



HOW VETERANS WITH POST-COMBAT DISORDERS ADJUST TO CIVILIAN LIFE

Professor Edgar Jones of the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience at King's College London is leading an important new study to explore how UK veterans suffering with post-combat disorders cope with the issues surrounding adjustment to civilian life. The project is funded jointly by the Forces in Mind Trust (FiMT), a charity established to help ex-service men and women make a successful transition to civilian life, and the Centre for Psychiatry at Queen Mary University. The research will seek to identify factors that both encourage and inhibit the process of military transition for veterans with post-combat disorders. From Queen Mary University of London, Professor Kam Bhui is a co-investigator and will play an important role in analytic design and delivery, public engagement and impact, and dissemination of the findings.

The project will analyse clinical data from World War Two and its aftermath to explore areas of support needed for service personnel and the role of employment. Whilst the link between mental illness and unemployment is well-known for the general population, much less is understood about the demands and opportunities of work for veterans, particularly those with post-combat disorders such as post-traumatic stress disorder. Dr Alberta Engelbrecht, the full-time Research Worker on the project, took up her post in January 2015.