

RNOH and the Armed Forces Covenant



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

SILVER AWARD WINNER 2018

Proudly supporting those who serve.

The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital is becoming a Veteran Aware Hospitals; we strive to be an exemplar of the best care for veterans in the NHS.

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

Being flagged as a veteran in your NHS medical notes will help to ensure that you are able to access specific veterans' health services, such as those for mental health, hearing loss, limb amputation and wheelchairs.

It also means that where you have an illness or medical condition that has been caused by your time in service or occurred whilst you were in the military, you may be entitled to a shorter hospital waiting list.

Improving care for veterans across the NHS

The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital is a member of the Veterans Covenant Hospital Alliance (VCHA). The VCHA is a network of over 20 NHS hospitals that have volunteered to share and drive the implementation of best practice in NHS care for people who serve or have served in the UK Armed Forces and their families, in line with the Armed Forces Covenant.

General Lord Dannatt, former Chief of the General Staff, has taken up the role of Patron of the VC HA. Professor Tim Briggs, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital and author of the Chavasse Report, which highlighted areas where society could do more for those injured during and as a result of active service, is Co-Chair of the VC HA.

What patients should expect at the RNOH

- We support the health commitments of the Armed Forces Covenant, which is a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or who have served in the UK Armed Forces, and their families, are not subject to any disadvantage from their service (compared to local people)
- We are committed to ensuring the Armed Forces Covenant is applied and that special consideration will be given where appropriate
- This hospital works with a range of extra services that are available to the Armed Forces Community and will make you aware of and refer you to any of these that could benefit you, including:
 - **Orthotic & Prosthetic Users Stanmore (OPUS)** user group provides a peer support network for orthotics and prosthesis users and acts as a forum for feedback, concerns and ideas. The group can be contacted by email: OPUS-rnoh@outlook.com
 - **Listening Buddies** - These are volunteers recruited and supported by the RNOH with life experiences that they can use to support patients. To find out more or request a buddy please contact rnoh.volunteering@nhs.net
 - **Veterans Mental Health Transition, Intervention and Liaison service** provided by Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust
 - **Career Transition Partnership (CTP) Northolt** resettlement centre provides services for those leaving the military, regardless of time served. Phone: 02088 426065 or email: rcnortholt@ctp.org.uk

How can you get a job in the NHS?

The NHS can benefit significantly from the skills and experience veterans and reservists bring from your military training and service.

The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital has received a Bronze award certificate under the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme for confirming its continuing support for members of the Armed Forces.

The scheme encourages employers to demonstrate support for the Armed Forces community and the Armed Forces Covenant and inspire others to do the same. As a Bronze award holder, the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital promotes itself as Armed Forces friendly, supporting those who serve or have served the country. The Trust actively promotes the contribution of Reservists and offers them the flexibility to take time out of their civilian role for training and deployment.

Find out more about careers for veterans and reservists in the NHS at militarystepintohealth.nhs.uk