of L-theanine—a component of green tea—when combined with midazolam, in the male Sprague-Dawley rat. *AANA J* 77(6), 445–449.

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Newly Published Final Reports

Congratulations to the following three military nurse researchers for completing the Final Report process. Their TSNRP Final Reports were assigned NTIS accession numbers and entered into NTIS and CINAHL databases, with links on TSNRP's Web site.

- LTC (ret) Janice G. Agazio, AN, USA (2009). *Army Nursing Practice in Wartime and Operations Other than War*, TSNRP study N02-026, NTIS accession #PB2009-112614.
- LTC Lori Trego, AN, USA (2009). *Menstruation during Deployment: Attitudes toward Menstrual Suppression*, TSNRP study N06-001, NTIS accession #PB2010-103132.
- LCDR Dennis Spence, NC, USN (2009). *Evaluation of Individual Differences in HPA and Sam Axis Activity in Students Attending Basic Enlisted Submarine School*, TSNRP study N08-702, NTIS accession #PB2009-115527.

Know Your Specialty Leaders

Your specialty leaders are a valuable resource for current research requirements and initiatives throughout the military, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the Federal Nursing Services Council.

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CAPT Kelley Guest Edits Nursing Research Supplement

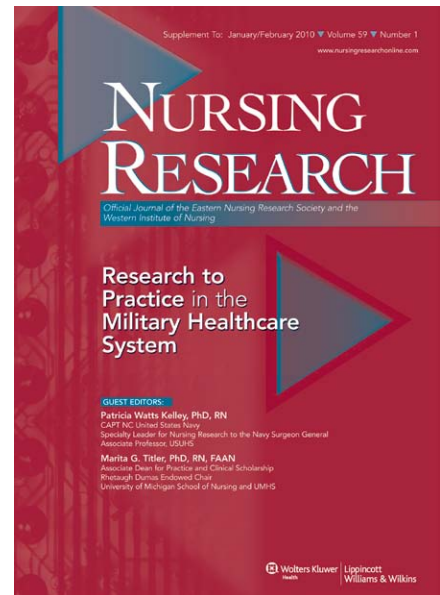
CAPT Patricia Watts Kelley, NC, USN, and Dr. Marita G. Titler guest edited the January/February 2010 supplement to *Nursing Research*, titled Research to Practice in the Military Healthcare System. (The supplement citation is *Nurs Res* 2010; 59[1 Suppl].) The supplement, which includes 11 publications, 10 of which military nurse researchers authored, focuses on evidence-based practice (EBP) in military nursing and culminated from a seed that was planted in 2002. Military nurse researchers who participated in the TSNRP strategic refinement conference that year recommended that TSNRP expend more effort and resources to implement research findings into practice and, thereby, advance military health care.

In response, Lt Col (ret) Diep Duong, during her tenure as TSNRP Executive Director, secured funding and launched a large EBP initiative that was designed to integrate evidence into military nursing practice.

During her term in office, CAPT Kelley, Lt Col Duong's successor, organized education courses about EBP; led military nurses to identify, plan, initiate, and finish their projects; and facilitated dissemination of the results. Subsequently, former TSNRP Executive Director LTC (ret) Deborah Kenny supported and guided the initiative and ensured its success in the military health care system. Throughout the process, CAPT Kelley mentored the nurses who participated in the EBP initiative and ensured that this supplement came to fruition. This supplement to *Nursing Research* summarizes several projects that military and federal nurses undertook as part of the EBP initiative.

The following are the authors' last names (in alphabetical order) and the titles of the 11 articles that appear in the journal supplement:

- Bingham, M., Ashley, J., De Jong, M., Swift, C. "Implementing a unit-level intervention to reduce the probability of ventilator-associated pneumonia."
- Bridges, E. "Facilitation of evidence-based nursing practice during military operations."
- Duong, D. N. "The evidence-based practice concept: Engaging interest and participation."
- Kelley, P. W. "Evidence-based practice in the military health-care system."
- Kenny, D. J., Goodman, P. "Care of the patient with enteral tube feeding: An evidence-based practice protocol."
- Kenny, D. J., Richard, M. L., Ceniceros, X., Blaize, K. "Collaborating across services to advance evidence-based nursing practice."
- Mark, D. D., Latimer, R. W., Hardy, M. D. "Stars' aligned for evidence-based practice: A TriService initiative in the Pacific."
- McCraw, W. M., Kelley, P. W., Righero, A. M., Latimer, R. "Improving compliance with diabetes clinical practice



The cover of the *Nursing Research* supplement *Research to Practice in the Military Healthcare System*.

- guidelines in military medical treatment facilities."
- Titler, M. G., Moore, J. "Evidence-based practice: A civilian perspective."
- Whitcomb, J. A., Roy, D., Blackman, V. S. "Evidence-based practice in a military intensive care unit family visitation."
- Yackel, E. E., McKennan, M. S., Fox-Deise, A. "A nurse-facilitated depression screening program in an Army primary care clinic: An evidence-based project."



Congratulations to **LTC Lori Trego, AN, USA**, who received the Hawaii Nurse Researcher of the Year Award! The award was presented to her at the Pacific Institute of Nursing conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, on 30 March 2010.