



# Ministry of Defence

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10 January 2017

Dear [Redacted],

Thank you for your email of 3 January 2017 requesting the following information:

1. *The numbers of service personnel currently serving, who are suffering from Type 1 Diabetes (broken down by service and by employment (officer and other ranks)).*
2. *The number of service personnel discharged from the armed forces over the last 15 years due to Type 1 Diabetes (broken down by service and by employment (officer and other ranks)).*

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 the information in scope of your request is held.

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 in line with JSP 200 (March 2016), in which numbers fewer than five are suppressed in order to reduce the possible inadvertent disclosure of individual identities. Of the 170 personnel medically discharged due to Type I diabetes, five were Officers, therefore an Officer/Other Rank breakdown by Service has not been provided. 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.

As at 1 November 2016, **156** serving UK Armed Forces personnel had a read code for Type I Diabetes entered in to their electronic medical record.

**Table 1: Serving UK Armed Forces personnel suffering from Type I Diabetes, by Service and Officer/Other Rank, Numbers<sup>1,2,3</sup>**

Serving as at 1 November 2016

Service	Officer/Other Ranks		
	All	Officer	Other Ranks
All	156	35	121
Naval Service <sup>4</sup>	16	5	11
Army	112	23	89
Royal Air Force	28	7	21

Source: DMICP and JPA

- 1 Individuals with multiple read codes have only been counted once.
- 2 Service and Officer/Other Rank status was taken as at 1 November 2016.
- 3 Includes Trained and Untrained personnel. Excludes reservists.
- 4 Includes Royal Navy and Royal Marines.

Over the time period 1 April 2001 to 31 March 2016, a total of **170** UK Regular Armed Forces personnel were medically discharged due to Type I diabetes. Of these, five were Officers. **Table 2** presents this information by Service.

**Table 2: UK Regular Armed Forces personnel medically discharged due to Type I Diabetes, by Service, Numbers<sup>1,2</sup>**

1 April 2001 to 31 March 2016

	All
<b>Service</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Naval Service<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Army</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Royal Air Force</b>	<b>18</b>

Source: FMed 23 and DMICP

1 Includes Trained and Untrained personnel. Excludes reservists.

2 Where principal or contributory cause of medical discharge was listed as ICD-10 code E10.

3 Includes Royal Navy and Royal Marines.

Under section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it useful to note:

Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) is the most accurate source for demographic information for UK Armed Forces personnel and is used to gather information on a person's service and gender.

The Defence Medical Information Capability Programme (DMICP) was rolled out in 2007 and is the source of electronic, integrated healthcare records for primary healthcare and some MOD specialist care providers.

The electronic patient record has information that is Read coded. Read codes are a set of clinical codes designed for Primary Care to record the everyday care of a Patient. They are part of a hierarchical structure and form the recognised standard for General Practice.

The following read codes were used to identify Type I Diabetes from DMICP:

