

Are you a Veteran or member of the ex-Armed Forces community?

If you are a Veteran, member of the ex-Forces community or the family member or carer of a Veteran you should let a healthcare professional know.

Why should I tell a healthcare professional? What are the benefits?

- It will trigger the transfer of your full medical documentation from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) to your GP so you are not disadvantaged from accessing the appropriate services.
- It will enable you to benefit from veteran-specific services, like prosthetics and mental health, and additional support from a range of organisations for example home adaptations and respite care (NHS Choices, 2015).
- Issues that Veterans, their families and carers face can be complex and challenging. Telling a healthcare professional can help.

“If the NHS service you are dealing with is unaware of priority treatment, you are actively encouraged to tell them about it and ensure you have told them that you have served” (NHS Choices, 2015).

The **Armed Forces Covenant** is a government framework for the duty of care Britain owes to its Armed Forces. This document says that Veterans should receive:



priority treatment where it relates to a condition which results from their service in the Armed Forces, subject to clinical need.”

The Armed Forces Covenant

