



Respiratory disease in Sweden



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 Swedish Coalition Against Uncontrolled Asthma (Astmakontroll Sverige) joined IRC in 2024 and brings together nine organisations representing patient groups, clinical experts, researchers, and representatives from the national airway register. The coalition aims to improve asthma control by strengthening patient self-management and enhancing healthcare system capacities. It is focused on:

- Developing web-based patient education to improve self-management
- Driving advocacy to raise awareness and promote equitable, evidence-based asthma care
- Supporting healthcare professional training aligned with national guidelines
- Advancing research and use of data on uncontrolled asthma

Societal economic cost by disease:


Asthma
23.4 billion kr


COPD
45.2 billion kr


Lung cancer
46.4 billion kr


Lower respiratory tract infections
17.2 billion kr


Mesothelioma
259.6 million kr


Tuberculosis
715.9 million kr


Interstitial lung disease
8.3 billion kr


COVID-19
14.6 billion kr


Pulmonary arterial hypertension
317.7 million kr

12.5
thousand
deaths from
respiratory
diseases

267
thousand
healthy life years
lost to respiratory
diseases

157.7
billion kr
societal economic
cost of respiratory
diseases

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