



Ministry of Defence

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Ministry of Defence
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25 June 2018

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 25th May 2018 requesting the following information:

"I was wondering if any personal serving in the Armed Forces who do have an epipen?"

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 by the MOD.

As at the 1 April 2018 there were **423** currently serving UK Armed Forces personnel with a prescription for an epipen entered into their electronic medical record.

Under Section 16 Advice and Assistance, you may find it useful to note the following:

Information on the number of personnel who have been prescribed an epipen has been extracted from the Defence Medical Information Capability Programme (DMICP).

Defence Medical Information Capability Programme (DMICP) has a centralised data warehouse of coded information. It is the source of electronic, integrated healthcare records for primary healthcare and some MOD specialist care providers. DMICP was rolled out in 2007 and legacy medical data for currently serving personnel was migrated across during rollout. By the end of 2010 the rollout of DMICP was largely completed for the UK fixed base therefore data between 2007 and the end of 2010 are incomplete.

The epipen search terms used to search within the DMICP data warehouse were:

- Epipen
- Anapen

DMICP is a live data source and is subject to change. Date of extract 21 June 2018.

Please note, it is not possible from the centrally held database to determine whether the Epipen's have been used.

Data were matched to JPA to identify currently serving Armed Forces Personnel as at 1 April 2018. JPA is the most accurate source of demographic information for Armed Forces personnel.

The medical entry standards for the Armed Forces are uniquely stringent to ensure operational efficiency. Consequently, there are a number of medical conditions that are a bar to entry and if developed in Service would lead to medical downgrading of personnel.

Enclosed is the Joint Service Manual of Medical Fitness, which details the medical employment standards for the Armed Forces. Section 4-N-5 explains the Pre-entry standards pertaining to Immune System Disorders and Section 5-N-4 the In-Service standards.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics Health Head (B1)