

Colonel Risa D. Ware

Commander, Irwin Army Community Hospital, Fort Riley, Kansas

Colonel Ware is a Texas native and holds a nursing diploma from Presbyterian/Saint Luke's School of Nursing, a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Metropolitan State College, a Master of Science degree in nursing (pediatric critical care) from the University of Pennsylvania and a post Master Degree in family practice from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. COL Ware is board certified by the American Nurses Credentialing Center as a Family Nurse Practitioner.

She is a graduate of the Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combat Casualty Care Course, the Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College. She also holds the A Proficiency identifier.

Before joining the Army, COL Ware worked at the Children's Hospital in Denver, Colo. as a staff nurse for Pediatric Rehabilitation, Neonatal Intensive Care and Pediatric Intensive Care.

In 1989, she was assigned as a staff nurse for pediatric intensive care at Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center in Aurora, Colo. From 1992-1994, she worked at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany as a Staff Nurse in the Pediatric Ward and Combined Intensive Care. In 1996, she became the head nurse for the pediatric ward at Madigan Army Medical Center in Fort Lewis, Wash. She was subsequently assigned as a family nurse practitioner at Evans Army Community Hospital in Fort Carson, Colo. She worked at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas from 2002-2005 as the officer-in-charge of the Camp Bullis Health Clinic, a family nurse practitioner and the chief of medical management. She went on to become the chief of ambulatory nursing at General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and then deployed to Iraq as the chief of Logistics Coalition Military Transition Teams. She became the deputy commander for Nursing and Patient Support Services of McDonald Army Health Center in Fort Eustis, Va. In 2009, she became the chief of nursing administration at Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center, Fort Hood Texas and assumed the position of deputy commander for Nursing and Patient Services the following year. COL Ware's most recent assignment was as the deputy commander for nursing at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland.

COL Ware's military awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (7th Award), Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award), Army Achievement Medal (7th Award), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award), Iraq Campaign Medal (2 Stars), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (2nd Award) and Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon (2nd Award).