

List of figures

Figure 2.1:	Prevalence of current asthma, by age, sex and Indigenous status, 2004–05	7
Figure 2.2:	Prevalence of current asthma, by age and Indigenous status, children aged 0–17 years, 2004–05.....	8
Figure 2.3:	Prevalence of current asthma among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, by age and remoteness, 2004–05.....	9
Figure 2.4:	Hospital separations for asthma per 100,000 population, by age and Indigenous status, 2006–07.....	12
Figure 2.5:	Hospital separations for asthma per 100,000 population, by Indigenous status, children aged 0–18 years, 2006–07	13
Figure 2.6:	Hospital separations for asthma per 100,000 population among Indigenous Australians, by broad age group and state and territory, 2006–07.....	14
Figure 2.7:	Prevalence of current smoking by Indigenous status and asthma status, persons aged 18 years and over, 2004–05.....	19
Figure 2.8:	Self-assessed health status in people aged 15 years and over, by Indigenous and asthma status, 2004–05.....	21
Figure 3.1:	Prevalence of current asthma, adults, 1990–2007	32
Figure 3.2:	Prevalence of current asthma, children aged 15 years and under, 1982–2007.....	33
Figure 3.3:	Prevalence of ever having been diagnosed with asthma, by age and sex, 2004–05.....	34
Figure 3.4:	Prevalence of current asthma, by age and sex, 2004–05.....	35
Figure 3.5:	Prevalence of current asthma in children, by age and sex, 2004–05	36
Figure 3.6:	Prevalence of current asthma, by state and territory, all ages, 2004–05.....	37
Figure 3.7:	Prevalence of current asthma, by age and remoteness, 2004–05	38
Figure 3.8:	Prevalence of current asthma, by age and country of birth, 2004–05.....	39
Figure 3.9:	Prevalence of current asthma by country of birth and year of arrival in Australia, 2004–05.....	40
Figure 3.10:	Prevalence of current asthma by socioeconomic status, 2004–05.....	41
Figure 3.11:	Distribution of severity of asthma among adults attending general practitioners, 1999 to 2006	43
Figure 3.12:	Distribution of severity of asthma among children attending general practitioners, 1999 to 2006	45
Figure 4.1:	Deaths due to asthma per 100,000 population, 3-year moving average, by sex, all ages and people aged 5–34 years, 1979–2006.....	51
Figure 4.2:	Deaths due to all obstructive lung disease per 100,000 among persons aged 65 years and over, by sex, 1997–2006.....	52
Figure 4.3:	World ranking of asthma mortality per 100,000 population, people aged 5–34 years, 2000–2004	53
Figure 4.4:	Deaths due to asthma per 100,000 population, by age and sex, 2002–2006.....	54
Figure 4.5:	Age distribution for asthma and all cause mortality, 2002–2006.....	55
Figure 4.6:	Deaths due to asthma per 100,000 population, by state and territory, 2002–2006	56

Figure 4.7: Deaths due to asthma per 100,000 population, by remoteness, people aged 5 years and over, 2002–2006	57
Figure 4.8: Deaths due to asthma per 100,000 population, by country of birth, people aged 5 years and over, 2002–2006	58
Figure 4.9: Deaths due to asthma per 100,000 people with asthma, by country of birth, people aged 5 years and over, 2002–2006.....	59
Figure 4.10: Deaths due to asthma per 100,000 population, by age and socioeconomic status, people aged 5 years and over, 2002–2006.....	60
Figure 4.11: Seasonal variation in the rate of deaths due to asthma, by broad age group, 2002–2006	61
Figure 5.1: General practice encounters for asthma per 100 population, adults and children, April 1998 to March 2008	69
Figure 5.2: Proportion of general practice encounters for asthma, adults and children, April 1998 to March 2008.....	69
Figure 5.3: General practice encounters for asthma per 100 population, by age and sex, April 2004 to March 2007.....	70
Figure 5.4: Proportion of general practice encounters for asthma, by age and sex, April 2004 to March 2007	71
Figure 5.5: General practice encounters for asthma per 100 population, by state and territory, April 2004 to March 2007	71
Figure 5.6: Proportion of general practice encounters for asthma, by socioeconomic status, April 2004 to March 2007	72
Figure 5.7: Number of claims for completed Practice Incentives Program Asthma 3+ Visit Plan /Asthma Cycle of Care, all ages, November 2001 to July 2008	74
Figure 5.8: PIP Asthma Cycle of Care claims per 100,000 population, by age and sex, 2007	75
Figure 5.9: PIP Asthma Cycle of Care claims per 1,000 people with asthma, 2007.....	75
Figure 5.10: PIP Asthma Cycle of Care claims per 100,000 population, by state and territory, 2007.....	76
Figure 5.11: PIP Asthma Cycle of Care claims per 100,000 population, by remoteness, 2007.....	77
Figure 5.12: PIP Asthma Cycle of Care claims per 100,000 population, by socioeconomic status, 2007	78
Figure 5.13: Medications prescribed for the treatment of asthma in general practice, by class of medication and prescription status, children aged 0–14 years, April 2004 to March 2007	79
Figure 5.14: Medications prescribed for the treatment of asthma in general practice, by class of medication and prescription status, people aged 15 years and over, April 2004 to March 2007	80
Figure 5.15: Procedures, other treatments and counselling for asthma in general practice, April 2004 to March 2007	81
Figure 5.16: Referrals provided during asthma-related general practice encounters, April 2004 to March 2007	82
Figure 5.17: Emergency department visits for asthma per 100,000 population, by age and month, New South Wales, January 1999 to February 2008.....	84
Figure 5.18: Hospital separations for asthma per 100,000 population, by broad age group, 1993–94 to 2006–07	85
Figure 5.19: Average length of stay for asthma, by broad age group, 1998–99 to 2006–07	86

