



Asthma
Foundation WA

Asthma. It's about time...

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Our Story

The Asthma Foundation WA was founded in 1964 from the personal concern of a group of dedicated people, led by Mrs. Judith Barton, to consider how they could help people affected by asthma.

The Foundation is a community-based, not-for-profit organisation dedicated to helping people breathe easier, along with raising money to fund local research into asthma.

Fifty years on, the Asthma Foundation WA is a leading community organisation that provides education and support services for people with asthma, their families and carers. The Foundation has provided over 4.5 million dollars for asthma research. The advancements in medication that saved many West Australian lives is but one legacy of which the Foundation is very proud.

In 2010, the Foundation undertook a new strategic direction and launched a new look. Part of that new direction involved recognising the significant efforts of Foundation staff and volunteers by awarding several Life Memberships and Distinguished Services.

Today, there are 16 dedicated staff, some part-time, who service the need in WA. We have asthma educators based close to where the requirement is most, in West Perth, Joondalup, Armadale and Rockingham. We are poised to expand into regional WA and hope to have support staff in Bunbury, Albany, Kalgoorlie, Geraldton and Karratha.

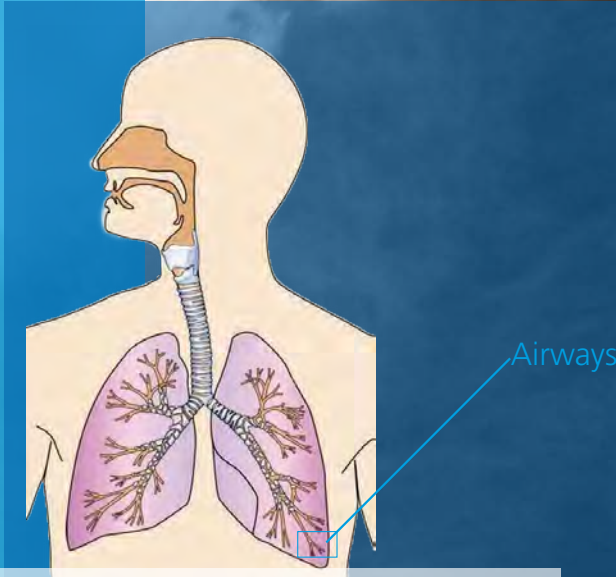
Our vision is to free West Australians from the burden of asthma and our mission is to continue working with the West Australian community to help people with asthma and linked conditions breathe easier.

What is Asthma?

Asthma affects people of all ages but the causes are not fully understood. Asthma is a condition of the airways. People with asthma have sensitive airways which react to triggers that set off their asthma. Their airways swell and get thick with mucus and the muscles around the airway squeeze tight. This makes it hard to breathe. There is some evidence that exposure to environmental factors such as workplace chemicals or tobacco smoke can lead to asthma.

Everyone's asthma is different and can change over time: that's why it is important for people with asthma to see their doctor at least twice a year for an asthma check-up and more frequently if they have concerns.

Researchers continue to try and find out more about what causes asthma and how we might prevent it.

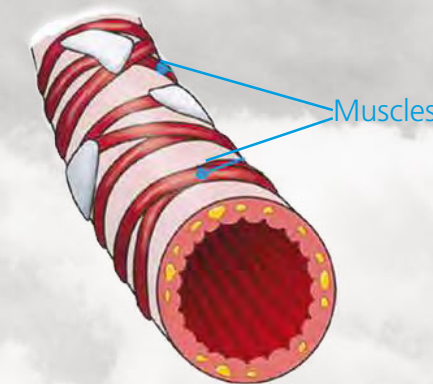


The facts

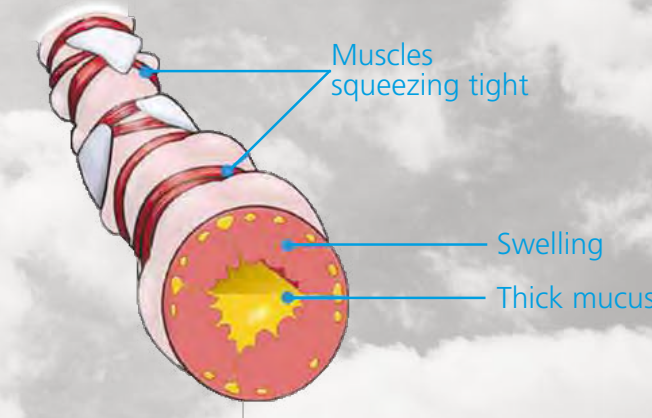
- 10% of Australians suffer from asthma. That's over 2 million people
- Asthma is the most common chronic condition amongst Australian children
- Asthma is a National Health Priority
- 90% of Australians with asthma do not use their inhaler correctly
- There were 416 deaths attributed to asthma in 2011 in Australia

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Normal Airway



Asthma Airway



Our brand



Our brand proudly represents who we are and what we stand for.

