

Health - additional provision for AF community

Serving personnel: Medical services are delivered to servicemen and women by the MoD, the NHS, charities and welfare organisations.

The MoD is responsible for providing:

primary care: such as general practice, dentistry, occupational medicine and community mental health services within the UK and at defence outposts overseas.

specialist healthcare: such as secondary care and rehabilitation through the Headley Court Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre.

Services are staffed by regular uniformed and reserve medical personnel from all 3 services: the British Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force.

All serving personnel receive their mental health care through MoD-commissioned services.

Transition and veterans health: everyone leaving the armed forces is given a summary of their medical records, which they are advised to give to their new NHS doctor when they register with them.

A rigorous handover process – known as the Seriously Injured Leavers Protocol (SILP) – is in place for veterans with healthcare requirements after leaving the forces.

Subject to the clinical needs of others, veterans are also entitled to priority NHS treatment for any condition that may have been caused during service.

Individuals within the non-serving armed forces community can access all NHS services, including those services set up to meet the needs of veterans, like prosthetics and mental health.

NHS information on Armed Forces healthcare: <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/military-healthcare/>

Veterans Gateway: <https://www.veteransgateway.org.uk/physical-health-advice-for-veterans/>

Charities for injured members of armed forces and their families:

<https://www.helpforheroes.org.uk/>

<https://www.careforveterans.org.uk/>

<https://www.ssafa.org.uk/get-help/disability-support>

Support for veterans who lost limbs: <https://blesma.org/>

Support for veterans with sight loss: <https://www.blindveterans.org.uk/>

Confederation of Service Charities: <https://www.cobseo.org.uk/>

The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt hospital Veterans Orthopaedic Service:
<https://www.rjah.nhs.uk/Our-Services/Orthopaedic-Surgery/veterans.aspx> - please note that a GP referral would be required to access the service.