



Joint Action
on REspiratory
Diseases



HEALTHY LUNGS HEALTHY POPULATIONS

*Lung Health:
A Public Health Imperative*

*A Call to Action for Public Health Professionals
and Policymakers*

WORLD LUNG DAY

25th September 2026

WORLD LUNG DAY 2026

HEALTHY LUNGS: A PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITY *From Evidence to Action*

Why Act?

- ▶ Respiratory diseases are a major public health challenge
- ▶ Many lung diseases are preventable
- ▶ Clean air is essential for health
- ▶ Prevention is cost-effective
- ▶ Lung health supports healthy ageing and sustainable development

Key Public Health Priorities

PREVENTION

- Comprehensive smoking and vaping control
- Improved air quality
- Safer workplaces
- Vaccination uptake
- Healthy environments

EARLY DETECTION

- Recognise symptoms
- Expand spirometry access
- Prompt lung cancer diagnosis
- Earlier asthma & COPD diagnosis
- Strengthen TB detection
- Effective referral pathways

EQUITABLE ACCESS

- Long-term Care
- Diagnostics
- Treatment
- Smoking cessation
- Pulmonary rehabilitation
- Health education

PROTECT CLEAN AIR

- Reduce emissions
- Enforce air-quality standards
- Monitor air pollution
- Healthy workplaces
- Healthier cities
- Climate-smart policies

STRENGTHEN HEALTH SYSTEMS

- Invest in the workforce and infrastructure
- Strengthen surveillance and survivorship
- Support research
- Address health inequalities
- Measure outcomes
- Evidence-informed policy
- Consult with patients

Polymakers Can:

- ✓ Make lung health a priority
- ✓ Invest in prevention
- ✓ Strengthen primary care
- ✓ Improve access to care
- ✓ Decrease waiting times
- ✓ Support clean-air policies
- ✓ Protect workers
- ✓ Promote cross-sector collaboration
- ✓ Measure progress and ensure accountability

Healthcare Professionals Can:

- ✓ Promote prevention
- ✓ Support tobacco cessation
- ✓ Encourage vaccination uptake
- ✓ Detect respiratory diseases early
- ✓ Deliver evidence-based care
- ✓ Educate patients
- ✓ Advocate for clean air
- ✓ Approach hard to reach populations

Every Action Counts

- ⊙ Prevent disease
- ⊙ Recognise and detect earlier
- ⊙ Open access to care
- ⊙ Tackle inequalities
- ⊙ Ensure clean air
- ⊙ Commit to lung-health investment
- ⊙ Transform outcomes for all

**BETTER POLICIES.
STRONGER HEALTH SYSTEMS. HEALTHIER LUNGS**



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