

Pre-budget submission

Proposals at a glance



2026-27



Brain health

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

A comprehensive approach to brain health including:

- + National brain health campaign to reduce dementia risk and improve the health of Australians
- + Development of enduring brain health assets and resources to support and sustain brain healthy behaviours.

Investment required: \$70.6 million over 4 years

Target population: 45-65 year olds with tailored messaging for priority populations including First Nations, CALD, and regional/rural communities.



PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Develop and roll out campaign:

1. Integrated media campaign focused on raising awareness and addressing specific modifiable risks
2. Targeted community outreach for priority populations
3. Digital risk assessment and brain health tracking tools
4. Service linkages to GPs and specialist services
5. Monitoring and evaluation with modelling of dementia cases avoided.

Develop Brain Health enduring assets and resources:

1. Mapping and evidence review of brain health preventative health programs to identify effective approaches and components
2. Audience research to inform design of messaging and materials
3. Stakeholder consultation including with key referral points for preventative health programs
4. Collaboration with international organisations on brain health behaviour-change assets and resources
5. Strategy for embedding systematic and sustainable rollout of brain health assets and resources.

ESTIMATED BENEFITS:

\$34 million over 4 years

\$206 million over 10 years



OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

Rollout of a Dementia Care Navigators Network embedding navigators in memory clinics around Australia.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

1. 60 trained navigators embedded in 40 memory clinics
2. Consistent point of contact throughout their dementia journey
3. Information, support, and referrals to local services and resources
4. Care coordination at critical transition points
5. Access to onsite clinical support through clinical nurse consultants
6. Independent evaluation to inform refinement of model over time
7. Data sharing to improve service coordination and client follow-up.

QUANTIFIED BENEFITS

- + Reduction in avoidable hospital admissions
- + Reduction in avoidable emergency department presentations
- + Delayed entry into residential care
- + Reduction in delayed hospital discharges
- + Reduced carer burden

ESTIMATED BENEFITS:

\$166 million over 4 years

\$188 million over 10 years



OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

Integrated approach to building dementia capability across aged care and assessment workforces.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

1. Immersive learning rollout: D-Esc program to 30,600 aged care workers over 4 years
2. Rolling out Tell Tina to ~1000 aged care services to benchmark individual service and sector wide strengths and gaps in dementia knowledge
3. Dementia Essentials and D-Esc training for 600 aged care and 300 NDIS assessors
4. Scoping study: Establishing Dementia Practice leads in residential aged care and Support at Home services
5. Mandatory minimum dementia qualifications for all aged care and disability workers
6. More transparent information on provider dementia capability to inform consumer care decisions

QUANTIFIED BENEFITS

- + Reduction in avoidable hospital admissions from residential aged care
- + Fewer reassessments
- + Improved workforce retention
- + Improved access to care
- + Reduced carer burden and stress

ESTIMATED BENEFITS:

\$176 million over 4 years

\$461 million over 10 years



Workforce capability uplift

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

Integrated approach to building dementia capability across aged care and assessment workforces.

Investment required: \$25.3 million over 4 years

Target population: 30,600 aged care workers, 1,000 residential aged care and Support at Home providers and 900 aged care and disability assessors.

In addition to our specific funding proposals, Dementia Australia is seeking Commonwealth action on four systemic issues of increasing urgency:

1. Monitor Aged Care Reforms

We urge the Government to proactively monitor the impact of the aged care reforms for people living with dementia, their families and carers, and to respond swiftly to resolve any issues or unintended consequences. Dementia Australia is committed to working with the Government to ensure that the aged care and disability service systems meet the needs of people impacted by dementia.

2. Access to Respite Services

Urgent independent review of respite services to improve access, affordability, and quality for people living with dementia and their carers.

3. Addressing Dementia Data Gaps

Fast-track efforts to close critical dementia data gaps, ensuring accurate information for planning, funding, and evaluating aged care services.

4. Improved Access to Dementia Prevention Supports

Systematically embed dementia prevention into primary care, supporting risk reduction through structured programs and incentives.

Find us online
dementia.org.au

