



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Statistics Health
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2 November 2018

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 17 October 2018 requesting the following information:

“The number of Gurkha personnel who had Read codes for Tuberculosis entered into their electronic medical record between 1 April 2010 and 1 April 2018, by the first year it was recorded during the period.

And

The number of Royal Marines personnel who had a Read code for Tuberculosis entered into their electronic medical record between 1 April 2010 and 1 April 2018, by the first year it was recorded during the period.”

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.

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 the Joint Service Publication 200 (JSP 200), in which numbers fewer than five are suppressed in order to reduce the possible inadvertent disclosure of individual identities. 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.

Between **1 April 2010** and **1 April 2018**, **268** Gurkhas and **fewer than five** Royal Marine personnel had a Read code for Tuberculosis entered into their electronic medical record¹. Please note that this includes personnel that are no longer serving (**Table 1**).

Table 1: UK Regular Armed Forces Gurkha and Royal Marines personnel with a Read code for Tuberculosis by financial year^{1,2,3}, numbers

1 April 2010 to 1 April 2018

	Total	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Gurkha	268	9	8	57	22	36	46	44	46
Royal Marines	~	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0

Source: JPA & DMICP

- Includes personnel who are no longer serving.
- Includes trained and untrained, Regular and Reserve personnel.
- Each person has been counted only once and presented in the first year they had a Read code for Tuberculosis entered into their electronic medical record.

~ In line with JSP 200 on statistical disclosure, figures fewer than five have been suppressed.

¹ Defence Medical Information Capability Programme (DMICP).

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

The figures presented are for all Gurkha and Royal Marine personnel who have served at some point between 1 April 2010 and 1 April 2018. This would include personnel who only served for a short period of time and who then left service.

It is not possible to identify from the coded information which patients are currently experiencing or have been treated for a particular medical condition. The codes only show the number of personnel who have had a Read code entered in their electronic medical record for a condition.

The following Read codes were used to identify Tuberculosis:

Read code	Description	Read code	Description
1411	H/O: tuberculosis	A12y	Other specified respiratory tuberculosis
14P9	History of tuberculosis drug therapy	A12yz	Other specified respiratory tuberculosis NOS
65V9	Notification of tuberculosis	A13y	Other specified tuberculosis of central nervous system
65V9	TB - tuberculosis notification	A14y	Other gastrointestinal tract tuberculosis
65Y2	Streptomycin resistant tuberculosis	A14yz	Other gastrointestinal tract tuberculosis NOS
65Y3	Rifampicin resistant tuberculosis	A160	Renal tuberculosis
65Y4	Pyrazinamide resistant tuberculosis	A1661	Fallopian tube tuberculosis
65Y5	Isoniazid resistant tuberculosis	A16z	Genitourinary tuberculosis NOS
65Y6	Ethionamide resistant tuberculosis	A171z	Erythema nodosum with tuberculosis NOS
65Y7	Ethambutol resistant tuberculosis	A18	Miliary tuberculosis
65Y8	Ciprofloxacin resistant tuberculosis	A180	Acute miliary tuberculosis
65Y9	Inactive tuberculosis	A1800	Acute miliary tuberculosis of a single specified site
65Y9	Latent tuberculosis	A1801	Acute miliary tuberculosis of multiple sites
A1	Tuberculosis	A18y	Other specified miliary tuberculosis
A10	Primary tuberculosis infection	A18z	Miliary tuberculosis NOS
A101	Tuberculous pleurisy in primary progressive tuberculosis	A19	Disseminated tuberculosis
A10y	Other primary progressive tuberculosis	A1A	Multidrug resistant tuberculosis
A11	Lung tuberculosis	A1A0	Extensively drug resistant tuberculosis
A11	Pulmonary tuberculosis	A1y	Other specified tuberculosis
A110	Infiltrative lung tuberculosis	Ayu14	[X]Other tuberculosis of nervous system
A111	Nodular lung tuberculosis	Ayu17	[X]Acute miliary tuberculosis, unspecified
A11y	Other specified pulmonary tuberculosis	Ayu18	[X]Other miliary tuberculosis
A11z	Pulmonary tuberculosis NOS	Ayu19	[X]Miliary tuberculosis, unspecified
A12	Other respiratory tuberculosis	L173	Preg. + tuberculosis
A122	Isolated tracheal or bronchial tuberculosis	PCNQNO11	Notification of tuberculosis
A1220	Isolated tracheal tuberculosis	ZV12A	[V] Personal history of pulmonary tuberculosis
A1221	Isolated bronchial tuberculosis	ZV12B	[V] Personal history of tuberculosis
A122z	Isolated tracheal or bronchial tuberculosis NOS		

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.

Please note that if information was entered as free text in the patient record then it is not available in the DMICP data warehouse and will not be retrieved using the search for Read codes.

DMICP is a live data source and is subject to change. Date of extract 24 October 2018.

The tables in this report have been scrutinised to ensure individual identities have not been revealed inadvertently. In line with JSP 200 (March 2016), all numbers less than five have been suppressed and presented as '~'. Where there is only one cell in a row or column that is less than five, the next smallest number (or numbers where there are tied values) has also been suppressed so that numbers cannot simply be derived from totals.

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, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.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, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

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