



Veteran Aware

Service User Information Leaflet

Wrightington, Wigan & Leigh NHS Foundation Trust is proud to be a Veteran Aware healthcare provider.

Please let a member of staff know if you, or your spouse/partner, currently serve or have ever served in the UK armed forces so that we can best support your care needs.

Wrightington, Wigan & Leigh NHS Foundation Trust is a member of the Veterans Covenant Healthcare Alliance, sharing and driving best practice in NHS care for the Armed Forces Community.

The Armed Forces Covenant states that serving personnel, reservists, spouses and dependents should not face disadvantage compared to other citizens when accessing health services.

For example, if you are moving and you are on an NHS waiting list.

Veterans may also be entitled to priority access to NHS care for health conditions associated with their time in service, subject to clinical need.

What you can expect from us:

- We are committed to ensuring no disadvantage and to giving special consideration where appropriate.
- We have educated and trained all relevant staff to identify and respond to the specific needs of the Armed Forces Community.
- We support the UK Armed Forces Community as an employer.

Here at **Wrightington, Wigan & Leigh NHS Foundation Trust** we will put you in touch, or refer you, to organisations and services best placed to help with information, advice and support.

Veterans' Gateway

First point of contact for veterans and their families providing information, advice and support.
0808 802 1212 or text 81212 or visit www.veteransgateway.org.uk

SSAFA

Welfare, health and support services, for the UK military's serving personnel, veterans, and their families. 0800 731 4880 or visit www.ssafa.org.uk

Royal British Legion

Welfare, health and support services, for the UK military's serving personnel, veterans, and their families. 0808 802 8080 or visit www.britishlegion.org.uk

NHS Veterans' Trauma Network

Provides specialist care to veterans with physical injuries related to their time in service.
www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/armed-forces-community/veterans-service-leavers-non-mobilised-reservists

NHS OP Courage - Veterans' Mental Health and Wellbeing Service

OP Courage is for serving personnel approaching discharge, and for veterans. The service provides a range of treatment, from access to early support, to therapeutic treatment for complex mental health difficulties, and psychological trauma.

Call 0800 652 2867 or email VTILS@cntw.nhs.uk (The Op COURAGE urgent care and support service is accessible by healthcare referral only).

Working for the NHS

The NHS benefits significantly from the skills and experience of the Armed Forces Community, and Veteran Aware organisations support the employment of this community in the NHS. Find out more about careers in the NHS at www.militarystepintohealth.nhs.uk

For more information

Please contact

- Leanne Cobham – Armed Forces Healthcare Lead or Lesley Holding – Armed Forces Navigator on telephone 01924 822743 or email: AFHealthcare@wwl.nhs.uk
- We are committed to continually learning from our patients and their families to improve care for all. If you have feedback or suggestions, please email: afhealthcare@wwl.nhs.uk
Alternatively feedback can be given by scanning the QR code:



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www.veteranaware.nhs.uk

