



Ministry
of Defence

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Ref: ArmySec/FOI2018/00823/00824/
03/03

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30 January 2019

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your emails of 20 January in which you requested the following information:

"1. When testing every soldier for drugs do you test for anabolic steroids everytime or does this need to be requested for? If so how would a request be made?"

"2. The Human growth hormone cannot be tested for in urine so do you still test for this in your army drug tests?"

And:

"Hello i understand that steroids are tested for in the CDT tests but are Selective androgen receptor modulator'S or S.A.R.M.S"

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and I can confirm that the information in scope of your request is held and is below.

All substances listed in the Misuse of Drugs Act 71 (MDA 71) are tested for at Compulsory Drugs Test (CDT). CDTs are conducted at random or when it is suspected that an individual has misused drugs, at which time a test will be initiated by the Chain of Command.

The MOD utilises a bespoke 'sliding panel' which enables substances to be included in the analysis panel as substances become controlled or as the MOD identify a trend for a specific substance.

Substances listed in the MDA 71 can be detected at CDT by either a urine or blood test and therefore it is possible for chemical composites of artificial Human Growth Hormone to be detected.

Turning to your question about Selective Androgen Receptor Modulators (SARMS), I can confirm that chemical composites of SARMS are tested for at CDT.

Under Section 16 (Advice & Assistance), the full list of substances tested for at CDT can be found in Schedule 2 of the MDA 1971 which can be found at the following link:
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1971/38>

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



Army Secretariat