



MEDIA RELEASE

THE COALITION'S POLICY FOR DEMENTIA

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If elected, a Coalition government will provide \$200 million to accelerate Australian scientists and medical researchers working on a cure for dementia.

Click here to read our policy.

Over 320,000 Australians are afflicted by dementia, including one in four over 65.

over 200,000 Australians are afflicted by dementia, increasing one in 10 by the age of 85.

Without a medical breakthrough, nearly one million Australians will be afflicted by dementia by 2050.

With Australia and the world's population ageing, there is no time to wait.

Our Policy to accelerate research into dementia will:

- Expand capacity in dementia research by supporting new researchers to do work in this field;
- Allocate priority funding for dementia research projects in the health care sector;
- Ensure Australia better transfers existing research into better care for patients and
- Invest in vital dementia research infrastructure and help accelerate progress towards a cure.

The fight against dementia transcends political boundaries and we recognise the Government's work on dementia. However, our commitment builds on that work.

The Coalition's commitment to provide a further \$200 million over five years for dementia research builds on our earlier announcements to protect mental health funding and provide an additional \$35 million to fund research into type 2 diabetes.

The Coalition is proud of its record in government in tackling dementia. The Howard Government declared dementia a National Health Priority and committed \$320 million in that year's budget to help fund the *Dementia a National Health Priority*.

Australia has some of the best medical researchers in the world. This commitment will further strengthen Australia's work and reputation as well as give some comfort to the 1.2 million Australians currently caring for someone with dementia.

The Coalition's \$200 million commitment will put Australia on the front line as a leader in the battle against dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

Our policy to accelerate funding for dementia is part of our *Real Solution* to create a stronger Australia and a better future for all Australians.

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Authorised by Brian Loughnane, Liberal Party of Australia, Cnr Blackall & Macquarie St