



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
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Ref: FOI2016/06586

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27 July 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 28 June 2016 requesting the following information:

“1. The number of personnel prescribed anti-malarial medication that IS NOT MEFLOQUINE/LARIAM every year since 2007, broken down by year.

2. The number of personnel prescribed anti-malarial medication that IS NOT MEFLOQUINE/LARIAM who had a subsequent episode of care for a mental disorder at a MOD DCMH or In-patient provider, every year since 2007, broken down by year. I am specifically looking for the data relating to those who have received episodes of care for a mental health disorder, NOT those who were just assessed for mental health disorders.”

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. The information falls entirely within the scope of the qualified exemption provided for at section 22 (information intended for future publication) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

Section 22 is a qualified exemption and subject to public interest testing which means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Section 22(1) has been applied to a Adhoc Statistical Bulletin detailing the numbers of UK Armed Forces personnel prescribed other anti-malarials and were subsequently seen at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services for a mental health disorder, undertaken earlier this year, as there is an intention to publish the report in September 2016. The MOD has considered the balance of the public interest and concluded that there is no obligation to publish the full findings earlier than intended.

Background notes

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering mental health in the UK Armed Forces and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing: DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and

you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <https://ico.org.uk>.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Defence Statistics (Health) Head (B1)