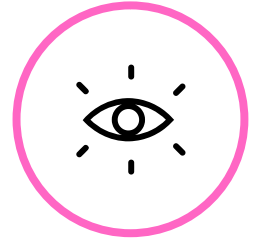


Patient Confidentiality

The Armed Forces Community - A Staff Explainer

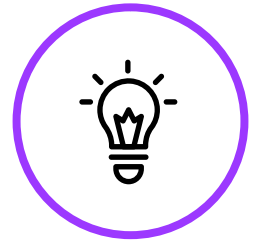
1 UNDERSTAND

Some veterans may not disclose their service due to sensitive operations or fear of reprisal. Family members may also choose to remain anonymous.



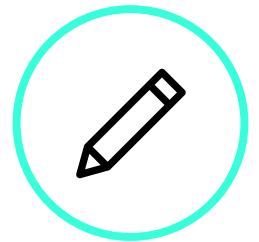
2 AWARE

It is important to make patients aware of their rights to confidentiality. There are many confidentiality reasons why people may not want to identify themselves.



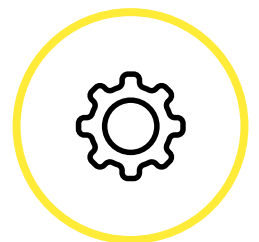
3 THE 'ACT'

Joining the military means signing the Official Secrets Act, which prohibits unauthorised disclosure of information. But they can talk about their healthcare needs.



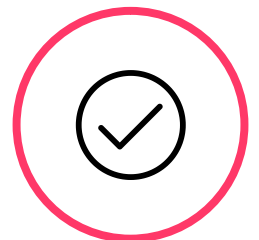
4 FAMILIES

Some may believe that a serving person's career may be affected by their healthcare needs. It is important that they are made aware that the military are not entitled to know their medical history.



5 EXPLAIN

It may need to be explained to the patient/s that they have the same rights to patient confidentiality as the rest of the population. This can be done verbally, or through an Armed Forces Community Patient FAQ.

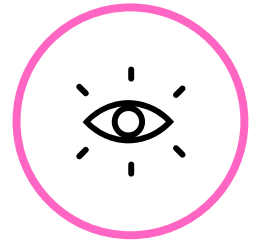


Your Rights to Confidentiality

Military Children and Young People

1 UNDERSTAND

If your parent, step-parent, or guardian serves or has served in the military, you are a member of the Armed Forces community.



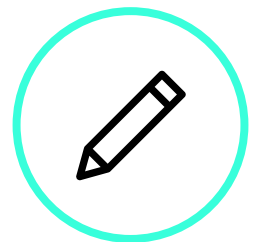
2 IDENTIFY

We ask if you are a member of the Armed Forces Community because you may be entitled to additional support.



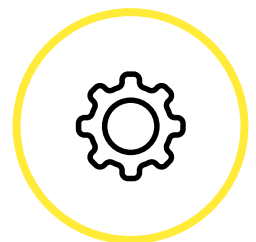
3 THE 'ACT'

You may have heard of the Official Secrets Act. It is okay to talk about your caregiver's time in the military, including countries you have lived in, countries they have visited, or time spent away.



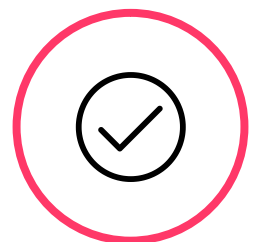
4 CONFIDENTIALITY

You have the same right to confidentiality as anyone else. You can talk freely to your clinician about what is affecting you without anyone else needing to know. The military will not find out.



5 EXPLAIN

Receiving treatment for an injury or illness will not affect your caregiver's military career. It will not affect any promotions. Your health and wellbeing is the most important thing to us.

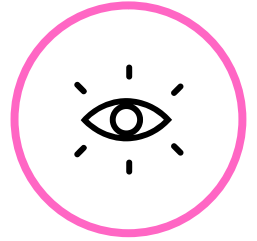


Your Rights to Confidentiality

The Armed Forces Community

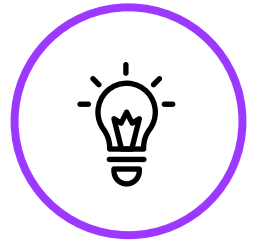
1 UNDERSTAND

Being a member of the Armed Forces Community does not mean you lose your right to patient confidentiality. You can talk to us about anything that is affecting your health and wellbeing, even if it relates to your time in the military.



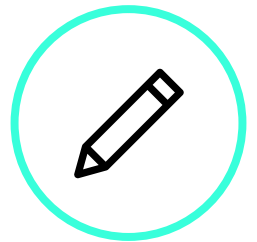
2 IDENTIFY

We ask if you are a member of the Armed Forces Community because you may be entitled to additional support. This includes veterans, children, spouses and partners.



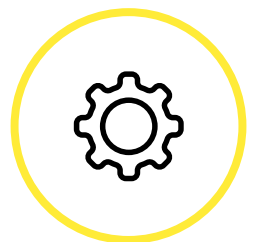
3 THE 'ACT'

The Official Secrets Act prohibits unlawful disclosure of official information. However, you are not breaking the Act if you talk about your time in service, as it relates to your healthcare needs.



4 CAREER

Receiving treatment for an injury or illness will not affect your family member's military career. They will not be made to leave the military, and it will not affect their promotions.



5 EXPLAIN

You have the same rights to patient confidentiality as the rest of the population. Please talk to your healthcare provider for further information.

