Bushfire Smoke

WHAT IS IN BUSHFIRE SMOKE?

Bushfire smoke contains a combination of chemicals that cause adverse effects on human health

Bushfire smoke contains

- Particulate Matter
- Water Vapour
- Trace Minerals
- Carbon Dioxide
- Carbon Monoxide
- Nitrogen Oxides
- Aldehydes
- Volatile organic compounds



EXPOSURE TO BUSHFIRE SMOKE CAUSES:



Increased unplanned hospital admission



Increased medication use



Increased respiratory symptoms



Increased anxiety symptoms



Increased non respiratory symptoms



Decreased daily activities

POPULATIONS MOST AT RISK



People with lung disease



Pregnant women



Breastfeeding women



Children



The elderly



People with diabetes



People with cardiovascular disease

References: Vardoulakis S, Jalaludin BB, Morgan GG, Hanigan IC, Johnston FH. Bushfire smoke: urgent need for a national health protection strategy. Med J Aust. 2020; 212(8):349-353.e341. Reid CE, Brauer M, Johnston FH, Jerrett M, Balmes JR, Elliott CT. Critical Review of Health Impacts of Wildfire Smoke Exposure. Environ Health Perspect. 2016;124(9):1334-43.



