

Armed Forces Care Update

NHS England are the responsible commissioner for general acute services for those serving in the Armed Forces and their dependants where they are registered with a Military GP practice. This has been the case since 2013. NHS England also commission several specialised Veterans services, Op Courage - Veterans Mental health service, Op Restore- Veterans Physical Health and Wellbeing Service, and Op Nova for veterans in the justice system.

Serving personnel have their primary care dentistry provided for by the Military. However, the secondary care dental activity for the armed forces is managed by the ICB. The ICB are the responsible commissioner for veterans, as they form part of the civilian population and access general dental services.

In terms of the Armed Forces current waiting times in the Plymouth area, the below table details the provider reported position for those registered with a Military GP Practice. There are no special provisions for this population to be seen faster than the rest of the population. There is ongoing with the GIRF team ‘Getting it right first time’ to reduce waits at providers.

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust November 2025 RTT position (Latest published data)

University Hospitals Plymouth	
November 2025 Latest Published RTT Data	
Total Number Armed Forces patients waiting	23
Less than 18 weeks	14
More than 18 weeks	9
Number More than 52 Weeks	0

In relation to the General Practice Veteran Accreditation Scheme, currently within Devon ICB update continues to be good, with 88% (102) of the 116 practices signed up to the scheme.