








Lung Related Health

In Gippsland it's estimated that:

	Gippsland	Victoria
 Risk factor - smoking ¹	20.0%	13.1%
 Adults who report having asthma ¹	11.3%	10.9%
 Use of asthma medication for adults aged 20-44 years ²	26-34* per 100 people	19
 Use of asthma medications for children aged 3-19 years ²	24-37* per 100 children	24
 Potentially preventable hospitalisations due to asthma ³	132 per 100,000 people	133
 Potentially preventable hospitalisations due to Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease ³	285 per 100,000 people	260
 Avoidable deaths due to respiratory system diseases ⁴	10.3 per 100,000 people	8.0

*Range for Gippsland local government areas ■ Among highest or lowest 25% of regions in Victoria

Strengths

- Lung health is recognised as an important health issue in the Gippsland community⁵
- Smoking cessation project to help people Quit⁶
- Health promotion activities to help people live healthier lives⁷
- Health Pathways development to help clinicians provide relevant referrals and care⁸
- My Health Record can help consumers and providers access the right information⁹

Needs

- There are concerns about air pollution in the community, especially in the Latrobe Valley⁵
- People experiencing social and economic disadvantage have a significantly higher risk of lung issues⁸
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people rated lung health as a top health issue⁵
- Access to respiratory specialists (medical and nursing) is a service gap⁵
- Asthma is among the top five diagnoses for patient aged 5-54 years seeing their GP in Gippsland⁹
- Nationally, 73% of people with COPD aged 65 or over also report cardiovascular disease¹⁰

References

1. Victorian Population Health Survey, 2014, DHHS
2. Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation, 2013-14, Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare
3. Analysis of the National Hospital Morbidity Database, AIHW 2017
4. Social Health Atlas of Australia, PHIDU 2018
5. Gippsland PHN, Community and Stakeholder engagement 2016
6. Gippsland PHN; <https://www.gphn.org.au/>
7. See Local Government Area Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans
8. AIHW; www.aihw.gov.au/reports-statistics/behaviours-risk-factors/social-determinants
9. GP practice data, Gippsland PHN 2018
10. COPD, associated comorbidities and risk factors, AIHW 2016