



Ministry
of Defence

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20 November 2019

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 20 November in which you requested the following information:

I would like the tables 1 - 5 in FOI FOI2014_02268 dated 11 November 2014, updated to show figures for all years to 2019, showing the number of personnel discharged by medical category (P3 MLD, P7 MLD, P7 MND) and reason (NFCI, NIHL, MSK Other, Combination).

As the RECU process went in 2019 with the introduction of AGAI 78, the column showing the number entered in the RECU process can be deleted for 2019.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. A search for the information has been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that the information in scope of your request is held.

Table 1: UK Regular Army personnel that went through the RECU process, of which subsequently medically discharged, by cause of medical discharge¹, MDS and P grade², numbers

1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014³

Med Cat	No. entered in the RECU process	No. Medically Discharged	Reason for Medical Discharge under the RECU process				Combination of conditions ⁶
			NFCI	NIHL	MSK ⁴	Other causes ⁵	
P3 MLD	16	11	0	~	~	6	~
P7 MLD	5	~	0	0	0	~	0
P7 MND	125	106	~	~	39	59	31
P7 MDS information not available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: JPA, FMed 23s & DMICP.

¹ Non-Freezing Cold Injury (NFCI), Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL), and Musculoskeletal Disorders and Injuries (MSK) identified where principal cause of medical discharge.

² Last known MDS prior to RECU (when not medically discharged) or medical discharge date (when medically discharged).

³ Year of RECU.

⁴ Excludes NFCI.

⁵ Other cause of medical discharge is the principal cause of medical discharge when not NFCI, NIHL or MSK.

⁶ Includes personnel with both a principal and at least one contributory cause of medical discharge.

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

Table 2: UK Regular Army personnel that went through the RECU process, of which subsequently medically discharged, by cause of medical discharge¹, MDS and P grade, numbers

1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015²

Med Cat	No. entered in the RECU process	No. Medically Discharged	Reason for Medical Discharge under the RECU process				
			NFCI	NIHL	MSK ⁴	Other causes ⁵	Combination of conditions ⁶
P3 MLD	56	50	~	~	27	18	11
P7 MLD	10	7	~	0	~	~	~
P7 MND	615	596	41	8	308	239	219
P7 MDS information not available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: JPA, FMed 23s & DMICP.

¹ Non-Freezing Cold Injury (NFCI), Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL), and Musculoskeletal Disorders and Injuries (MSK) identified where principal cause of medical discharge.

² Last known MDS prior to RECU (when not medically discharged) or medical discharge date (when medically discharged).

³ Year of RECU.

⁴ Excludes NFCI.

⁵ Other cause of medical discharge is the principal cause of medical discharge when not NFCI, NIHL or MSK.

⁶ Includes personnel with both a principal and at least one contributory cause of medical discharge.

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

Table 3: UK Regular Army personnel that went through the RECU process, of which subsequently medically discharged, by cause of medical discharge¹, MDS and P grade, numbers

1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016²

Med Cat	No. entered in the RECU process	No. Medically Discharged	Reason for Medical Discharge under the RECU process				
			NFCI	NIHL	MSK ⁴	Other causes ⁵	Combination of conditions ⁶
P3 MLD	30	29	0	~	17	~	5
P7 MLD	7	6	~	0	~	~	0
P7 MND	731	726	~	~	434	244	353
P7 MDS information not available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: JPA, FMed 23s & DMICP.

¹ Non-Freezing Cold Injury (NFCI), Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL), and Musculoskeletal Disorders and Injuries (MSK) identified where principal cause of medical discharge.

² Last known MDS prior to RECU (when not medically discharged) or medical discharge date (when medically discharged).

³ Year of RECU.

⁴ Excludes NFCI.

⁵ Other cause of medical discharge is the principal cause of medical discharge when not NFCI, NIHL or MSK.

⁶ Includes personnel with both a principal and at least one contributory cause of medical discharge.

