

Nursing Science Transforms TriService Nursing Research



Innovating Military and Veterans Affairs Nursing Research

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Prior to joining the faculty at Duquesne University School of Nursing, Dr. Kelley served a pioneering role in developing programs and infrastructures for Military and Veterans Affairs nursing research. As the first Navy TriService (Navy, Army, Air Force) Nursing Research Program Executive Director, she created a sustained Evidence Based Practice program within the Department of Defense.

In a two phase research study on clinical knowledge development and care for wounded warriors in Iraq and Afghanistan, her team identified improved strategies for care of Mass Casualties, described the evolution of the role and the required clinical competencies of Case Managers for military and Veteran poly-trauma patients, and developed a new approach to understanding military patients with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

This is the largest data set ever collected on the role of nurses in care of wounded warriors across the continuum of care. Currently, she is mentoring the next generation of nurse scientists, with funding from the TriService Nursing Research Program to examine experiential learning among military healthcare providers who have participated in global health engagement missions.