

Respiratory disease in Belgium



INTERNATIONAL
RESPIRATORY
COALITION

The International Respiratory Coalition (IRC) was founded to tackle one of global health's most overlooked challenges: the burden of respiratory disease.

We bring together national coalitions of health professionals, patient advocates and policymakers to develop and implement national respiratory health strategies that address prevention, treatment and care.

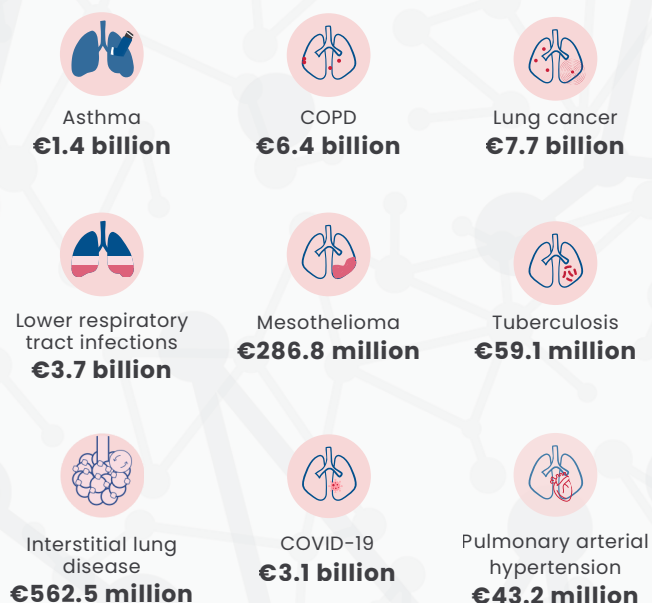
The ultimate goal is to reduce respiratory disease-related mortality by a third globally by 2030, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The Belgian respiratory coalition brings together six organisations, including health professional and patient representative bodies, which all advocate for better respiratory prevention and healthcare, and for improving patients' lives. BeRS and BelF coordinate the coalition and are engaging further stakeholders.

The coalition's activities are currently centred on:

- The development of a National Chronic Respiratory Diseases plan
- Vaping prevention campaign in schools
- Access to spirometry project in primary care
- National awareness for respiratory health and respiratory diseases

Societal economic cost by disease:



23.6
thousand
deaths from
respiratory
diseases

1.9
million
people living with
respiratory
diseases

457
thousand
healthy life years
lost to respiratory
diseases

€23.2
billion
societal
economic cost
of respiratory
diseases

The IRC is made possible with the contributions of various stakeholders: IRC leadership is provided by the European Respiratory Society and European Lung Foundation; Additional stakeholders include: the IRC National Coalitions and the Global Allergy and Airways Patient Platform; Funding support is provided by AstraZeneca, Chiesi Group, GSK, MSD, Sanofi and Regeneron.

Data taken from IRC Lung Facts <https://international-respiratory-coalition.org/lung-facts/>

Published:
September 2026