

British Army Succession of Titles: Medical



The Royal Army Medical Service was formed on 15th November 2024 when the three human healthcare corps - medicine, nursing and dentistry - were amalgamated. Of the three antecedent Corps, only the RAMC had units with which a succession of titles may be tracked. The Royal Army Veterinary Corps (RAVC) remains an independent corps outside of the Royal Army Medical Service.

Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC)

Following the Boer War, Clearing Hospitals were established from 1907 and these were retitled 'Casualty Clearing Stations' in 1915 then 'Field Hospitals' in 1970. During the First World War, Casualty Clearing Stations consisted of a commanding officer, quartermaster, six medical officers and 77 non-commissioned officers and other ranks. During the First World War, typically a 'Field Ambulance' consisted of 10 officers and 224 men. The headcount was similar in the Second World War. This resource only includes CCS/Field Hospitals and Field Ambulances that evolved into regiments.

Royal Army Dental Corps (RADC)

The Army Dental Service was established as a separate Corps in 1921 due to the high quantity of men during World War One unfit for service due to poor dental health. Prior to that date, dental officers commissioned into the RAMC. Dental officers are deployed to medical establishments and provide care to the British Army and local populations where required.

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps (QARANC)

Although military nursing dates back to the civil wars of the 1640s, British Army nursing was not formalised until the creation of the Army Nursing Service in 1881. Nurses are assigned to medical establishments in the UK and abroad including hospitals and hospital ships.



Forming the Royal Army Medical Service

18th Century	19th Century		20th Century			Present	
Army Medical Board (1793-1810)	Army Medical Department (1810-84)	Medical Staff Corps (1855-84)	Army Medical Staff (1884-1898)	Royal Army Medical Corps (1898-2024) RAMC			Royal Army Medical Service (2024-present) RAMS
			Army Dental Service (1901-08) ADS	Army Dental Corps (1921-46) ADC	Royal Army Dental Corps (1946-2024) RADC		
			Army Nursing Service (1881-1902) ANS	Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service (1902-49) QAIMNS	Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps (1949-2024) QARANC		

Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) to Royal Army Medical Service (RAMS)

First World War	Second World War	1950s-70s	1970s-90s		20th Century		
	28 Field Ambulance (1915-19; 1950-77)		1 Armoured Division Field Ambulance (1977-82)	1 Armoured Field Ambulance (1982-2000)	1 Close Support Medical Regiment (2000-08) 1 CSMR	1 Medical Regiment (2008-14) 1 Med Regt	1 Armoured Medical Regiment (2014-present) 1 Armd Med Regt
	29 Field Ambulance (1915-17; 1939-45; 1950-77)		2 Armoured Division Field Ambulance (1976-82)	2 Armoured Field Ambulance (1982-2000)			
	7 Field Ambulance (1914-19; 1936-45; 1951-76)		3 Armoured Division Field Ambulance (1977-82)	3 Armoured Field Ambulance (1982-2000)			2 Medical Regiment (2008-18) 2 Med Regt
	31 Field Ambulance (1915-18; 1951-76)						
	4 Field Ambulance (1914-19; 1935-47; 1951-77)						
	30 Field Ambulance (1915-18; 1950-77)						

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First World War	Second World War	1950s-70s	1970s-90s		20th Century		
	11 Field Ambulance (1906-19; 1939-78)		4 Armoured Divisional Field Ambulance (1978-82)	4 Armoured Field Ambulance (1982-93) 4 Field Ambulance (1993-2000)	4 General Support Medical Regiment (2000-08) 4 GSMR 4 Medical Regiment (2008-13) 4 Med Reg	4 Armoured Medical Regiment (2013-23) 4 Armd Med Regt	2 Medical Regiment (2023-present) 2 Med Regt
	16th Airborne Field Ambulance (1941) 16th (Parachute) Field Ambulance (1941-45)	16 Field Ambulance (1947-93)		16 Armoured Field Ambulance (1993-2000)	3 Close Support Medical Regiment (2000-09) 3 CSMR	3 Medical Regiment (2009-23) 3 Med Regt	
24 Armoured Field Ambulance (1983-2000)							
		24 Field Ambulance (1960-76)					
	5 Field Ambulance (1914-19; 1939-58)		5 Field Force Field Ambulance BAOR (1976-82) 5 Armoured Field Ambulance (1982-93)	5 (Wheeled) Field Ambulance (1993-95) 5 Field Ambulance (1995-99)	5 General Support Medical Regiment (1999-2009) 5 GSMR 5 Medical Regiment (2009-14) 5 Med Regt	5 Armoured Medical Regiment (2014-23) 5 Armd Med Regt	3 Medical Regiment (2023-present) 3 Med Regt
	15 Field Ambulance (1914-19; 1941-50)	15 Field Ambulance (1950-59) 19 Field Ambulance (Airportable) (1959-78)	7 Field Force Field Ambulance (1978-82) 19 (Wheeled) Field Ambulance (1982-88) 19 Field Ambulance (1988-93)	19 (Wheeled) Field Ambulance (1982-88) 19 Field Ambulance (1988-93) 19 Airmobile Field Ambulance (1993-99)	16 Close Support Medical Regiment (1999-2008) 16 CSMR	16 Medical Regiment (2008-present) 16 Med Regt	
	127th (East Lancashire) Field Ambulance (1939-42) 127 Parachute Field Ambulance (1942-47)	15 Field Ambulance (1966-77) 23 Parachute Field Ambulance (1947-77)	6 Field Force Field Ambulance (1977-81) 16 Field Ambulance (1981-85) 23 Field Ambulance (1985/86)	23 Parachute Field Ambulance (1986-99)			
					34 Field Hospital (1996-2023) 34 FH	21 Multi-Role Medical Regiment (2023-present) 21 MMR	
No. 2 Clearing Hospital (1914/15)	2 Casualty Clearing Station (1915-70) 2 CCS		2 Field Hospital (1970-86) 2 FH	22 Field Hospital (1986-2023) 22 FH		22 Multi-Role Medical Regiment (2023-present) 22 MMR	