

Dr. Melissa Rouse, PhD, APRN, CNS-BC, NEA-BC is the Executive Director of Nursing Excellence & Research for Northeast Georgia Health System and interim Executive Director of Medical Surgical Services. She has been with the system for 2 years.

After earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from San Diego State University in 1996, Melissa went on to receive a Master of Science in Nursing in 2008 and a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing in 2013. Her Masters and Doctorate are both from the University of San Diego.

She has a background in Emergency/Trauma nursing. She is a Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) and has held nursing leadership positions at all levels.

In addition, Melissa has experience in nursing academia, teaching at the Doctoral, Masters and Bachelors level. She is currently teaching online in Nursing Doctoral programs for Walden University and the University of North Georgia.

Melissa is passionate about nursing, mentoring others and providing high quality patient care and outcomes. She is a results oriented, dynamic, effective and highly visible Nurse Leader with a strategic mindset, proven to perform under pressure. Over the last couple of years, she has been immersed in implementing tactics to combat the staffing shortage and to address the workforce challenges of the future.