



By email

request-616060-cca1e73e@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: 18/12/ds/974

22 January 2020

Dear Gavin Roberts,

Re: FOI Linked to Case refs: 902 & 750 - Origin of ingredients developed for Anthrax for 1990/91 Gulf War

Thank you for your email dated 18 December 2019. In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), I can confirm that Public Health England (PHE) does not hold the information you have specified.

Your request:

Please release the correct data surrounding the vaccine ingredient supplies

Response:

Your request is very similar to your original request of the 22 November 2019 (Case ref: 750). You will recall you requested the following:-

What has already been clarified is that the U.S formula was used to develop Anthrax vaccines for use on British troops specifically for the Gulf War 1999/1991 .My simple question is as follows...Did the U.S also supply the anthrax bacteria or any other ingredient within that vaccine?

We responded to your request by advising PHE did not hold the information specified. We also provided a useful point of clarification.

By return, we received a subsequent clarification from you as follows:-

This leaves MOD with a bit of problem, as without knowing the origin of the ingredients/bacteria specifically for the Anthrax developed for the Gulf War 90/91 as MOD are claiming, it is simply impossible for them to make the claim that the Anthrax did not cause gulf war illnesses/autoimmune conditions amongst our suffering troops!

Would you just like to double check, especially as MOD would like us to believe every stone was turned!

PHE responded within the required timeframe and provided advice and assistance to you under our Section 16 duty, signposting you to the Government of UK Ministry of Defences' position on risk from vaccines and Nerve Agent Pre-treatment Set is documented at; <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/gulf-veterans-illnesses#the-vaccines-interactions-research-programme>

Your most recent request of the 18 December 2019 is as follows:-

Please release the correct data surrounding the vaccine ingredient supplies

Our response to this specific request is that PHE has nothing further to add to our previous responses, to your FOI request and request for clarification. Under our section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, may we again signpost you to the Government of UK Ministry of Defences' position on the risks of vaccines and Nerve Agent Pre-treatment Set which is documented at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/gulf-veterans-illnesses#the-vaccines-interactions-research-programme>.

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer your query to in writing in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied and would like to request an internal review, then please contact us at the address above or by emailing foi@phe.gov.uk.

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by writing to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

FOI Team