

Lung disease in children

europeanlung.org/lung-disease-in-children/

Research has shown that lung problems account for about one quarter of all visits by children to a general practitioner. The two main conditions affecting children are asthma and cystic fibrosis. Other major lung conditions in children include bronchiolitis; lung conditions linked with prematurity, including bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD); pneumonia; tuberculosis (TB); lung problems present from birth (congenital lung problems); and whooping cough.

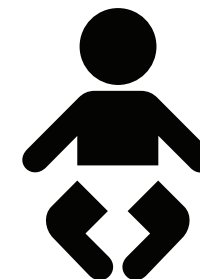


Areas for action

- There needs to be more focus on care of babies with BPD, particularly in central and Eastern Europe
- It is important to identify the causes of variation in deaths from pneumonia between countries, to help establish effective intervention programmes
- Better diagnostic tests for TB in children must be developed to ensure a reliable diagnosis
- More data are needed on the frequency of multi-drug resistant TB and extremely drug resistant TB across Europe
- There is an urgent need to develop vaccines for lifelong protection from whooping cough



The total number of **childhood cases of TB** in Europe in 2010 was about **11,000**



Premature babies have immature lungs and as many as **73% of babies born at 23 weeks of pregnancy develop BPD**



151 million new cases of pneumonia develop each year in **children under 5 years** in the developing world



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