It provides visual reassurance of our commitment to helping people with asthma to breathe easier through continuous improvement in information, education, training, advocacy services and the promotion of research.

The blue balloon reminds people about breathing and the importance of healthy lungs.

A balloon needs air to function as designed and when filled correctly, it performs as expected. This links in people's minds as fun, celebration, freedom and living well.

We are proud members of Asthma Australia and our suite of logos demonstrates our National commitment to work together for all Australians living with the condition.



Our services

The Asthma Foundation WA is a registered training organisation which offers a range of services throughout Western Australia. Our services include providing education to people with asthma, families, carers and those with a duty of care such as school teachers.

A range of training options are also available to help manage asthma within a variety of settings. Training is open to individuals, health professionals and organisations with an interest or need in the area of asthma.

	2013 - 2014	2012 - 2013
Community Support	133 sessions	120 sessions
Health Professionals	101 sessions 1,114 participants	71 sessions 712 participants
Schools	547 sessions 5,209 participants	427 sessions 6,208 participants
Early Childhood Education	94 sessions 1,096 participants	136 sessions 1,520 participants
Expos	27 major exhibitions	17 major exhibitions
Regional visits	13 roadtrips	8 roadtrips
Education Clinics	3,084 participants	3,051 participants
Asthma First Aid Sessions	536 participants	421 participants



Asthma Friendly

The Asthma Foundation WA has trained 5,700 teachers and support staff from 250 schools and preschools to manage an asthma emergency in a school setting. Over 15,000 staff in WA are trained under the Asthma Friendly Program.

65% of schools and preschools in WA are now recognised as trained under the Asthma Friendly program.

in addition to schools, we also award the following types of Asthma Friendly status:

- Childcare
- Pharmacy
- Workplace
- Sporting Groups & Gyms



Asthma Assist

The Asthma Assist program is a nationally funded program delivered in Western Australia by the Asthma Foundation WA. The aim of the program is to; increase access to asthma information and education; increase people's ability to effectively manage their asthma; and provide referral pathways and access to relevant support services.

The program targets people with asthma and their family and carers in at-risk populations including seniors (65+ non-Aboriginal, 55+ Aboriginal), ATSI, CALD, low SEIFA, and regional and rural West Australians.

Asthma Educators Course

provides health professionals with an in-depth understanding of asthma and client care.

Training for Aged Care Staff

provides training and esources to support the management of asthma within the Aged Care setting.

First Aid

we offer a range of Nationally Accredited first aid courses.

Living Well With Asthma

provides accurate, up-to-date information, skills and knowledge to effectively manage and control a person's asthma.

Health Professional Seminar

builds on asthma knowledge and increase awareness of current asthma management protocols in a variety of settings with experts in the field.

Emergency Asthma Management

is a Nationally Accredited course which provides up to date asthma management information, practical asthma first aid skills and guidance with the development of an asthma policy.

Asthma Awareness for Pharmacy Assistants

increases knowledge and awareness of asthma with a particular focus on medication interactions and asthma first aid.

Spirometry Training

provides essential skills and knowledge so that the person completing the course is competent in all aspects of performing high quality spirometry.

Asthma First Aid

covers signs and symptoms of asthma, asthma triggers, asthma

medications, assessing the severity of an asthma attack and how to manage an asthma emergency.

1800 ASTHMA

is a free telephone information services staffed by trained asthma educators.

Education Clinics

with asthma educators enable support for individuals, families and carers.

Asthma Shop

offers a range of asthma and respiratory health products including 10% off for members of the Foundation.

**Innovation – we seek innovation, creativity and wisdom
in our organisation**



**Teamwork – we seek promote teamwork, co-operation and share
responsibility at all levels of our organisation**



Research

The Asthma Foundation WA has a proud history of funding novel, “cutting-edge” and unique research into respiratory conditions in Western Australia. The Foundation views research as essential to its goal of freeing West Australians from the burden of asthma.

