

Appendix 1: Statistical tables

Table A.1: Number of infants at risk at start of follow-up and crude cumulative incidence of wheeze or asthma at age 0–1 and 2–3 years, according to different baseline risk factors, infant cohort

Baseline risk factor	n (% of total) ^(a)	Incidence per 100 person-years (95% CI)
Total	4,584	16.9 (16.1–17.6)
INHERENT FACTORS		
Sex		
Girls	2,240 (48.9)	15.4 (14.4–16.4)
Boys	2,344 (51.1)	18.3 (17.2–19.3)
Maternal age		
<25 years	664 (14.5)	20.9 (18.9–22.9)
25–29 years	1,194 (26.1)	17.5 (16.2–18.8)
30–34 years	1,741 (38.1)	15.3 (14.2–16.4)
35 years and over	970 (21.2)	15.2 (13.8–16.7)
Maternal asthma		
None	4,238 (92.9)	16.3 (15.5–17.0)
Yes	323 (7.1)	24.4 (21.9–26.8)
SEIFA Index of relative socioeconomic disadvantage		
Most disadvantaged	883 (19.3)	19.2 (17.9–20.4)
SEIFA 2	842 (18.4)	18.0 (16.5–19.5)
SEIFA 3	940 (20.5)	15.6 (14.0–17.3)
SEIFA 4	1,001 (21.8)	17.0 (15.4–18.6)
Least disadvantaged	918 (20.0)	14.2 (12.7–15.6)
Remoteness of residence		
Highly accessible	2,520 (55.6)	16.8 (15.8–17.8)
Accessible	1,067 (23.5)	16.7 (15.3–18.1)
Moderately accessible	749 (16.5)	16.6 (14.7–18.5)
Remote/Very remote	195 (4.3)	18.3 (16.0–20.6)
Any parent of non-English-speaking background		
No	3,505 (79.0)	16.4 (15.6–17.2)
Yes	930 (21.0)	18.4 (16.8–20.0)
Indigenous status of child		
No	4,404 (96.1)	16.5 (15.8–17.3)
Yes	180 (3.9)	23.0 (19.7–26.3)

(continued)

Table A.1 (continued): Number of infants at risk at start of follow-up and crude cumulative incidence of wheeze or asthma at age 0–1 and 2–3 years, according to different baseline risk factors, infant cohort

Baseline risk factor	n (% of total)^(a)	Incidence per 100 person-years
PRENATAL AND POSTNATAL FACTORS		
Mother smoked during pregnancy		
No	3,319 (84.1)	14.9 (14.2–15.7)
Yes	628 (15.9)	22.5 (20.6–24.3)
Caesarean birth		
No	3,207 (70.0)	16.6 (15.8–17.5)
Yes	1,376 (30.0)	17.4 (16.2–18.6)
Gestational age		
Very early (20–32 weeks)	71 (1.6)	24.2 (19.6–28.8)
Pre-term (33–36 weeks)	220 (4.8)	21.3 (18.0–24.7)
Term (37–41 weeks)	4,079 (89.1)	16.6 (15.8–17.3)
Late (42+ weeks)	207 (4.5)	15.2 (12.0–18.3)
Child's birthweight		
Not low birthweight	4,334 (95.1)	16.6 (15.9–17.4)
Low birthweight	224 (4.9)	19.7 (16.9–22.5)
Use of Neonatal Intensive Care Unit after birth		
No	3,822 (83.4)	16.3 (15.5–17.1)
Yes	758 (16.6)	19.8 (18.2–21.4)
Any breastfeeding		
No	352 (7.7)	22.1 (19.5–24.6)
Less than 2 months	912 (19.9)	20.0 (18.4–21.6)
Between 2 and 4 months	602 (13.1)	18.1 (16.3–20.0)
Between 4 and 6 months	466 (10.2)	16.6 (14.6–18.6)
Between 6 and 12 months	1,252 (27.3)	14.1 (12.9–15.3)
More than 12 months	994 (21.7)	13.8 (12.4–15.1)
EARLY CHILDHOOD EXPOSURES		
Passive smoke exposure (postnatal)		
No	3,605 (89.1)	15.5 (14.8–16.3)
Yes	439 (10.9)	21.1 (18.8–23.3)
Older siblings		
None	1,884 (41.1)	15.6 (14.5–16.7)
Yes	2,700 (58.9)	17.7 (16.8–18.6)
Pets (cats or dogs) in household		
No	2,806 (61.4)	16.8 (15.9–17.7)
Yes	1,767 (38.6)	17.0 (15.8–18.1)
Use of child care		
No	2,790 (60.9)	16.6 (15.7–17.6)
Yes	1,794 (39.1)	17.2 (16.1–18.3)

(a) The total of counts for each level of the risk factor does not add up to total n=4,584 due to missing values.

