


NHS mental health care for veterans

Mental illness is common and can affect anyone (including serving and ex-members of the Armed Forces and their families). Whilst some people cope by getting support from their family and friends, or by getting help with other issues in their lives, others need clinical care and treatment, which could be from the NHS, support groups or charities.

A decorative graphic consisting of three wavy, overlapping bands of color: a dark blue band at the top, a red band in the middle, and a light blue band at the bottom. The bands flow from left to right across the page.

Within the NHS, there are a range of mental health services that provide different types of care and treatment. This includes dedicated mental health services for service personnel approaching discharge from the British Armed Forces and veterans. By veteran we mean anyone who has served for at least one day in Her Majesty's Armed Forces (regular or reserve).

These services are called the NHS Veterans' Mental Health Transition, Intervention and Liaison Service (TILS) and the NHS Veterans' Mental Health Complex Treatment Service (CTS).

Both of these services are provided by specialists in mental health who have an expert understanding of the Armed Forces.