

Influencing policy: MS Australia election commitments

- **MS Australia** has played an active role in promoting MS Brain Health recommendations, by:
 - asking the major political parties at the 2016 general election to **commit to funding the implementation of the recommendations**
 - making a pre-budget submission to the 2017 federal budget to fund a project to help implement the recommendations
- **Outcome:** Australian Parliament formally recognised World MS Day 2018 and acknowledged the importance of timely MS care, a brain-healthy lifestyle, and the need to increase investment in MS research

Election Commitments



MSA seeks an election commitment from all sides of politics for:

1. Full funding and timely roll out of the Medical Research Future Fund and assistance with prioritising an allocation from the Fund of \$25 million to Multiple Sclerosis Research Australia for the purpose of funding a number of promising, signature areas of research that will boost the chances of finding a cure for MS.
2. A specific contribution of \$15 million for the Brain Health Project; a therapeutic strategy with the potential to minimise disease activity and maximise lifelong brain health for those with MS.
3. Immediately establishing a MS Stem Cell Research Working Group for discussing with key decision-makers how to alleviate