Table A.2: Independent baseline risk factors for wheeze or asthma by 2 year follow-up in the infant cohort (multivariable analysis, n=3,913)

Baseline risk factor	Adjusted odds ratio	95% CI	Overall p-value
INHERENT FACTORS			
Sex			0.0016
Girls	1.00		
Boys	1.25	1.09–1.44	
Maternal age			
< 25 years	1.57	1.18–2.08	0.0046
25–29 years	1.24	0.99–1.54	
30–34 years	1.08	0.87–1.33	
35 years & over	1.00		
Maternal asthma			
No	1.00		<0.0001
Yes	1.80	1.39–2.35	
At least one parent from a non-English speaking background			
No	1.00		0.0219
Yes	1.23	1.03–1.46	
PRENATAL AND POSTNATAL FACTORS			
Mother smoked during pregnancy			
No	1.00		<0.0001
Yes	1.71	1.42–2.06	
Gestational age			
Very early (20–32 weeks)	1.97	1.08–3.59	0.0787
Pre-term (33–36 weeks)	1.21	0.86–1.70	
Term (37–41 weeks)	1.00		
Late (42+ weeks)	0.80	0.55–1.16	
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit after birth			
No	1.00		0.0085
Yes	1.32	1.07–1.63	
Any breastfeeding			
Not breastfed	1.00		<0.0001
Less than 2 months	0.90	0.64–1.23	
2 to 4 months	0.73	0.53–1.00	
5 to 6 months	0.67	0.47–0.96	
7 to 12 months	0.59	0.43–0.80	
More than 12 months	0.56	0.41–0.78	
EARLY CHILDHOOD EXPOSURES			
Presence of older siblings			
None	1.00		<0.0001
Yes	1.43	1.23–1.67	
Use of child care			
None	1.00		0.0314
Yes	1.18	1.02–1.37	

Table A.3: Number of children aged 4–5 years at risk at start of follow-up and crude incidence of asthma at age 6–7 years, according to different baseline risk factors, kindergarten cohort

Baseline risk factor		Number at risk at start of follow-up ^(a)	Incidence per 100 person-years ^(b)
Total		3,518	4.1 (3.6–4.6)
INHERENT FACTORS			
Sex	Girls	1,818	3.9 (3.2–4.5)
	Boys	1,700	4.4 (3.6–5.1)
Index of relative socioeconomic disadvantage	SEIFA 1 (most disadvantaged)	698	3.9 (2.6–5.2)
	SEIFA 2	667	4.2 (3.2–5.3)
	SEIFA 3	702	4.8 (3.3–6.3)
	SEIFA 4	725	3.6 (2.7–4.5)
	SEIFA 5 (least disadvantaged)	726	3.9 (2.9–5.0)
Remoteness of residence	Highly accessible/accessible	2,752	4.0 (3.4–4.5)
	Moderately accessible	592	4.3 (2.9–5.7)
	Remote/very remote	142	6.3 (5.1–7.4)
Any parent of non-English-speaking background	No	2,441	4.3 (3.7–4.9)
	Yes	950	3.5 (2.6–4.3)
Indigenous status of child	Indigenous	109	2.9 (0.3–5.4)
	Not Indigenous	3,407	4.1 (3.6–4.7)
EARLY CHILDHOOD EXPOSURES			
Passive smoke exposure	No	2,701	4.0 (3.4–4.6)
	Yes	358	3.9 (2.4–5.4)
Number of older siblings	None	1,487	4.4 (3.6–5.2)
	1 older sibling	1,228	3.8 (3.0–4.6)
	2+ older siblings	803	4.0 (2.9–5.0)
Cats or dogs in household	No	1,593	3.9 (3.1–4.6)
	Yes	1,918	4.3 (3.6–5.0)
OTHER CONDITIONS			
Eczema	No	3,121	4.0 (3.4–4.6)
	Yes	397	5.0 (3.4–6.6)
Allergies	No	3,278	3.8 (3.3–4.4)
	Yes	240	8.0 (5.5–10.6)
Overweight/obese	No	2,803	4.6 (3.4–5.8)
	Yes	687	3.9 (3.4–4.4)

(a) The total of counts for each level of the risk factor do not always add up to total n=3,518 due to missing values.

