

LUNG CANCER IN AUSTRALIA

Lung cancer is abnormal cells or a malignant tumour which grows in an uncontrolled way in one or both of the lungs.

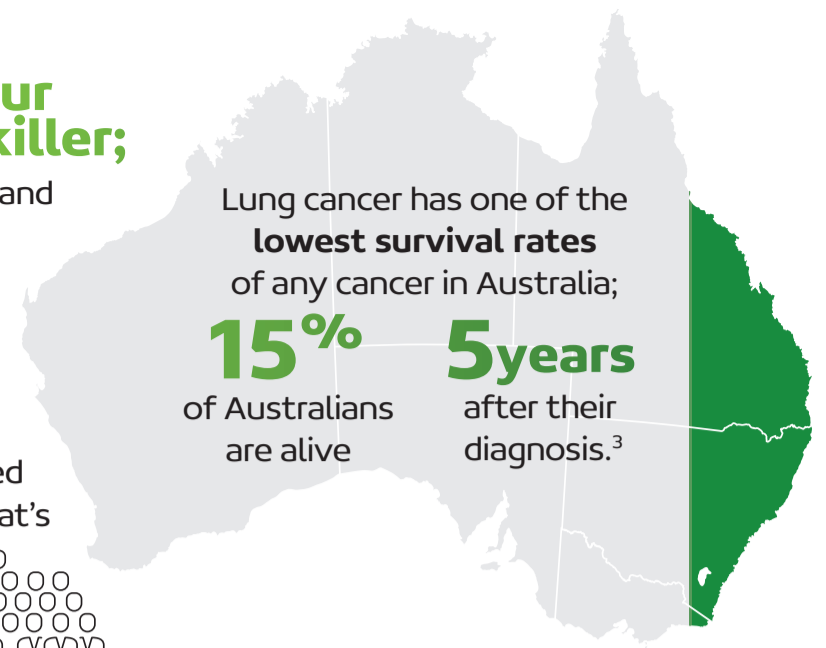
Lung cancer is our biggest cancer killer;

more than breast, prostate and ovarian cancers combined.¹

25 people a day **DIE** from lung cancer.³

12,500 Australians will be diagnosed with lung cancer in 2017. That's

34 people a day 



THE STIGMA



Australian's lack of empathy is confronting:³

Over a third (35%)

consider those with lung cancer to be their "own worst enemy"

1/10 will say they got what they deserved.



Australians have the least sympathy (out of 15 nations surveyed) for people with lung cancer, because of its association with tobacco smoking.⁴

90% of Australians believe smoking is the only lung cancer risk factor,

despite other proven links including genetics, pollution and occupational exposure.³



Occupational exposure contributes to **29%** of lung cancers in men¹



1 in 3

and

1 in 10



diagnosed with lung cancer have no history of smoking.¹

CAUSES

Anyone can get lung cancer. The risk of getting lung cancer can be increased by:



Tobacco smoking



Occupational exposure

such as asbestos, dust and chemicals



Pollution

such as chemical, radiation and radon exposure



Genetics

DIAGNOSIS

Lung cancer is often diagnosed late because symptoms can be vague. There is also no routine screening in Australia for early detection.

Most likely, there will be a range of medical tests which need to be performed to confirm the type of lung cancer, the size of the tumour and whether it has spread outside of the lungs.

SYMPTOMS

Lung cancer symptoms can be vague and the disease is often found when it is in advanced stages. Symptoms include:



Cough

new, persistent or changed



Coughing up blood



Breathlessness



Fatigue



Chest pain



Weight loss



Voice hoarseness

TREATMENT

There are treatments available that can help extend a patient's life and improve their quality of life, including:

Targeted therapies

Immunotherapy

Radiotherapy

Chemotherapy

Surgery

IF YOU EXPERIENCE ANY SYMPTOMS SPEAK TO YOUR DOCTOR.

FIND OUT MORE
lungfoundation.com.au
or phone 1800 654 301.



SUPPORT

For more information on the range of treatment options, resources and support services available to people living with lung cancer, **please contact Lung Foundation Australia.**

1 Lung Foundation Australia, Improving outcomes for Australians with lung cancer: A Call to Action (2016)
2 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2017. Cancer in Australia 2017. Cancer series no.101. Cat. no. CAN 100. Canberra: AIHW.
3 Lung Foundation Australia PureProfile Consumer Survey, 2017
4 Ipsos MORI, Perceptions of Lung Cancer in Australia, 2011



Lung Foundation Australia

*when you can't breathe... nothing else matters**