Building on our 50 year commitment to asthma research, the Foundation’s competitive **Grants Research Programme** include the following categories that play critical roles in ensuring a strong foothold in the world of scientific respiratory research:

- **New Investigator Grants** – aims to assist asthma researchers at the start of their career to secure their first major element of research funding.
- **Project Research Grants** – these are traditional project grants aimed primarily at proven researchers in establishing new asthma projects and continuing programs of research.
- **Fiona Staniforth PhD Scholarship Top Up** – supports studnets undertaking postgraduate doctorate degrees who hold or have been approved for a tull-time PhD Scholarship to assist in their studies for a maximum of three years.
- **Fiona Staniforth Honours Scholarship** – for the first time in 2014, the Foundation established scholarships to students working on their Honours to help attract the best and brightest of the next generation of researchers to asthma research.
- **The Vi Watson Vacation Scholarship** – Vi Watson Vacation Scholarships provides funding to students undertaking research projects relevant to asthma. It provides students with the financial support required to continue their research over the summer break.

The grants for projects and new investigators have supported novel but risky ideas, the establishment of pilot data for substantial projects and the development of methods for more fruitful investigation of asthma. Partly as a result of this support, asthma researchers from WA are prolific collaborators with other researchers around Australia and the world (because of the unique approaches and databases they have established in WA) and feature prominently in international scientific programs.

The role of the Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee (MASAC), chaired by Professor Graham Hall, is to advise, make recommendations and provide information to the Board of the Asthma Foundation WA on research matters. The Committee members are Professor Peter Henry, Professor Mark Everard, Professor Alan James, Associate Professor Anthony Kicic and Dr Phil Stumbles. Professor Graham Hall is Western Australia’s representative on the National MASAC.



Left: Dr Shelley Gorman & Prof Graham Hall, 2013 Research Awards
Above: Dr Shelley Gorman, Telethon Kids Institute

Honouring

Vi Watson

The Vi Watson Vacation Scholarships are named in the memory of lifetime supporter Ms Vi Watson (dec), who established the Kojonup Opportunity Shop. With the help of her daughter, Mrs Cheryl Walker, Vi raised funds over many years for vital asthma research in Western Australia.

Fiona Staniforth

The Fiona Staniforth scholarships are named in memory of Fiona who passed away as the result of an asthma attack on New Years Eve 2012.

The Staniforth family and the Coglioni Cycling Club raised funds in memory of Fiona through the annual Freeway Bike Hike for Asthma.

In consultation with Fiona’s family, the Asthma Foundation WA established the Fiona Staniforth Honours Scholarship and the Fiona Staniforth Scholarship Top Up in 2014.





Events

Our annual fundraising event is the Freeway Bike Hike for Asthma. The event began in 2005 and has grown into a 10,000+ participant event, making it Perth's largest community cycling event. The event raises much needed awareness of asthma and the services we provide to the community, as well as raising vital funds for our various programs and asthma research.

Event Manager:



Event Partners:



Department of Transport
Public Transport Authority



Media

The Foundation is the leading authority in relation to asthma in Western Australia. Our marketing and communications ensures that matters relating to asthma which are of public interest are made readily available through appropriate media outlets.



Testimonials

Your wonderful Foundation certainly deserves a bagful of Olympic Gold Medals for the continued success of its mission in our community.

I found my way via phone to the sanctuary of your wonderful Foundation where via the calm reassuring words, my fears anxieties and panic were steadied and I was assured the promise of a brighter tomorrow.

I will make it my business from now on to broadcast the good news about the Foundation and the importance and place it successfully fills in our community.

- Joseph

Thank you for presenting such an informative and practical session to my Year 4/5 students.

The students were attentive for the entire duration because of the fun, interactive manner in which the content was presented. The content itself was very appropriate and pitched at their level.

A delightful conclusion to our respiratory system health topic.

- Kate

I have had a lifelong relationship with asthma and when I moved to Western Australia it spiked out of control. I called the Foundation and they located a GP close to where I lived that had a special interest in asthma. This initial experience has become the cornerstone of an ongoing relationship with the Foundation - extremely helpful, collaborative and everything is done with a genuine caring attitude. My experience with the Asthma Foundation WA on a professional level has been excellent. We work alongside the Foundation and enjoy the relationship and hope we assist them towards achieving their goals.

- Arnya (Frasers Restaurant)

Passion -

We demonstrate positive attitudes and behaviours that inspire others to make a difference



Will you help?

We welcome the opportunity to discuss ways in which we can create shared value through a long and mutually satisfying partnership.

Our partners

Principal Partner
NEWMONT
ASIA PACIFIC

EVOL
LNG
A PART OF WESFARMERS KLEENHEAT GAS

Wesfarmers

TOYOTA

lotterywest
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Department of Health

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Charitable Foundation

Patron: Her Excellency Governor Kerry Sanderson AO
Vice Patron: Dr Ken Fitch AM



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