(b) Weighted to the Australian population aged 4 years as at March 2004.

Table A.4: Independent risk factors for new onset asthma during follow-up, kindergarten cohort (n=3,486)

Baseline risk factor	Odds ratio ^(a)	95% CI	p-value
Remoteness of residence			0.0089
Highly accessible/accessible	1.00		
Moderately accessible	1.12	0.76–1.65	
Remote/very remote	1.70	1.21–2.39	
Allergies			<0.0001
No	1.00		
Yes	2.37	1.57–3.59	

(a) Weighted to the Australian population aged 4 years as at March 2004.

Table A.5: Prevalence^(a) of persistent wheeze at age 6–7 years, according to different baseline risk factors, kindergarten cohort

Baseline risk factor		n ^(b)	Prevalence/100 pop ^(b)
Total		642	44.3 (39.4–49.2)
SYMPTOMS AND MEDICATION USE			
Disturbed sleep due to wheezing	No	583	41.1 (36.0–46.2)
	Yes	59	71.7 (58.2–85.1)
Use of medication for asthma in the last 12 months	No	303	34.1 (28.1–40.0)
	Yes	335	53.5 (47.0–59.9)
Number of times had wheeze in the last 12 months	Once	238	33.9 (27.4–40.5)
	Twice	184	41.4 (33.1–49.7)
	Thrice	96	52.8 (41.4–64.2)
	Four times or more	111	61.8 (51.9–71.7)
INHERENT FACTORS			
Sex	Girls	271	43.4 (36.8–50.1)
	Boys	371	44.9 (38.4–51.4)
Index of relative socioeconomic disadvantage	SEIFA 1 (most disadvantaged)	120	38.2 (28.4–48.1)
	SEIFA 2	143	48.6 (38.3–58.9)
	SEIFA 3	139	45.2 (33.4–57.1)
	SEIFA 4	121	42.1 (33.5–50.7)
	SEIFA 5 (least disadvantaged)	119	46.4 (34.7–58.2)
Remoteness of residence	Highly accessible/accessible	496	43.3 (37.8–48.9)
	Moderately accessible	110	49.4 (38.5–60.2)
	Remote/very remote	28	44.7 (20.0–69.4)
Non-English-speaking parent	No	467	44.7 (39.1–50.3)
	Yes	153	44.4 (36.0–52.9)
Indigenous status of child	No	616	44.2 (39.3–49.2)
	Yes	26	44.9 (24.1–65.7)

(continued)

Table A.5 (continued): Prevalence^(a) of persistent wheeze at age 6–7 years, according to different baseline risk factors, kindergarten cohort

Baseline risk factor		n ^(b)	Prevalence/100 pop ^(b)
EARLY CHILDHOOD EXPOSURES			
Passive smoke exposure	No	486	44.1 (38.6–49.6)
	Yes	76	45.3 (34.1–56.6)
Older siblings	None	263	46.5 (39.5–53.4)
	1 older sibling	240	43.8 (36.2–51.3)
	2+ older siblings	139	41.2 (32.1–50.3)
Cats or dogs in household	No	259	44.0 (37.1–51.0)
	Yes	383	44.4 (38.4–50.5)
OTHER CONDITIONS			
Eczema	No	517	42.4 (37.3–47.4)
	Yes	125	52.9 (42.4–63.3)
Allergies	No	549	43.5 (38.4–48.7)
	Yes	93	48.6 (37.9–59.3)
Overweight/obese	No	497	43.5 (38.2–48.8)
	Yes	142	45.8 (36.5–55.1)

(a) Weighted to the Australian population aged 4 years as at March 2004.

(b) The total of counts for each level of the risk factor do not always add up to total (n=642) due to missing values.

Table A.6: Independent risk factors for persistence of wheezing at age 6–7 years among those with wheeze at baseline (multivariate analysis), kindergarten cohort (n=625)

Baseline risk factor	Adjusted odds ratio ^(a)	95% CI	p-value
Use of medication for asthma in the last 12 months			0.0009
No	1.00		
Yes	1.85	1.29–2.67	
Number of times had wheeze in the last 12 months			0.0012
Once	1.00		
Twice	1.32	0.88–1.98	
Three times	2.06	1.18–3.58	
Four times or more	2.73	1.62–4.61	

(a) Weighted to the Australian population aged 4 years as at March 2004.

