PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

HREC Project Number:	HRE2025-0498
Project Title:	Healthy Lungs at Work 2026

You are invited to take part in this study. Please read this Information Sheet in full before deciding whether or not to participate. If you would like further information regarding any aspect of this project, you are encouraged to contact the researchers via the email addresses listed below.

What is the project about?
Occupational lung diseases are entirely preventable. It is clear there is a need for a better understanding of the Australian landscape, to determine what industries are most at-risk and identify the most common hazards impacting workers' lungs. Lung Foundation Australia have developed an online survey that asks at-risk workers across Australia questions about workplace type, workplace exposures, safety measures used in the workplace, respiratory symptoms and health-seeking behaviour. These questions are being asked to understand the landscape of workers across Australia and better understand the industries at risk of occupational lung diseases.

Who is conducting the study?
Lung Foundation Australia was funded to complete this project by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing. The funding body has no role in the design or completion of the study activities, including data analysis and interpretation of findings. This will be acknowledged in all output. The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing will receive the number of survey responses each year in an annual report. The chief investigators involved in this research are: Dr Renee Carey - School of Population Health, Curtin University; Kerstin Greeneberg - Lung Foundation Australia and Lauren Williams - Lung Foundation Australia.

Why am I being asked to participate?
We are seeking Australian workers who believe they have been exposed to hazardous dusts, fumes, gases or other exposures in their workplace. You must be over 18 years of age to participate in this study.

Do I have to take part in the project?
It is your choice to participate or not – it is completely optional and voluntary to complete the survey. You have the right to withdraw from the study, and you can choose to leave and stop the survey at any point without penalty or consequence. There is no requirement to complete the survey as part of your employment. It is important to note that you will be unable to withdraw your data after your responses are submitted. You can withdraw from participating by not completing or submitting the survey and simply closing your browser.

What will I have to do?
You will be required to complete the Healthy Lungs at Work survey to the best of your ability. This survey will ask you eight questions about your workplace and lung health as well as general demographic questions. This survey will take you approximately 5 minutes to complete.

Who will have access to my information?
The survey is completely anonymous. You have the option to leave your details (name, email address and phone number) if you would like to have a copy of your survey results sent to you. This identifying information will be stored separately from your survey responses. You do not need to leave your details in order to complete the survey,

or to review your results. If you chose to leave your details (name, email, phone number) your survey results will be potentially re-identifiable. No identifiable data will be included in outputs of the research or related publications.

All electronic data will be password-protected accessible only to the research team. The information we collect in this study will be kept under secure conditions at Curtin University for seven years after the research is published or completed and then it will be destroyed.

Will you tell me the results of the project?
The combined results of the survey will be published and available for participants to access. These results will be aggregated, and no individual will be able to be identified.

Are there any benefits to participating in the project?
As a research participant in this project, you will be provided with an on-screen summary of your survey answers after you complete the questions. If you choose to leave your personal details, you will be provided with an email summary of your survey results and additional resource and support service options available to you through Lung Foundation Australia. You will also receive tailored educational information via email, which includes information about Lung Foundation Australia's dedicated nurse and social work service. Providing your contact information is completely optional.

Your participation and the outcomes from this study will contribute to the better understanding of the lung health of Australian workers.

Are there any risks to participating in the research project?
We do not expect that there will be any risks associated with taking part in this project. It is possible that some of the questions may cause slight discomfort as they ask about personal topics. You can choose to leave and stop the survey without penalty or consequence if you feel uncomfortable at any point.

Who can I contact about the project if I have questions?
If you would like to ask a question about the project or your participation, please contact:

Dr Renee Carey
School of Population Health
Curtin University
E: renee.carey@curtin.edu.au

Kerstin Greeneberg
Lung Foundation Australia
E: kersting@lungfoundation.com.au

Lauren Williams
Lung Foundation Australia
E: laurenw@lungfoundation.com.au

Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) has approved this study (HREC number HRE2025-0498). Should you wish to discuss the study with someone not directly involved, in particular, any matters concerning the conduct of the study or your rights as a participant, or you wish to make a confidential complaint, you may contact the Ethics Officer on (08) 9266 9223 or the Manager, Research Integrity on (08) 9266 7093 or email hrec@curtin.edu.au.

Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the study
Commencing the survey indicates that you have read this information sheet and consent to participating in the study. However, it is important to note it will not be possible to identify your responses to remove these once you have submitted your responses.