

How you can help as an MP

Become a friend of MND

Join or start a cross-party friends of MND group in Parliament to support people living with MND.

Meet us at Parliament House

MND Australia is happy to arrange a meeting to discuss how Aged Care can be improved to ensure people with MND have access to the right care.

Attend an event

Attend a support group meeting for people with MND held by the State MND Associations or a local fundraiser.

Speak to the Minister for Aged Care

Raise this issue with the Minister and colleagues in the Department of Health.

Support us on social media

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to keep up to date with issues affecting people with MND.

Raise awareness in Parliament

Raise this issue during Parliament's Question Time.



@mndaustralia



/mndaustralia

MND Australia

Tel: 02 8287 4980

Email: info@mndaustralia.org.au

PO Box 117, Deakin West ACT 2600

www.mndaustralia.org.au

ABN: 52 650 269 176

About motor neurone disease

MND is a fatal and rapidly progressive neurological condition affecting the nerves from the brain and spinal cord that control movement.

In most cases, people with MND will become unable to move, speak, swallow and eventually breathe.

MND can affect anyone.

There are no effective therapies to stop the progression of MND.

Each day in Australia two people die from MND.

Average life expectancy is 2.5 years.

50% of people with MND are diagnosed when aged 65 and over



mnd
Australia

**Make Aged Care Fair:
A guide for MPs**

MND care

In most cases people with MND have complex and rapidly changing care needs. This combination of complexity and rapid progression poses a major challenge to care and support services.

There are many aspects of care for someone with MND including: in-home support, therapy, assistive technology, home modifications, respite, palliative care and health care. This complex web of support is essential to enable people with MND to maintain their independence and live better, safer and for longer. It is vital that the Government, practitioners and service providers understand the complex nature of MND and coordinate care and access to care in a timely and appropriate way.



Make Aged Care Fair

The problem: People diagnosed with motor neurone disease (MND) when aged 65 and over do not have access to the NDIS and are forced to rely on Aged Care services that are designed to support people who are frail aged, not people with rapidly progressive complex conditions like MND.

This is causing many people with MND to be pushed into financial hardship or residential aged care earlier than they wish. Others are added to a long waiting list or have been assigned a lower level package that does not meet their needs.

The solution: Everyone living with MND should have access to the right care, in the right place at the right time. People with MND need and deserve the following improvements to the aged care system:

- The introduction of a formal 'fast track' process for automatic access to Level 4 Home Care Packages for people living with complex and progressive conditions.
- If Aged Care is unable to meet the disability needs of older people, the NDIS should develop a safety net model that provides for top-up funding through the NDIS to address needs not met by Aged Care.
- Funds for assistive technology in addition to Home Care Package funding to ensure that older people diagnosed with MND who are living at home can access the assistive technology they need to maintain their independence, quality of life, communication and community access and to support carer health and well-being.
- Good interfaces with allied sectors, particularly health and palliative care, must be developed to ensure a coordinated inter and multidisciplinary approach to care.
- The development of National Guidelines for the management of people with rapidly progressive neurological conditions.

Visit www.mndaction.org.au to find out more