



MEDIA RELEASE

New Alliance Drives Neurological Agenda

Neurological Alliance Queensland (NAQ) has launched to bring together collective voices, advocate for better outcomes for the 1.3 million Queenslanders living with neurological conditions, and drive positive change.

NAQ is an alliance born from the 2025 *Neuro Matters Report* and collaboration between charities working in neurological conditions' support and services including MS Queensland, Epilepsy Queensland, MND Queensland, Dementia Australia, Muscular Dystrophy Queensland, ME/CFS & FM Australia, SCN2A Australia, Parkinson's Queensland and Huntington's Australia.

Collectively, these charities work to provide the 1 in 4 Queenslanders living with a neurological condition practical pathways of support and to deliver services.

NAQ's role will be to advocate for clarity of pathways, adequate support mechanisms, research into treatments and cures, and awareness of the urgent need to address the rising neurological condition burden of care.

NAQ Chair, Chris Dougherty, said that neurological conditions needed to be treated as a healthcare priority.

"While rates of cancer, heart disease, and other chronic health conditions have declined, neurological conditions are growing at an alarming rate—4 times the rate of cancer, twice as high as mental health and musculoskeletal disorders, and is the leading cause of death in Australia," Chris said.

"We are facing a crisis and while we acknowledge recent steps taken by the State Government, it is only just the start of addressing the urgent need.

"That is why Neurological Alliance Queensland has launched as a powerful collective of Queensland's major charities seeing the day-to-day challenges facing people living with neurological conditions," he said.



“We’ve already started with a submission to the *Senate Inquiry into Epilepsy in Australia* and that is just the start the Alliance’s aim to promote shared issues and concerns for the improved quality of life for people living with neurological conditions, funding for support services, and to support research into the treatment, better management and ultimately a cure for these conditions.

“Neurological Alliance Queensland acknowledges and has contributed to the recently announced tender by the Queensland State Government for 8 Neuro Wellness Hubs to be developed and for Neuro Community Navigators to be located across regional Queensland.

“This is an important first step in recognising the critical and growing need for services and support to the 1.3 million Queenslanders and their families, who are impacted by neurological conditions.

“Neuro needs to matter in Queensland. We need resources to stand up to this crisis; a crisis that steals the best of people’s lives—physically, financially, and emotionally.”

Neurological Alliance Queensland (NAQ) formed in 2026 with members: MS Queensland, Epilepsy Queensland, MND Queensland, Dementia Australia, Muscular Dystrophy Queensland, ME/CFS & FM Australia, SCN2A Australia, Parkinson’s Queensland and Huntington’s Australia. NAQ advocates for policy, funding, and resources for services that will improve outcomes for people living with neurological conditions such as MS, epilepsy, MND, dementia, muscular dystrophy, Huntington’s, Parkinson’s, myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME) / chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS), fibromyalgia (FM), SCN2A, stroke and 600+ neurological conditions.

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