Table A.7: Variables included in the analyses

Variable	LSAC description/question	Analysed for:	
		Infants	Children
Absence from school	Absenteeism—number of days absent in last 4 weeks: During the previous four weeks of school, how many days has study child been absent? (If school holidays have taken place during the past four weeks, exclude school holidays)	✗	✓
Allergies (Wave 1)	Health status—medical condition: Does child have any of these ongoing problems? Food or other allergies	✗	✓
Allergies (Wave 2)	Health status—medical condition: Does child have any of these ongoing problems? Food or digestive allergies or food intolerance	✓	✓
Any breastfeeding	Health behaviour and risk factors—breastfeeding: How old was child when he/she completely stopped being breastfed? (Include expressed breast milk) (Age in days) Answers categorised into 2 months or less, 3–4 months, 5–6 months, 7–12 months and more than 12 months	✓	✗
Any parent from a non-English speaking background	Family demographics—country of birth: In which country was Parent 1 born? In which country was Parent 2 born? If either parent was born in a country other than Australia, New Zealand, United States of America, Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa and Zimbabwe they are classified as having a non-English speaking background.	✓	✓
Caesarean birth	Health status—birth: What type of birth, or delivery, was it? Caesarean	✓	✗
Cats and/or dogs as pets in the household	Housing—pets: How many cats, dogs or other pets are there in this household? Cats How many cats, dogs or other pets are there in this household? Dogs	✓	✓
Child's sleeping pattern is a moderate or large problem for parent	Health status—sleeping problems: How much is study child's sleeping pattern or habits a problem for you? (1 Not a problem at all; 2 A small problem; 3 A moderate problem; 4 A large problem)	✗	✓
Eczema	Health status—medical condition: Does child have any of these ongoing problems? Eczema	✗	✓
Emergency Department visit in last 12 months	Social capital—services used for Study Child: In the last 12 months, have you used any of these services for the study child? hospital emergency ward	✗	✓

(continued)

Table A.7 (continued): Variables included in the analyses

Variable	LSAC description/question	Analysed for:	
		Infants	Children
Ever-diagnosed asthma	Health status—asthma/wheezing: 'Has a doctor ever told you that Study Child has asthma?'	✓	✓
Fair or poor health status	Health status—general health: In general, how would you say Study Child's current health is? (1 Excellent; 2 Very good; 3 Good; 4 Fair; 5 Poor)	✗	✓
Gestational age	Health status—number of weeks of gestation: After how many weeks of pregnancy was Child born? Was Child born late, on time or early?	✓	✗
Height for age	Health status—physical measurements: Height for age z-score based on CDC growth charts	✗	✓
Hospitalisation for any reason in last 12 months	Health status—had non-injury hospital stays: Not including injuries, in the last 12 months, did Study Child stay in hospital for at least one night for any (other) reason? (Not hospital outpatient or emergency departmental visits)	✗	✓
Indigenous status of the child	Ethnicity—Indigenous status: Is Study Child of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?	✓	✓
Low birthweight	Health status—physical measurements at birth: How much did Child weigh at birth? (Grams)	✓	✗
Maternal age	Family demographics—date of birth: What is the Study Child's date of birth? What is biological mother's date of birth? The difference between the infant's date of birth and the biological mother's date of birth	✓	✗
Maternal asthma	Maternal health during pregnancy - type of prescribed medication during pregnancy: What prescribed medicines or tablets were taken? Asthma medication What 'over-the-counter' medications were used? Asthma medications (Ventolin etc.)	✓	✗
Number of GP visits in last 2 years	Count of GP visits in the last 2 years, derived from the MBS linked data	✗	✓
Number of times had wheeze in last 12 months	Health status—asthma/wheezing: In the last 12 months, about how many times did child have wheezing that lasted for a week or more?	✗	✓

(continued)