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

Table 4: UK Regular Army personnel that went through the RECU process, of which subsequently medically discharged, by cause of medical discharge¹, MDS and P grade, numbers

1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017²

Med Cat	No. entered in the RECU process	No. Medically Discharged	Reason for Medical Discharge under the RECU process				
			NFCI	NIHL	MSK ⁴	Other causes ⁵	Combination of conditions ⁶
P3 MLD	50	49	~	~	24	18	15
P7 MLD	5	~	~	0	0	~	~
P7 MND	749	743	34	7	459	243	242
P7 MDS information not available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: JPA, FMed 23s & DMICP.

¹ Non-Freezing Cold Injury (NFCI), Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL), and Musculoskeletal Disorders and Injuries (MSK) identified where principal cause of medical discharge.

² Last known MDS prior to RECU (when not medically discharged) or medical discharge date (when medically discharged).

³ Year of RECU.

⁴ Excludes NFCI.

⁵ Other cause of medical discharge is the principal cause of medical discharge when not NFCI, NIHL or MSK.

⁶ Includes personnel with both a principal and at least one contributory cause of medical discharge.

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

Table 5: UK Regular Army personnel that went through the RECU process, of which subsequently medically discharged, by cause of medical discharge¹, MDS and P grade, numbers

1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018²

Med Cat	No. entered in the RECU process	No. Medically Discharged	Reason for Medical Discharge under the RECU process				
			NFCI	NIHL	MSK ⁴	Other causes ⁵	Combination of conditions ⁶
P3 MLD	51	38	~	~	13	15	8
P7 MLD	5	~	~	0	~	~	~
P7 MND	478	414	~	~	263	128	136
P7 MDS information not available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: JPA, FMed 23s & DMICP.

¹ Non-Freezing Cold Injury (NFCI), Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL), and Musculoskeletal Disorders and Injuries (MSK) identified where principal cause of medical discharge.

² Last known MDS prior to RECU (when not medically discharged) or medical discharge date (when medically discharged).

³ Year of RECU.

⁴ Excludes NFCI.

⁵ Other cause of medical discharge is the principal cause of medical discharge when not NFCI, NIHL or MSK.

⁶ Includes personnel with both a principal and at least one contributory cause of medical discharge.
~ In line with JSP 200 on statistical disclosure, figures fewer

Notes/Caveats

1. Please note that live data sources were used, meaning information is subject to change. Information provided is correct as at 8 November 2019.
2. The information on medical discharges was sourced from electronic personnel records 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.
3. RECU information was compiled using Joint Personnel Administration (JPA). This is the most accurate source for demographic information for UK Armed Forces personnel and is used to gather information on a person's service.
4. Medical discharges due to the following conditions were identified as personnel who were medically discharged with a principal cause coded as the following in the International Classification of Diseases, version 10 (ICD-10):
Non-Freezing Cold Injuries (NFCI): T690: Immersion hand and foot (Trench foot).
T691: Chilblains. T698: Other specified effects of reduced temperature.
Noise-Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL): H833.
Musculoskeletal Disorders (M00 – M99) and Injuries (S00 – T98).

The PULHHEEMS system was developed to provide a method for standardising and recording the medical functional assessment. The "P" grading is used to indicate an individual's overall physical and mental development, his or her potential for physical training and suitability for employment worldwide. A "P" grading is followed by a number which will determine fitness for duty. These gradings are as follows:

P2: Medically fit for unrestricted service worldwide.

P3: Medically fit for duty with minor employment limitations.

P4: Medically fit for duty within the limitations of pregnancy.
P7: Medically fit for duty with major employment limitations.
P8: Medically unfit for service.
P0: Medically unfit for duty and under medical care.

MDS was compiled using the Defence Statistics “derived” field which utilises a combination of the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) and Defence Medical Information Capability Programme (DMICP) MDS. P grade was compiled using DMICP data.

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,

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Manning Team, **Army Secretariat**