

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease IN AUSTRALIA

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a long-term incurable lung condition that interferes with airflow into the lungs, making it hard to breathe. Guidance in the **Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Clinical Care Standard** will help ease symptoms and improve outcomes for patients.

NATIONAL DATA

An estimated
638,000
people live with
COPD*



COPD was the underlying cause for
7,691 deaths
in 2022*



Representing 4% of all deaths



1 IN 13 people
aged 40+ have COPD
but around half don't know
they have it**



First Nations people are
2.3x
more likely
than non-Indigenous people
to have COPD***

THE BURDEN OF COPD

53,000
avoidable
hospitalisations
for COPD*
people aged 45+ in 2021-22



COPD costs the
healthcare system
\$832 million
annually*



87% of people with COPD have one or
more other chronic conditions*

5 STEPS TO MANAGE COPD

- 1 ACCURATE DIAGNOSIS**
Have a spirometry (breathing) test so you get the right treatment.
- 2 QUIT SMOKING**
Seek help to quit smoking or vaping to improve your lung health.
- 3 ACTION PLAN**
Get a COPD action plan so you know what to do if symptoms worsen.
- 4 PULMONARY REHAB**
Join a lung rehabilitation program to keep moving and ease symptoms.
- 5 MANAGE MEDICINES**
Know your medicines and how to use your inhalers.

FIND OUT MORE AT: safetyandquality.gov.au/copd-ccs

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* Source: AIHW 2024 ** Source: MJA 2013 *** Source: ABS 2019