

General Sir Mike Jackson hails Trauma Centre opening

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The launch of a pioneering £20 million trauma care centre combining cutting-edge technology from across civilian and military medicine is being heralded as a 'major step forward' by the former Chief of the General Staff.

General Sir Mike Jackson (BSocSc Russian Language and Literature, 1967; Hon LLD, 2000) says the Birmingham Queen Elizabeth Hospital-housed National Institute Health Research Centre for Surgical Reconstruction and Microbiology will allow trauma care to make significant progress in the future.

The facility will enable surgeons to share expertise in trauma care by combining their knowledge of treating casualties who have been injured in situations ranging from car accidents to battlefield incidents.

Sir Mike explains: 'Whatever can be done to improve the care of servicemen and civilians is all to the good. A lot of progress has been made, in my view, over the past five years in trauma care treatment.

'This has meant that soldiers who would have been killed five years ago are now surviving – that is an ultimate testament to the progress being made. In another five years we might be able to see more lives saved as a result of these advances.'

Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital is currently the main medical facility for injured British soldiers returning from conflicts overseas.

It is hoped that the new trauma care facility will not only allow significant advances to be made in the treatment of military personnel but in treating civilians needing specialist care following serious injury.

Sir Mike adds: 'The strides currently being made in immediate medical care for incidences of severe trauma are helping save lives and improve the lives of veterans in the longer term. The work now going on in Birmingham will only improve that.'

Read more about the new trauma centre in the UB Newsletter, out in May. To ensure you receive your copy, update your address at [your.bham](http://www.your.bham.ac.uk) (<http://www.your.bham.ac.uk>).