### MEMBER ORGANISATIONS OF THE NEUROLOGICAL ALLIANCE OF IRELAND

Acquired Brain injury Ireland

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Irish Heart Foundation

Alzheimer Society of Ireland

Irish Hospice Foundation

An Saol

Irish Motor Neurone Disease

Aphasia Ireland

Association

Ataxia Foundation Ireland

Migraine Association of Ireland

Bloomfield Health Services

Move<sub>4</sub>Parkinsons

Brain Tumour Ireland

Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland

Cheshire Ireland

Muscular Dystrophy Ireland

Chronic Pain Ireland

Neurofibromatosis Association of Ireland

Crann Centre

**Neurology Support Centre** 

Croí

North West MS Therapy Centre

Dystonia Ireland

Parkinson's Ireland

**Dublin Neurological Institute** 

Peamount Healthcare

Early Onset Parkinson's Disease

Polio Survivors Ireland

Association (EOPD)

PSPA Ireland

Enable Ireland

Slanu Stroke Rehab

Epilepsy Ireland

Spinal Injuries Ireland

FND Ireland

Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus

I ND ITEIAIT

Ireland

Headway

The Rehab Group

Huntington's Disease Association of Ireland

Vision Ireland



# GENERAL ELECTION MANIFESTO

MAKE
BRAIN HEALTH
A PRIORITY

#INVESTINBRAINHEALTH

MAKE BRAIN HEALTH A PRIORITY

860,000
PEOPLE
THROUGHOUT IRELAND
ARE LIVING WITH A
NEUROLOGICAL CONDITION

THAT'S ALMOST ONE IN SIX PEOPLE

- INVEST IN SERVICES
- IMPLEMENT NATIONAL STRATEGIES
- PROTECT NEUROLOGICAL CHARITIES

## INVEST IN SERVICES, IMPLEMENT NATIONAL STRATEGIES & PROTECT NEUROLOGICAL CHARITIES

## WHY BRAIN HEALTH NEEDS TO BE A PRIORITY

- Over 860,000 people throughout Ireland are living with a neurological condition, that's almost in 6 of us
- Neurology services throughout Ireland are significantly underfunded and understaffed. Many of our regional hospitals continue to have no or very limited neurology services while, nationally, waiting lists to see a Neurologist have increased by more than 40% over the last decade and now stands at over 22,500 with more than 2,700 waiting more than 18 months
  - The UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNCRPD) enshrines the Right to Rehabilitation but Ireland, as a signatory to this Convention, continues to have among the most underdeveloped neurorehabilitation services across Europe

### WHAT ARE THE NEUROLOGICAL ALLIANCE OF IRELAND CALLING FOR?

- Increased investment in neurological care in order to implement the existing national strategies in neurology, epilepsy, stroke and dementia services
- Commitment to the full implementation of the Neurorehabilitation Strategy within the lifetime of the next Government in order to meet Ireland's responsibility to deliver rehabilitation services under Article 26 of the UNCRPD
- Protection of vital neurological care services provided by voluntary organisations by providing a sustainable funding model for Section 39 providers of health and disability services

#### Ask 1

Increased investment in neurological care in order to implement the existing national strategies in neurology, epilepsy, stroke and dementia services. Comprehensive strategies have been developed which have, if implemented fully, the potential to transform care for people with neurological conditions in Ireland. What we need now is the investment to support their implementation.

Tackle
growing waiting
lists and regional
inequity through
increased investment
in neurology
services

Address
the two thirds
shortage of specialist
nurses across
neurology services

Ensure
adequate
staffing to provide
24/7 access to acute
stroke care and treatment
and provide 21 Early
Supported Discharge
teams for Stroke
nationwide

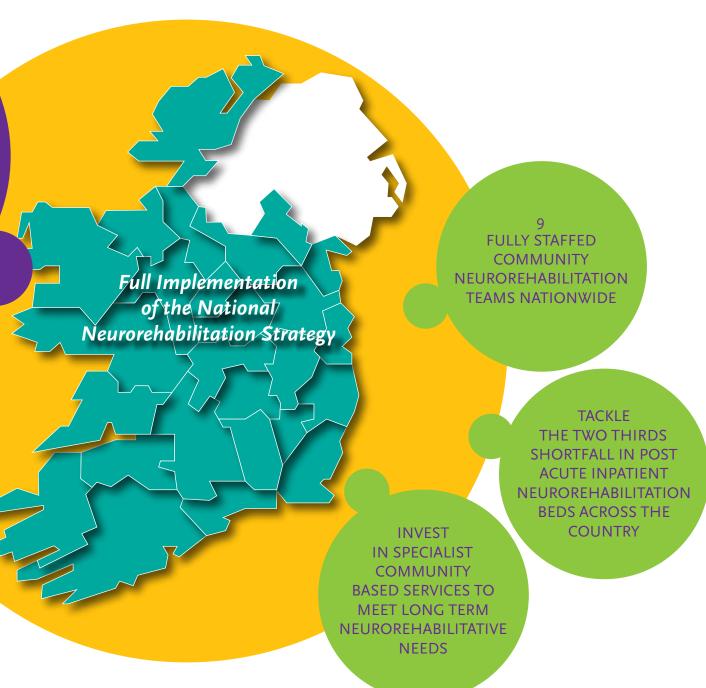
Continue
investment in
specialist dementia
assessment and
support services

Investment to Implement
National Strategies
in Neurology, Epilepsy,
Stroke and Dementia

#INVESTINBRAINHEALTH

#### Ask 2

Commitment to the full implementation of the Neurorehabilitation Strategy within the lifetime of the next Government in order to meet Ireland's responsibility to deliver rehabilitation services under Article 26 of the UNCRPD (UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities).





## NEUROLOGICAL ALLIANCE OF IRELAND ABOUT OUR WORK

We

are a membership
organisation, providing a platform for
over 30 Irish charities who provide services and
supports for the 860,000 people throughout Ireland
who are living with a neurological condition, and their
families. Our purpose is to collectively advocate for the shared
and common issues and concerns of our members and, while we
do that, to have people experiencing neurological conditions, and their
families, achieve their best in life.



We maintain a very active and responsive communications platform across our websites and social media, as well as internally through our monthly e newsletters. We also work through partnership with other umbrella organisations, both within Ireland and at European level, to promote greater awareness and support for people living with neurological conditions.



Consideration of access to communication teams





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