



**Defence Statistics (Health)
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29 June 2016

Dear 

Thank you for your email of 1 June 2016 requesting the following information:

"The number of veterans in receipt of a war pension, as at 31 March 2015, that stated T-cell lymphoma (mycosis fungoides) within their claim (this may not be the condition they were awarded for) as recorded on the War Pension Computer System (WPCS). The gender and regiment of these claimants, as recorded on the WPCS."

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some of the information in scope of your request is held. Some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at Section 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. This is also in line with JSP 200, in which the suppression methodology has been applied to ensure individuals are not inadvertently identified dependent on the risk of disclosure. Numbers fewer than three have been suppressed. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Fewer than three veterans, who were in receipt of a war pension as at 31 March 2015, had an awarded claim that stated T-cell lymphoma within their claim (as recorded on the WPCS). Due to small numbers it is not possible to provide a breakdown by gender and regiment.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note the following:

The WPS provides no-fault compensation for all ex-service personnel and their dependants where illness, injury or death is caused by Service from the start of the First World War in 1914 up until 5 April 2005.

A free-text search was conducted on claim information as held on the WPCS for 'T-cell lymphoma' and 'mycosis fungoides'. Please note that due to the free text nature of this data it is possible that there may be additional records that used other relevant terms, and therefore the figures supplied should be considered a minimum.

Please note, MOD only holds information centrally on the conditions claimed for; not the conditions for which they received a final award (which may or may not have been the same).

Defence Statistics (Health) publish statistics on claims and awards made under the WPS. The latest publication presents statistics as at 31 March 2016 which was published on 2 June 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/war-pension-recipients-index>.

Figures provided are sourced from data stored on the War Pensions Computer System (WPCS).

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering War Pension statistics 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/>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Health) Head (B1)