



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ARMY NURSE CORPS  
2250 STANLEY ROAD  
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TX 78234-6100

25 NOV 2003

**MEMORANDUM FOR Chief Nurses, MEDCOM Major Subordinate  
Commands/Installations/Activities**

**SUBJECT: United States Army Nurse Corps Preceptorship Program**

1. I strongly endorse the U.S. Army Nurse Corps Preceptorship Program and look forward to its complete implementation across the Army Medical Department. We have a professional obligation to ensure that all new graduate nurses are validated in basic nursing competency before entry into practice. The Preceptorship Program ensures that a consistent approach is used throughout our health care system to prepare entry-level clinicians, officers and leaders in the Army Nurse Corps (ANC).
2. The purpose of the U. S. Army Nurse Corps Preceptorship Program is to facilitate the transition of new clinical nurses into professional nursing practice in a military environment. The program is designed to accommodate all Army medical treatment facilities regardless of size or staff mix. This Preceptorship Program will promote utilization of competency-based standards in the provision of healthcare and help develop basic socialization, organizational and leadership skills in the military healthcare environment.
3. As senior nurse leaders of the Army Medical Department Team, I ask your support in the implementation of this standardized Preceptorship Program at your medical treatment facility. Your support and endorsement of this program at all levels is critical so we maintain the highest standards of Army professional nursing practice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William T. Bester", written over a light blue horizontal line.

**WILLIAM T. BESTER**  
Brigadier General  
Chief, Army Nurse Corps