



ARMY THORACIC SURGEONS ADVANCING TRAUMA CARE - JUST ONE OF THE WAYS THORACIC SURGEONS MAKE THEIR MARK IN THE ARMY RESERVE

The number of advancements in trauma care that has made its way out of the military and into the private sector is staggering. Historically, the treatment of traumatic injury in wartime has led to techniques and procedures that have changed the practice—and improved the success rate—of trauma care, especially in the thoracic realm. For example, today's groundbreaking advancements in the treatment of tension pneumothorax injuries in the prehospital setting are due, in large part, to studies being done in the Army medical community.

Because of the Army's world-class medical resources, hundreds of studies and innovative techniques in thoracic trauma, oncology and respiratory medicine have found their start right here. Innovation is just one of the reasons you'll find so many top thoracic surgeons—as well as respected experts in over 90 other specialties—serving on the U.S. Army Health Care Team.

"There are incredible benefits to being a part of this team," says Col. Frederick Lough, M.D., Clinical Director of Cardiac Surgery at the George Washington University Medical Center and a thoracic surgeon with the U.S. Army Reserve. "No other experience allows you to stretch your skill, to step out of the box as a thoracic and cardiovascular surgeon, and realize why you became a surgeon in the first place like this does."

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE OFFERS UNIQUE CHALLENGES THAT CAN MAKE A GOOD DOCTOR AN EVEN BETTER DOCTOR

The U.S. Army Reserve gives thoracic surgeons the opportunity to take on expanded roles and experience environments and cases that they may not find in a private sector practice. Working side by side with some of the leading specialists in their fields, you'll have access to advanced technology and enjoy being part of a network of dedicated physicians that literally spans the globe.

"As a Reservist, I have had the chance to be a part of some

world-class programs, both here and abroad," says Col. Lough, including the Thoracic and Cardiology program at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where he served as program assistant chief, and at Letterman Army Hospital in San Francisco, where he served as program chief.

"I have been able to continue my cardiac surgery practice in the community, continue my work as faculty advisor at the Uniformed Services University (USU) Department of Surgery, as well as give back to the courageous men and women defending our country and freedom.

"The combination of the three roles is," says Col. Lough, "very fulfilling."



In 2009, while serving in the trauma unit at the Army's medical center in Landstuhl, Germany, Col. Lough decided to volunteer for his most challenging assignment to date.

"Because of my weeks working in Landstuhl, where I saw wounded troops come in from both theaters of war, I decided I needed to participate more directly in helping our Soldiers in Afghanistan or Iraq," says Col. Lough.

THE CHANCE TO LEAD

SERVING WHEN NEEDED WITH THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE CAN DEEPEN YOUR PERSONAL-AND PROFESSIONAL-IMPACT

The U.S. Army Reserve gives you countless opportunities to do things you probably would not get a chance to do while practicing in the private sector. This month, you could work at one of over 600 world-renowned hospitals, clinics and facilities around the globe. Or participate in a humanitarian mission to provide medical care to people with little or no access to health care. Next month, you may find yourself heading out in a Black Hawk aeromedical evacuation helicopter to lead a simulated training exercise or to administer trauma care to an injured Soldier. It's a unique combination of medicine and adventure that you'll find both exhilarating and satisfying.

Many use their opportunity with us to grow, both personally and professionally, by being open to experiences where their leadership capabilities will be tested and even strengthened.

In January 2010, Col. Lough was offered a leadership assignment at a medical facility on a small NATO operating base in the western mountains of Afghanistan where he would assume the role of chief trauma surgeon for three months.

"It was an unusual assignment," Col. Lough says, "because it was the first insertion of a U.S. Army Health Care Team into Western Afghanistan. Getting ourselves up to speed at the hospital presented challenges of many kinds, beginning with the variety of languages. Translation resources were minimal. To communicate, we had to be inventive. There was also the need to adjust to

surgical practices that differed from those in the U.S. The experience expanded my knowledge of how differently medicine—very competent medicine—can be practiced in other parts of the world."

It also meant practicing what Col. Lough calls elemental medicine. "Our small facility offered the highest acuity care available over a vast region," says Col. Lough. "The closest hospital with more capability was 350 miles away. That meant a lot of triage-oriented decision making, day by day, to ensure the best solutions to patient care and resource allocation.

"I often had to step out of my thoracic and cardiovascular box. I had to perform or be part of surgical interventions I wouldn't be involved in stateside," he says, "but if I hadn't done them, patients would have died."

He calls the experience clarifying. "The essentials of medical practice became strikingly clear. It reminded us all why we were doctors, and why we went to medical school in the first place."

PROFESSIONALLY REWARDING

A LITTLE TIME WITH US COULD MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN YOUR CAREER—NOT TO MENTION IN YOUR LIFE

When you enter the U.S. Army Reserve as a commissioned officer, you'll gain the respect, responsibility and prestige that are afforded to your rank. You'll take pride in the role you play in serving our country, and the difference you'll make in the lives of Soldiers and their families. You'll also gain knowledge and skills that you'll be proud to take home to your own practice.

"I know, for me, it's extremely rewarding to look back on where I was and what we did," says Col. Lough, "and on all that I learned from my experience." He's now back at the George Washington University Medical Center, busy in the roles from which he took the three-month absence.

"The Army has developed what is now the finest trauma care system in existence. There's no way to put into words how extremely proud I am to be a part of this work."

ARMY MEDICAL CORPS



You'll also have access to educational resources few can match. Because you'll be an integral member of the U.S. Army Health Care Team, we're committed to helping you stay abreast of the newest developments and techniques in your field. You may be able to teach or even conduct research related to your area of expertise.

Our goal is quality patient care. Our intent is to help you achieve your continuing education goals and give you the tools you need to provide the best possible care.

See how the time you invest with the U.S. Army Reserve can enhance everything you do from Monday through Friday and throughout your professional career.

As one of the world's most advanced health care organizations, our extensive capabilities allow thoracic and cardiology specialists to work at the forefront of their field and be involved in the development of innovative treatments.

You can be a part of this exciting work. As a thoracic surgeon with the U.S. Army Reserve, you can continue to practice in your community and serve when needed. You can also earn many financial benefits, including:

- **Competitive salary** and eligibility for several different levels of additional pay, including board-certification pay, medical additional special pay, incentive special pay and multiyear special pay
- **Health Professional Loan Repayment (HPLR)**, which provides up to \$250,000 in educational loan repayment
- **Paid continuing education** in your clinical specialty
- **No malpractice premiums**
- **Options to specialize** and serve at ever-increasing levels of leadership and responsibility
- **Seminars and specialty conferences** to expand your knowledge base
- **The opportunity to really put your strength in action** by participating in humanitarian missions both here in the U.S. and abroad

You'll enjoy the deep satisfaction of performing a vital service for your country. Plus, you'll experience the pride that comes with accomplishing more in your life and your career.

To receive an information packet about advancing your career with the U.S. Army Health Care Team and learn how to apply, go to healthcare.goarmy.com/info-thoracic.

