

Asthma and Respiratory Foundation NZ wants to see the next government prioritise lung health for this generation and the next.



Te Pūnaha Hauora: Investing in respiratory wellness as a national health priority

- A reduction in acute respiratory hospitalisations should be a national health priority for Te Whatu Ora.
- Funding for research into the environmental and societal causes of respiratory disease in Aotearoa New Zealand.
- Development of better models of care to change the long-term persistence of poor outcomes from lung disease, with a particular focus on reducing disparities for Māori and Pacific people.



Te Taiao: Tackling the youth vaping epidemic in Aotearoa

- Banning of all disposable vapes.
- Limit nicotine content to 20 mg/ml for all vape products.
- Stop any more Specialist Vape Retailers (SVRs) setting up in Aotearoa.
- Re-look at the nicotine-containing vapes prescription model.
- Ban front-of-store advertising and displays of vaping products.
- Support vaping harm education programmes for rangatahi.



Te Hapori Hauora: Invest in vaccination programmes

- Support research into respiratory vaccine trials.
- Support national prevention – immunisation RSV vaccines.
- Annual influenza vaccination funded for all New Zealanders.



Te Hapori Hauora: Investment into implementing a national respiratory strategy plan for children and adults

- Build best-practice spirometry capacity across the country.
- Support accurate diagnosis of asthma in children with access to bronchodilator testing in all districts and according to ARFNZ national guidelines.
- Invest in respiratory-related workforce development and training programmes.
- Prevent bronchiectasis by supporting proactive follow-up of serious respiratory infections in children through the national roll-out of the *Lungs4Life* programme.
- Dedicated funding package for bronchiectasis based on the models of care used for cystic fibrosis.
- Roll out a national respiratory network/strategy.
- Roll out of lung cancer screening.



Whānau Ora: Health literacy

- Improve access to age and culturally appropriate education and resources on respiratory health.
- Support the ARFNZ He Māramatanga Huangō Report recommendations to deliver understandable best-practice asthma advice for Māori children.
- Developing community-based and culturally appropriate support at all levels.



Te Taiao: Healthy housing to reduce respiratory illness rates

- Ensure all rentals meet the healthy homes standards below by investing in rental house checks and enforcing infringement fees to non-compliant landlords:
 - well-insulated
 - well-ventilated
 - adequate fixed heating
 - free from mould, damp and draughts.



Te Pūnaha Hauora: Improved respiratory services by investing in multi-disciplinary teams (MDT)

- Build national and regional level services, standards and models of both paediatric and adult respiratory care.
- Build multi-disciplinary care in all regions supported with physiotherapy, social work and other allied health resources.
- Expand access to respiratory education and pulmonary rehabilitation programmes throughout the country.
- Support the delivery of a funded pharmacist consultation-based service to improve education, adherence, inhaler technique and overall management of asthma in the community, based on the current New Zealand guidelines.



Te Taiao: Clean indoor and outdoor air to improve lung function

- Ban the use of unflued gas heaters indoors.
- Reduce pollution from solid-fuel burning for home heating and industrial use.
- Changing all the public service vehicle fleet to EVs.
- Monitoring of NO₂, PM2.5, and PM10 pollutants in real-time.
- Implement a nationally funded strategy to enhance air quality.
- Support indoor air quality monitoring in all childcare centres, schools and universities.
- Greater investment into low-polluting energy sources.