



Australian Health Care Reform Alliance

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Equity – life expectancy



On average, Australians have one of the highest life expectancies in the world.

However, there are many groups in the community who do not enjoy the benefits of our affluent country.

For example, if you have a low income, your life expectancy is around 2 years less than someone on a high income. That's the same as an average person living in Slovenia or Cyprus.

If you live in a remote area, then you die around three years earlier than people living in cities, around the same as people living in Chile or Cuba.

If you have a long-term mental illness, your life expectancy is reduced by an average of 10 years, just like someone living in Libya or Guatemala.

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander living in the Northern Territory, you can expect to die earlier than the average person in Rwanda, Iraq or North Korea.

That's why AHCRA is calling on all political parties to focus their election policies on increasing equity.

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