Asthma in Australia 2011 Statistics

- One in ten people in Australia have asthma
- 2 million people in Australia have asthma
- On average, about 8 people die every week from asthma in Australia
- Risk of dying from asthma increases with age
- Most deaths from asthma attributed to asthma occur in people aged 65 and over
- 69% of asthma deaths occur in people aged 65 and over
- 92% of asthma deaths occur in people aged 35 and over
- In Australia, most adults asthma deaths occur in late winter and May
- The rate of deaths from asthma in Australia is high by international standards
- The majority of people with asthma do not have a written asthma action plan, despite being the nationally recommended guidelines for the last 20 years.
- Almost 8% of children with asthma live in a house where people smoke inside the home.
- Nearly 10% of adult-onset asthma is caused by occupational exposure
- Occupational asthma is the one truly preventable form of the disease
- In 2007-08, 38% children aged 0-14 with asthma lived with one or more daily smokers.
- Almost 40% of children with asthma live with smokers
- Almost 8% of those live with people who smoke inside the home
- Prevalence of smoking – 20% of people aged 55+ who have COPD smoke, without COPD 11%