



COLONEL HEATH D. “UP” WRIGHT

Col Heath Wright is the Commander for the 43d Medical Squadron, Pope Army Airfield. He leads a multidisciplinary clinical team to provide medical care and guarantee combat readiness for the 43d Air Mobility Operations Group and tenant units assigned to Fort Liberty.

Col Wright received his commission in July, 2002, while in Arizona to complete his Doctor of Medicine degree from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland, and trained in Pediatrics at Portsmouth Naval Medical Center, Virginia.

Col Wright completed assignments in Pediatrics at both Joint-Base Elmendorf-Richardson and Hurlburt Field before completing training as a Flight Surgeon. While at Hurlburt Field he led Pediatrics, Women’s Health, Immunizations, and the Emergency Services Departments.

As a Flight Surgeon, Col Wright served as the Operational Support Medicine Flight Commander for the 1st Special Operations Support Squadron and then as Flight Commander and Wing Surgeon for the 352d Special Operations Wing, managing SOF Casualty Evacuation teams in both units that deployed in support of missions around the globe. Prior to his current position, Col Wright was the Group Surgeon for a highly classified operational unit tasked with presidentially directed missions.



EDUCATION

- 2002 Bachelors of Science, Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Arizona, Arizona
- 2006 Doctor of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland
- 2009 Pediatric Residency, Portsmouth Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia
- 2013 Flight Surgeon, Aerospace Medicine Primary (101, 201, 202), Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio
- 2015 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, by correspondence
- 2023 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, by correspondence

ASSIGNMENTS

1. July 2002 – June 2006, MEDICAL STUDENT, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland
2. June 2006 – June 2009, PEDIATRIC RESIDENT, Portsmouth Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia
3. July 2009 – July 2012, PEDIATRICIAN, 3d MDOS, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska
4. July 2012 – May 2014, ELEMENT LDR, PEDIATRIC CLINIC, 1st SOMDOS, Hurlburt Field, Florida
5. June 2014 – June 2016, MEDICAL SERVICES FLIGHT COMMANDER, 1st SOMDOS, Hurlburt Field, Florida
6. June 2016 – November 2016, FLIGHT SURGEON, 1st SOAMDS, Hurlburt Field, Florida
7. November 2016 – April 2017, 8th SOS FLIGHT SURGEON, 1st SOSS, Hurlburt Field, Florida
8. May 2017 – June 2018, OSM FLIGHT COMMANDER, (September 2017 – January 2018, Bagram, Afghanistan) 1st SOSS, Hurlburt Field, Florida
9. June 2018 – May 2022, MEDICAL FLT COMMANDER/WING SURGEON, (June – July 2020, Crete) (Sep 2021, Ukraine) 352d SOSS, RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom





BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

- 10. May 2022 – June 2024, GROUP SURGEON, DATA MASKED
- 11. June 2024 – present, COMMANDER, 43d Medical Squadron, Pope AAF, North Carolina

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Senior Flight Surgeon

Flight hours: over 480 including 70 combat hours

Aircraft flown: DHC-6, C-40, C-295, C-20H, C-208, CN-235, C-32B, C-37A, MC-130J, CV-22B, KC-135R, AC-130U, MH-47G, U-28A

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Air Medal with Combat Device

Air and Space Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air and Space Commendation Medal

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

2006 – Current Medical License in North Carolina

2009 – Pediatric Medicine Board Certification

2011 – American Board of Pediatrics Uniformed Services Section Pediatrician of the Year

OCCUPATIONAL BADGES

Senior Flight Surgeon

Chief Medical Corp Officer

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant July 17, 2002

Captain May 20, 2006

Major May 20, 2012

Lieutenant Colonel May 20, 2018

Colonel July 1, 2024

(Current as of July 2024)

