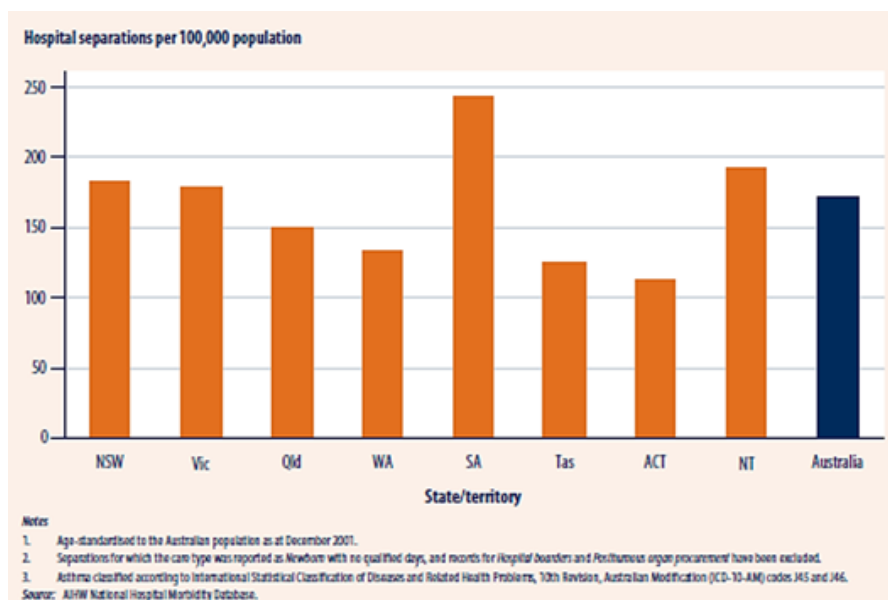


Research seeks to reduce Asthma hospitalisations

Recruiting participants from GP practices

THE ISSUE

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reported that South Australia had the highest rate of hospital admissions (i.e. separations in graph) and deaths due to asthma in the nation in 2008-09.



THE STUDY

To investigate potential factors driving these high rates, researchers in South Australia at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (TQEH), are undertaking a national study. This will compare differences between those with asthma who are admitted to hospital, with those who visit the emergency department with no admission, or are managed by their GP in the community. The study is led by Prof Brian Smith, Director of the Respiratory Medicine Unit (TQEH) and is in collaboration with Asthma Australia and the Fay Fuller Foundation.

THE AIMS

The aim of the study is to determine if those admitted to hospital with asthma differ from those not admitted, in factors such as asthma management strategies, demographics and environmental allergens. Factors found to affect admissions and mortality will guide future policy and management improvements and motivate real change in asthma care.

STUDY RECRUITMENT REQUIRED - ADULTS AND CHILDREN WITH ASTHMA

We are recruiting adults and children with asthma from hospitals and the community in SA, NSW and Queensland. We are therefore seeking GP services with links to people in the community with asthma. Information packs are available to be distributed to these patients.

IF YOU/YOUR CLINIC ARE ABLE TO HELP WITH RECRUITMENT, CONTACT: Wendy, at wendy.march@sa.gov.au, or Phone: (08) 8222 7561