

The facts

Anyone can get lung disease. It affects men, women, children, smokers, ex-smokers and never smokers, all of whom are equally worthy of care and support. No one deserves lung disease.



1 in 4 Australians has a lung disease.¹

1 in 7 deaths is a result of lung disease.²

Lung disease accounts for 10% of the total health burden in Australia.²

Almost half of all Australians rarely or never think about the health of their lungs.³

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

1 in 7 Australians over 40 has COPD and many don't know it.⁴

COPD is the second leading cause of avoidable hospital admissions.⁵

Lung cancer

One Australian dies every hour from lung cancer.⁷

Lung cancer is Australia's biggest cancer killer.

It kills more people than breast, prostate and ovarian cancers combined.¹⁰

12,500 Australians were diagnosed with lung cancer in 2017. That's **34 people a day.**⁶

Lung cancer has one of the lowest survival rates of any cancer in Australia with only

15% of Australians surviving **5 years** after their diagnosis.⁷

1 in 3 woman & 1 in 10 men diagnosed with lung cancer have no history of smoking.⁷

Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)

IPF is a rare and progressive lung disease causing irreversible scarring of the lungs.

Whilst it is not currently known exactly how many people are affected by IPF in Australia, experts estimate approximately **1,250 people are diagnosed** with this devastating disease **each year.**

Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH)

PAH diagnosis is delayed on average **3.9 years.**⁹

On average it takes **5 GP visits** before a specialist referral is given.⁹

Bronchiectasis

Bronchiectasis is a common lung disease caused by chronic infection damaging the lungs.

Females and the elderly are more frequently affected.¹⁰

Rare lung disease in children

In Australia there is currently very limited, if any, information, support, treatment and research available for children diagnosed with a rare lung disease.

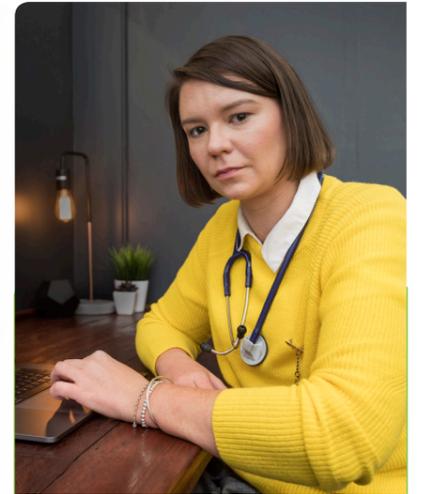
Challenges in Australia

The stigma surrounding lung disease is a major barrier to accessing research, funding, treatment and support.

1 in 6 Australians believe people with lung disease who have smoked deserve less support.¹¹

Over one third (35%) of Australians consider those with lung cancer to be their **'own worst enemy'** and 1 in 10 will say they **'got what they deserved'**.¹¹

In a global survey conducted in 15 countries, Australians were among the **top three nationalities that had the least sympathy** for people diagnosed with lung cancer, compared with other cancers, based on its association with tobacco smoking.⁷



Understanding is rare, lung disease is not

"It's something that I was either born with, or grew into, or slowly developed over time. Lung disease has such a stigma attached to it that I think when I tell other people I have a lung disease, they probably assume that it is a recent thing and there is something I did in my lifetime that caused me to have a lung issue. I wish people would react to being presented with a person with a lung disease in a way that was open minded and understanding."

Tegan is 28 years old and was diagnosed at the age of six with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension.

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