

# Deaths caused by lung and breathing problems in people with learning disabilities

Scottish

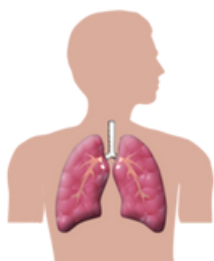
Learning Disabilities

Observatory

## Easy read research summary



People with learning disabilities die up to 20 years earlier than other people.



Their deaths are often caused by lung and breathing problems.



Different studies report different data on the number of deaths and we wanted to collect all this information in one place.



We searched for all studies from the last 35 years, which looked at deaths caused by lung and breathing problems in people with learning disabilities.



We only chose studies including people with and without learning disabilities and rated how good they were.



We calculated a total rate of deaths caused by lung and breathing problems in people with learning disabilities for studies, which reported the right data.

## What we found



People with learning disabilities of all ages were 11 times more likely to die from lung and breathing problems than people without learning disabilities.



Adults with learning disabilities were 6 times more likely to die from lung and breathing problems than adults without learning disabilities.



Pneumonia is a type of lung problem. Part of the lungs fills up with fluid and it can become very serious.



People with learning disabilities were 27 times more likely to die from pneumonia than people without learning disabilities.



Making it easier for people with learning disabilities to get good health care could reduce deaths from lung and breathing problems.



Find out more about our research at [www.sldo.ac.uk](http://www.sldo.ac.uk)