Table A.7 (continued): Variables included in the analyses

Variable	LSAC description/question	Analysed for:	
		Infants	Children
Overweight or obese	<p>Health status—physical measurements:</p> <p>Categorical representation of BMI, based on cut-offs from Cole et al. (2000, 2007) (1 Underweight III; 2 Underweight II; 3 Underweight I; 4 Normal weight; 5 Overweight; 6 Obese).</p> <p>Cole TJ, Bellizzi MC, Flegal KM, Dietz WH. Establishing a standard definition for child overweight and obesity worldwide: international survey. <i>BMJ</i> 2000; 320 (7244): 1240–3.</p> <p>Cole TJ, Flegal KM, Nicholls D, Jackson AA. Body mass index cut-offs to define thinness in children and adolescents: international survey. <i>BMJ</i> 2007 (7612); 335:194.</p>	✘	✔
Passive smoke exposure	<p>Health behaviour and risk factors—smoking:</p> <p>From Parent 1—Including yourself, how many people who live with you smoke inside the house?</p> <p>From Parent 2—Including yourself, how many people who live with you smoke inside the house?</p> <p>Derived from answers provided by both parents:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">0 if both parents answered 0</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1 or more if either parent answered 1 or more</p>	✔	✔
Presence of older siblings	<p>Family demographics—older siblings:</p> <p>Number of older siblings of Study Child in the household</p>	✔	✔
Remoteness of residence	<p>Neighbourhood status:</p> <p>Remoteness Area Classification</p>	✔	✔
Sex	<p>Family demographics—sex:</p> <p>Is the Study Child male or female?</p>	✔	✔
Smoking during pregnancy	<p>Maternal health during pregnancy—mother smoked cigarettes during pregnancy:</p> <p>During the pregnancy with the Study Child, did you smoke cigarettes?</p>	✔	✘
Socioeconomic disadvantage	<p>Neighbourhood status:</p> <p>SEIFA Disadvantage</p>	✔	✔
Type of asthma medication	<p>Type of asthma medication from the PBS linked data:</p> <p>Inhaled corticosteroids +/- long-acting beta agonists, cromones, leukotriene receptor antagonists</p>	✔	✔
Use of child care	<p>Number of different care arrangements:</p> <p>In total, how many different regular arrangements have you used for Child since birth, including that first arrangement and any current arrangements you have already told me about?</p>	✔	✘

(continued)

Table A.7 (continued): Variables included in the analyses

Variable	LSAC description/question	Analysed for:	
		Infants	Children
Use of medication for asthma in last 12 months	Health status—asthma/wheezing: In the last 12 months has Child taken any medication for asthma?	✓	✓
Use of neonatal intensive care unit after birth	Health status—birth: Did Child have to go into a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit or Special Care Nursery after he/she was born?	✓	✗
Wheeze	Health status—asthma/wheezing: 'In the last 12 months, has Study Child had an illness with wheezing in the chest which lasted for a week or more?'	✓	✓
Wheezing or asthma on four or more nights per week	Health status—sleeping problems: Does Child have any of these problems on 4 or more nights a week, that is, more than half the time? Wheezing or asthma	✗	✓

Glossary

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	A person of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait person and is accepted as such by the community in which he or she lives. Also see <i>Indigenous</i> .
Adjusted odds ratio	An odds ratio which is adjusted for the effect of confounding factors. See also <i>Odds ratio</i> .
Allergen	Any substance that causes an allergy. It may, for example, be pollen that can trigger hay fever or peanuts that can cause anaphylactic shock.
Asthma	A chronic inflammatory disorder of the airways. In susceptible individuals, this inflammation causes recurrent episodes of wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness and coughing, particularly at night or in the early morning. These episodes are usually associated with widespread but variable narrowing of the airways that is often reversible, either spontaneously or with treatment. The inflammation also causes increases in existing bronchial hyperresponsiveness ('twitchiness of the airways') to a variety of stimuli.
Asthma action plan	A plan that provides instructions on what to do if your asthma symptoms or peak flow readings worsen. It states your usual treatment and an individualised list of steps to follow, written by your doctor.
Atopic dermatitis	Eczema caused by an allergic reaction.
Atopy or atopic disease	A hereditary tendency to develop sensitivity reactions to allergens (e.g. asthma, hay fever, eczema) (Jenkins C 2005).
Beta-agonist	A bronchodilator drug that relaxes airway muscles, allowing the airways to open up and let more air through. They are called 'beta-agonists' because they activate the beta receptors on the muscles. (Jenkins C 2005). See also <i>Bronchodilator</i> .
Bronchodilator	An agent that causes widening of the airways by relaxing the muscles in the airways. See also <i>Beta-agonist</i> .
Cohort, and cohort study	Study of the features or incidence of the development of a disease in a group of people (cohort) who have experienced the same event at a specified period in time; for example, 'birth cohort' refers to people born in the same year.
Confidence interval	A statistical term describing a range (interval) of values within which we can be 'confident' that the true value lies. For example, a 95% confidence interval implies that there is 95% confidence that the true value will be included in this interval.

