2026-27 PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION

MND Australia, the national peak body representing State MND Associations, has lodged a 2026-27 Pre-Budget Submission calling on the Australian Government to take urgent action to improve equity, care and outcomes for all Australians living with MND. The submission outlines five priority investments that would deliver immediate and measurable improvements.

Motor neurone disease (MND) is a rapidly progressive and fatal neurological condition with no cure. Every day in Australia, two people are diagnosed with MND, and two people die from the disease. Average life expectancy following diagnosis is just 27 months.

There are currently around 2,750 Australians living with MND, and this number is expected to rise significantly in coming decades.

People living with MND experience fast-changing and complex needs, often requiring immediate access to specialist care, assistive technology, home modifications and coordinated support. Delays in diagnosis, fragmented services and inconsistent access to care have devastating consequences for people with MND, their families and carers.

1. Link MND data for national impact

MND research and care in Australia are constrained by fragmented and ageing data systems. MND Australia is calling for a $12 million investment over two years to establish a National Unified MND Database. Linking clinical, research and registry data would accelerate research, improve diagnosis, support clinical trials and enable better planning of care and services.

2. Increase access to quality specialist care and research

Geographic location currently determines whether someone can access specialist MND clinics, research opportunities and experienced allied health care professionals. MND Australia is seeking $30 million over three years to support clinic coordination, expand research opportunities to all clinics, improve outreach to regional and remote areas, and strengthen the role of MND State Associations in delivering coordinated care at home.

3. Fast-track aged care for people living with MND

Nearly two-thirds of people diagnosed with MND are aged 65 and over and are excluded from the NDIS. MND Australia is calling for a formal fast-track aged care pathway for people with MND, similar to the NDIS priority pathway, to ensure rapid access to assessment, assistive technology and high-level care when it is urgently needed.

4. Fund disability supports in Aged Care at comparable level to NDIS

People with MND aged 65 and over receive significantly less funding and support through aged care than those supported by the NDIS, despite having the same needs. MND Australia is requesting investment of $287 million per year to address this age-based inequity and ensure timely, adequate supports for all people living with MND.

5. Protect future generations through genetic testing and counselling

Up to 15 per cent of MND cases have a known genetic basis. MND Australia is calling for Medicare-rebated genetic counselling and no-cost access to IVF and pre-implantation genetic testing for families who choose this option, to protect future generations.

Read our full pre-budget submission at mndaustralia.org.au/advocacy