Read code	Description	Read code	Description
C1000	Diabetes mellitus, juvenile type, no mention of complication	C109H	Non-insulin dependent d m with neuropathic arthropathy
C1000-1	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus	C10C-2	Maturity onset diabetes in youth type 1
C1000-99	Diabetes mellitus - juvenile	C10E	Type 1 diabetes mellitus
C1010	Diabetes mellitus, juvenile type, with ketoacidosis	C10E-1	Type I diabetes mellitus
C1020	Diabetes mellitus, juvenile type, with hyperosmolar coma	C10E-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
C1030	Diabetes mellitus, juvenile type, with ketoacidotic coma	C10E0	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with renal complications
C1040	Diabetes mellitus, juvenile type, with renal manifestation	C10E0-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with renal complications
C1050	Diabetes mellitus, juvenile type, + ophthalmic manifestation	C10E0-2	Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus with renal complications
C1060	Diabetes mellitus, juvenile, + neurological manifestation	C10E1	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with ophthalmic complications
C1070	Diabetes mellitus, juvenile - circulatory disorder	C10E1-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with ophthalmic complications
C1073	IDDM with peripheral circulatory disorder	C10E1-2	Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus with ophthalmic comps
C108	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus	C10E2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with neurological complications
C108-1	IDDM-Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus	C10E2-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with neurological complications
C108-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus	C10E2-2	Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus with neurological comps
C108-3	Type I diabetes mellitus	C10E3	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with multiple complications
C1080	Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus with renal complications	C10E3-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with multiple complications
C1080-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with renal complications	C10E3-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with multiple complicat
C1080-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with renal complications	C10E4	Unstable type 1 diabetes mellitus
C1081	Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus with ophthalmic comps	C10E4-1	Unstable type I diabetes mellitus
C1081-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with ophthalmic complications	C10E4-2	Unstable insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
C1081-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with ophthalmic complications	C10E5	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with ulcer
C1082	Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus with neurological comps	C10E5-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with ulcer
C1082-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with neurological complications	C10E5-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with ulcer
C1082-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with neurological complications	C10E6	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with gangrene
C1083	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with multiple complicatn	C10E6-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with gangrene
C1083-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with multiple complications	C10E6-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with gangrene
C1083-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with multiple complications	C10E7	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with retinopathy
C1084	Unstable insulin dependent diabetes mellitus	C10E7-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with retinopathy
C1084-1	Unstable type I diabetes mellitus	C10E7-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with retinopathy
C1084-2	Unstable type 1 diabetes mellitus	C10E8	Type 1 diabetes mellitus - poor control
C1085	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with ulcer	C10E8-1	Type I diabetes mellitus - poor control
C1085-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with ulcer	C10E8-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus - poor control
C1085-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with ulcer	C10E9	Type 1 diabetes mellitus maturity onset
C1086	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with gangrene	C10E9-1	Type I diabetes mellitus maturity onset
C1086-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with gangrene	C10E9-2	Insulin dependent diabetes maturity onset
C1086-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with gangrene	C10EA	Type 1 diabetes mellitus without complication
C1087	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with retinopathy	C10EA-1	Type I diabetes mellitus without complication
C1087-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with retinopathy	C10EA-2	Insulin-dependent diabetes without complication
C1087-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with retinopathy	C10EB	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with mononeuropathy
C1088	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus - poor control	C10EB-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with mononeuropathy
C1088-1	Type I diabetes mellitus - poor control	C10EB-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with mononeuropathy
C1088-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus - poor control	C10EC	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with polyneuropathy
C1089	Insulin dependent diabetes maturity onset	C10EC-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with polyneuropathy
C1089-1	Type I diabetes mellitus maturity onset	C10EC-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with polyneuropathy
C1089-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus maturity onset	C10ED	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with nephropathy
C108A	Insulin-dependent diabetes without complication	C10ED-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with nephropathy
C108A-1	Type I diabetes mellitus without complication	C10ED-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with nephropathy
C108A-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus without complication	C10EE	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with hypoglycaemic coma
C108B	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with mononeuropathy	C10EE-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with hypoglycaemic coma
C108B-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with mononeuropathy	C10EE-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with hypoglycaemic coma
C108B-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with mononeuropathy	C10EF	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with diabetic cataract
C108C	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with polyneuropathy	C10EF-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with diabetic cataract
C108C-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with polyneuropathy	C10EF-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with diabetic cataract
C108C-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with polyneuropathy	C10EG	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with peripheral angiopathy
C108D	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with nephropathy	C10EG-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with peripheral angiopathy
C108D-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with nephropathy	C10EG-2	Insulin dependent diab mell with peripheral angiopathy
C108D-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with nephropathy	C10EH	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with arthropathy
C108E	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with hypoglycaemic coma	C10EH-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with arthropathy
C108E-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with hypoglycaemic coma	C10EH-2	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with arthropathy
C108E-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with hypoglycaemic coma	C10EJ	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with neuropathic arthropathy
C108F	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with diabetic cataract	C10EJ-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with neuropathic arthropathy
C108F-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with diabetic cataract	C10EJ-2	Insulin dependent diab mell with neuropathic arthropathy
C108F-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with diabetic cataract	C10EK	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with persistent proteinuria
C108G	Insulin dependent diab mell with peripheral angiopathy	C10EK-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with persistent proteinuria
C108G-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with peripheral angiopathy	C10EL	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with persistent microalbuminuria
C108G-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with peripheral angiopathy	C10EL-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with persistent microalbuminuria
C108H	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with arthropathy	C10EM	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with ketoacidosis
C108H-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with arthropathy	C10EM-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with ketoacidosis
C108H-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with arthropathy	C10EN	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with ketoacidotic coma
C108J	Insulin dependent diab mell with neuropathic arthropathy	C10EN-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with ketoacidotic coma
C108J-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with neuropathic arthropathy	C10EP	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with exudative maculopathy
C108J-2	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with neuropathic arthropathy	C10EP-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with exudative maculopathy
C1094	Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with ulcer	C10EQ	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with gastroparesis
C1095	Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with gangrene	C10EQ-1	Type I diabetes mellitus with gastroparesis
C1097	Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus - poor control	C10P0	Type I diabetes mellitus in remission
C109A	Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with mononeuropathy	C10P0-1	Type 1 diabetes mellitus in remission
C109B	Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with polyneuropathy	C10Y0	Diabetes mellitus, juvenile, + other specified manifestation
C109C	Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with nephropathy	C10Z0	Diabetes mellitus, juvenile type, + unspecified complication
C109D	Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with hypoglyca coma		
C109G	Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus with arthropathy		

Any data entered as free text only in patients' medical record will not be included in the figures presented as this information is not available in the data warehouse.

DMICP is a live data source and is subject to change. Date of extract 29 November 2016.

### *Medical Discharge*

Medical discharges due to Type I Diabetes were identified as personnel who were medically discharged with a principal or contributory cause of discharge coded as E10 to the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems Tenth Revision (ICD-10).

Medical discharges are the result of a number of specialists (medical, occupational, psychological, personnel, etc.) coming to the conclusion that an individual is suffering from a medical condition that pre-empts their continued service in the Armed Forces. Statistics based on these discharges do not represent measures of true morbidity or pathology. At best they indicate a minimum burden of ill-health in the Armed Forces. Furthermore, the number and diversity of processes involved with administering a medical discharge introduce a series of time lags, as well as impact on the quality of data recorded.

The information on cases was sourced from electronic personnel records from DMICP and manually entered paper documents from medical boards. The primary purpose of these medical documents is to ensure the appropriate administration of each individual patient's discharge. Statistical analysis and reporting is a secondary function.

Defence Statistics release annual updates on medical discharges in the UK Armed Forces as an Official Statistic publication. The last statistical release was on 14 July 2016 which presented data up to 31 March 2016. The latest report can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/medical-discharges-among-uk-service-personnel-statistics-index>

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering 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](mailto: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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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)