Corticosteroid	A group of drugs similar to the natural corticosteroid hormones produced by the adrenal glands. They have powerful anti-inflammatory properties and are often the treatment of choice for allergic conditions, including asthma.
Disability-adjusted life year	Years of healthy life lost through premature death or living with disability due to illness or injury.
Eczema	Eczema is a general term for skin inflammation (dermatitis). The most common type is atopic dermatitis. See also <i>Atopic dermatitis</i> and <i>Atopy</i> .
English-speaking background	Includes anyone born in Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Ireland, United States of America, Canada, Zimbabwe or South Africa (Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) English proficiency group 1).
Health Insurance Commission	Administers many health programs on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, including Medicare.
Health risk factor	Any factor which represents a greater risk of a health disorder or other unwanted condition or event. Some risk factors are regarded as causes of disease, others are not necessarily so. An <i>independent health risk factor</i> is one which remains a greater risk after taking into account any confounding factors (these are analysed by calculating <i>adjusted odds ratios</i>).
Health service use	Use of the available health-care services within the population, including hospitals, emergency departments and general practitioners.
Hyperresponsiveness (airway)	Describes airways that are highly sensitive (or twitchy) and likely to become narrow when exposed to irritants or triggers.
Incidence	The number of new cases (of a disease, condition or event) occurring during a given period. Compare with <i>Prevalence</i> .
Indigenous	A person of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person and is accepted as such by the community with which he or she is associated.
Infant cohort	Children born between March 2003 and February 2004 and, hence, aged 3 to 19 months at baseline of the LSAC. For simplicity, we refer to these as 0–1 year old children throughout the report.
Kindergarten cohort	Children born between March 1999 and February 2000 and, hence, aged 4 years and 3 months to 5 years and 7 months at baseline of the LSAC. For simplicity, we refer to these as 4–5 year old children throughout the report.

Longitudinal study	A study in which the same people are tested as they get older.
Medicare	Australia's universal health-care system, introduced in 1984 to provide eligible Australian residents with affordable, accessible and high quality health care. Medicare was established based on the understanding that all Australians should contribute to the cost of health care according to their ability to pay. It is financed through progressive income tax and an income-related Medicare levy.
Medicare Benefits Scheme	Australia's universal health insurance program which reimburses expenses related to services provided by medical practitioners.
Meta-analysis	A way of 'pooling' data to calculate the sum total of effects of all the studies performed.
Morbidity	Refers to ill health in an individual and to levels of ill health in a population or group.
Mortality	Death.
Natural history	How a disease develops from its beginning to its resolution.
Non-English-speaking background	This term is used to describe people who have settled in Australia but who come from countries where English is not the primary language spoken. Includes people born in all countries not identified as English-speaking-background countries (equivalent to DIMIA English proficiency groups 2 to 4). See also <i>English-speaking-background</i> .
Odds ratio	Measures the strength of an association between two variables (usually a risk factor and an outcome). Literally, the ratio of the odds of an outcome in the presence of a risk factor to the odds of that outcome in the absence of that risk factor. An odds ratio of 1 implies that there is no association between the risk factor and the outcome. An odds ratio greater than 1 indicates that those with the risk factor have a greater risk of having the outcome. See also <i>Adjusted odds ratio</i> .
Outcome (health outcome)	A health-related change due to a preventive or clinical intervention or service. (The intervention may be single or multiple and the outcome may relate to a person, group or population or be partly or wholly due to the intervention.)
Over-the-counter medication	A medication than can be bought without having to get a doctor's prescription.
<i>p</i> value	The probability that the observed difference or association could have occurred by chance. If that probability is less than 5% (i.e. $p < 0.05$), it is conventionally held that it did not occur by chance and is a true difference or association.

Person-years	The product of the number of years and the number of people within the population who are at risk of a certain condition.
Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme	A national, government-funded scheme that subsidises the cost of a wide range of pharmaceutical drugs, and that covers all Australians to help them afford standard medications.
Phenotype	The observable characteristics of an individual that have developed as a result of their genetic makeup and environment.
Risk factor	See <i>Health risk factor</i> .
SEIFA Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage	An index of socioeconomic status which provides a summary score for a range of key socioeconomic variables that are related to health status, including household income and resources, education, occupation, fluency in English and Indigenous status.
Statistical significance	An indication from a statistical test that an observed difference or association may be significant, or 'real', because it is unlikely to be due just to chance. A statistical result is often said to be 'significant' if it would occur by chance only once in twenty times or less often. See also <i>P value</i> .
Wheeze	Breathing difficulty accompanied by an audible whistling sound.

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