

information

THE COST OF PARKINSON'S TO OUR COMMUNITY

In 2007 Parkinson's Australia commissioned Access Economics to produce an economic report "Living with Parkinson's disease: Challenges and positive steps for the future" which was updated in 2011 and reviewed and updated in 2015. The reports highlight the significant growth in both the number of people living with Parkinson's disease and health system costs and productivity and other losses.

The key findings of the report include:

- Conservative estimates indicate there are just under 70,000 people living with Parkinson's in Australia making it the most common major movement disorder and second highest prevalence neurodegenerative condition with only dementia exceeding it in the number of deaths. One in every 340 people in Australia lives with Parkinson's.
- On average, 32 new cases are diagnosed every day and 11,900 new cases will be diagnosed in 2015.
- Of the 70,000 people living with Parkinson's around 18% or just over 12,000 people are of working age.
- As Parkinson's prevalence increases threefold after the age of 65, the growth rate in number of people living with Parkinson's is expected to increase dramatically as the Australian population ages. It is estimated that the growth rate will average 4% over the next 20 years compared to a general population growth rate of just over 1%.
- In 2014 prevalence of Parkinson's was higher than many cancers including breast cancer, colorectal, stomach, liver and pancreatic cancer, lymphoma and leukaemia, kidney and bladder, uterine, cervical, and ovarian, and lung cancer.
- The average time from onset to death is 12.4 years although many people who are diagnosed early in life will live with Parkinson's for many more years than this.
- For someone living with Parkinson's for 12 years, the average lifetime financial cost is around \$161,300, which is on par with the average lifetime financial cost of cancer (\$145,000).
- People living with Parkinson's are more than 5 times more likely to be in residential aged care facilities than the general population.
- The total economic cost of Parkinson's in 2014 was over \$9.9 billion for the year 2014. This represents an increase of \$3.2 billion since 2005, or 46%.
- The burden of care borne by carers has increased over 14 times the value in 2005.
- Overall the direct financial cost of Parkinson's has increased by 103% since 2005 and the burden of disease cost has increased by 42% in the same period.
- There are cost effective interventions that can assist People living with Parkinson's to achieve a higher quality of life whilst at the same time reducing the cost to the community of this condition.

More information on the report can be found at www.parkinsons.org.au/deloitte-report.