



2016 National Awards

Staff Nurse Patient Advocacy Award

For excellence in patient advocacy by a staff nurse who provides direct patient care.

Jacqlyn Sanchez, RNC-OB

Texas Nurses Association

Captain Jacqlyn Sanchez joined the U.S. Air Force in 1999 as an aerospace ground equipment mechanic, ensuring all aircraft were ready to fly on a moment's notice.

After serving in the Air Force for 10 years at various Air Force bases around the world, Capt. Sanchez transitioned from working with aerospace equipment to becoming a nurse in 2009. She worked at the U.S. Air Force Inpatient Obstetrics Unit at the San Antonio Military Medical Center for three years, where she was the charge nurse in the only United States combined forces, high-risk birthing center. In August 2013, she moved to Misawa Air Force Base in Japan, where she is currently working in a low-risk birthing center in a rural location as an expert in the care of high- and low-risk antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum patients.

Capt. Sanchez is currently studying in a Bachelor of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice program at the University of South Alabama. Throughout her career, she strives for excellence by putting her patients' needs and those of her colleagues above her own. She enjoys the challenge and sense of accomplishment when she safely follows a birthing plan and gives her patients the care they need. In addition to serving as a U.S. Air Force officer at the Misawa Air Force Base Inpatient Obstetrics Unit, she is also a neonatal resuscitation instructor and a childbirth educator. In particular, Capt. Sanchez enjoys implementing new interventions when practices are outdated. She has written policy and practice initiatives and addressed several patient safety issues with the goal of learning about nursing through the eyes of her patients so she can better serve them in the future.

She has received more than two dozen awards and honors in recognition of her work, including an Air Force Achievement Medal, the John L. Levitow Award for demonstrating the highest level of excellence as a leader and scholar, and the Air Force Commendation Medal for outstanding service.

Capt. Sanchez is an inspirational role model and advocate who exemplifies excellence in direct patient-centered care.

