



Ministry of Defence

Ref: FOI2019/13279

Ministry of Defence
Abbeywood North
Bristol
BS34 8JH
United Kingdom

Telephone: 03067 984423

E-mail: Def-Strat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.gov.uk

03 January 2019

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 2 December 2019 requesting the following information:

"I would like to know how many current service personnel (regular and reserves) are recorded as colour blind?"

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.

As at 1 November 2019, **671** currently serving UK Armed Forces personnel had at least one Read code for colour blindness entered into their medical record

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

Personnel include all UK Armed Forces Regular and Reserve trained and untrained personnel. This response relates to all personnel who had a DMICP record and were in service as at 1 November 2019.

Data were compiled by Defence Statistics Health from the Defence Medical Information Capability Programme (DMICP) data warehouse. The DMICP programme commenced during 2007 and is the source of electronic, integrated medical records for primary healthcare and some MOD specialist care providers.

Medical data is stored in the DMICP data warehouse using Read codes. The Read codes used to search the DMICP data warehouse for colour blindness were:

Code	Description
F485-1	Colour Blind
2B9-1	O/E - Colour Blindness
F4854	Acquired Colour Blindness
F4851	Colour Blind - Deutan Defect
F4853	Colour Blind - Monochromatism
F4850	Colour Blind - Protan Defect
F4852	Colour Blind - Tritan Defect
F485z	Colour Blindness NOS
2B9Z	O/E - Colour Blindness NOS
2B92	O/E - Red/Green Colour Blindness

DMICP is a live data source and is subject to change. Date of extract 16 December 2019.

Please note, any data entered as free text or scanned as a document only in a patients' medical record will not be included in the figures presented as this information is not available in the data warehouse.

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/>.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Defence Statistics Health