

II. BACKGROUND

The mission of the TSNRP is to provide resources for the conduct and use of research to foster excellence in military nursing care. Since its inception through congressionally appropriated funding in 1992, the TSNRP has evolved through the earnest endeavor of military nurses. Military nurse investigators have increasingly invested their time and expertise in this program. Success of the program is evidenced by the positive outcomes of research studies conducted to improve the health of service members and their military beneficiaries. More than 261 research studies in basic and applied science have been funded since 1992. General topics that have been investigated with TSNRP funding include: military readiness and deployment, skill sustainment, evacuation and transportation, nursing care in unique military environments, military nursing histories, health promotion and disease prevention, men's and women's health issues, managed care environments, case management, nurse-run clinics, telehealth, and econometrics. Abstracts for all TSNRP-funded studies are available online at <http://www.usuhs.mil/tsnrf/funded/index>. The TSNRP's award history is described in Appendix A.

Military nursing's unique perspective for the care of its beneficiaries requires not only scientific investigational activities but also rapid dissemination and use of study results. Dissemination of findings to nurses in a global setting is a particular challenge that has been met by this program. Results of TSNRP studies have been reported in refereed nursing and other professional journals, including: *American Journal of Critical Care*, *Cancer Nursing*, *Clinical Nursing Research*, *Journal of Interferon and Cytokine Research*, *Journal of Nursing Administration*, *Military Medicine*, *Nursing Science Quarterly*, and *Western Journal of Nursing Research*. Findings from TSNRP-funded grants have been presented at military, regional, national, and international conferences, including those of the following organizations: Aerospace Medical Association, American Association of Critical Care Nursing, American College of Preventive Medicine, Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, Midwest Nursing Research Society, Phyllis J. Verhonick Army Research Conference, State of the Science Congresses, Sigma Theta Tau International, Southern Nursing Research Society, U.S. Army Nurse Corps, the Western Institute of Nursing, and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

The TSNRP works in concert with schools of nursing at universities and colleges across the country. Faculty at these academic institutions include non-military nurse researchers who offer research and content expertise and reserve and retired military nurse researchers who offer unique military perspectives in addition to research expertise. These affiliations foster collaboration between nurse researchers and help to sustain the cadre of military nurse researchers. TSNRP continues to forge partnerships with other research institutions and organizations, both military and civilian, to maximize the success of the program.

The TSNRP is pursuing an aggressive research agenda focusing on topics most relevant to military nursing practice and in alignment with the Services' strategic goals. It is imperative that the research conducted today has application for military beneficiaries tomorrow.