Figure 5.20: Seasonal variation in hospital separation rates for asthma, by age, children and adults, 2004.....	87
Figure 5.21: Hospital separations for asthma per 100,000 population, by age and sex, 2006–07	88
Figure 5.22: Hospital separations for asthma per 100,000 population by 1-year age group and sex, ages 5–18 years, 2006–07.....	89
Figure 5.23: Age distribution for hospital separations for asthma and all causes, 2006–07	90
Figure 5.24: Relative frequency of length of stay for asthma, by broad age group, 2006–07	91
Figure 5.25: Hospital separations for asthma per 100,000 population among children and adults, by state and territory, 2006–07	92
Figure 5.26: Hospital separations for asthma per 100,000 population, by age and remoteness, 2006–07.....	93
Figure 5.27: Average length of stay for asthma, by age and remoteness, 2006–07	94
Figure 5.28: Hospital separations for asthma per 100,000 population, by broad age group and country of birth, people aged 5 years and over, 2006–07	95
Figure 5.29: Hospital separations for asthma per 100,000 population, by age and socioeconomic status, 2006–07.....	96
Figure 5.30: Hospital separations for asthma with invasive mechanical ventilation per 100,000 population, by age group, 2000–01 to 2006–07	100
Figure 5.31: Proportion of hospital separations for asthma with invasive mechanical ventilation, by age group, 2000–01 to 2006–07	101
Figure 5.32: Rate of hospital separations for asthma with invasive mechanical ventilation, by age, 2002–03 to 2006–07	102
Figure 5.33: Rate of hospital separations for asthma with invasive mechanical ventilation, by age and country of birth, 2002–03 to 2006–07.....	103
Figure 5.34: Allocated expenditure for asthma and total recurrent health expenditure, by sector, 2004–05.....	106
Figure 5.35: Per cent change in allocated health expenditure, total recurrent and asthma, by sector, 2000–01 to 2004–05 (2004–05 prices)	107
Figure 6.1: Possession of asthma action plans by adults with current asthma, Australia, 1990–2007.....	112
Figure 6.2: Possession of a written asthma action plan by people with asthma, by age and sex, 2004–05.....	113
Figure 6.3: Possession of a written asthma action plan by people with current asthma, by state and territory, all ages, 2004–05	113
Figure 6.4: Possession of a written asthma action plan by people with current asthma, by socioeconomic status, Australia, 2004–05	114
Figure 6.5: Respiratory medications (a)supplied by wholesalers and manufacturers and (b) reimbursed prescriptions, by defined daily dose (DDD) per 1,000 persons per day, 1995–2006	119
Figure 6.6: Inhaled corticosteroids supplied by wholesalers separately or as part of combined therapy, by defined daily dose per 1,000 persons per day, 1996–2006	122
Figure 6.7: Use of inhaled corticosteroids (alone or in combination with long-acting beta-agonists) in adults, by age, number of prescriptions and year, 2003–2006	123

Figure 6.8: Use of inhaled corticosteroids (alone or in combination with long-acting beta-agonists) in children, by age, number of prescriptions and year, 2003–2006.....	124
Figure 6.9: Relative potency of inhaled corticosteroids supplied by wholesalers separately or as part of combined therapy, by defined daily dose per 1,000 persons per day, 1996–2006.....	125
Figure 6.10: Number of prescriptions for inhaled corticosteroids, by potency class, all persons, 2006.....	126
Figure 6.11: Use of inhaled corticosteroids among adults, by potency class, age and number of prescriptions, 2006	127
Figure 6.12: Use of inhaled corticosteroids among children, by potency class, age and number of prescriptions, 2006	128
Figure 6.13: Delivery devices supplied by wholesalers for the administration of short-acting beta-agonist and anticholinergic medication, by defined daily dose per 1,000 persons per day, 1996–2006	129
Figure 6.14: Use of long-acting beta-agonists among adults, by age group, number of prescriptions and year, 2003–2006	132
Figure 6.15: Use of long-acting beta-agonists among children, by age group, number of prescriptions and year, 2003–2006.....	133
Figure 6.16: Use of oral corticosteroids among adults with a government health concession card, by age group, number of prescriptions and year, 2003–2006	135
Figure 7.1: Prevalence of current smoking among adults aged 18 years and over, by asthma status, age group and sex, 2004–05.....	140
Figure 7.2: Prevalence of current smoking among adults aged 18 years and over, by asthma status and socioeconomic status, 2004–05.....	141
Figure 7.3: Proportion of children aged 0–14 years residing with one or more cigarette smokers who usually smoke inside the house, by age group and current asthma status, 2004–05.....	144
Figure 7.4: Proportion of children aged 0–14 years with one or more cigarette smokers in the household, by socioeconomic status and current asthma status, 2004–05	145
Figure 8.1: Self-assessed health status in people aged 15 years and over, by sex, current asthma status and age group, 2004–05	153
Figure 8.2: Prevalence of low to very high psychological distress, by asthma status and sex, people aged 15 years and over, 2004–05	156
Figure 8.3: Action taken in last 2 weeks for any reason, by asthma status, people aged 5 years and over, 2004–05	159
Figure 8.4: Action taken in last 2 weeks for any reason, by asthma status and sex, people aged 5 years and over, 2004–05.....	160
Figure A1.1: Point estimates and 95% confidence intervals.....	164