The fight for Men B in South Australia

[Meningitis Centre Australia](#) is actively campaigning for the state of South Australia to put the Men B vaccination on to its State Immunisation Plan.

South Australia has a high proportion of Men B cases in the state and in fact has the highest amount of cases in Australia on a state by state basis. In 2017, there were 36 meningococcal cases reported in that state 22 of which were B, 11 W and 3 Y.

![Invasive meningococcal disease cases by serogroup, 2013-2017](image)

MCA has openly voiced its concern to the South Australian Government on its lack of meningococcal vaccine funding for both ACWY and B, especially when other states have been proactive with the ACWY vaccine.

Currently there is a major study into Men B in South Australia. The [B PART OF IT](#) study has offered 60,000 high school students (15-17 years) the Bexsero Men B vaccine. The study which will have a global impact, will run for 3 years and will inform policy makers around the world the Men B vaccine herd immunity benefits, and how this can reduce the spread of the bacteria from person to person.

South Australia recently went to an election and a Liberal government was voted in. We have communicated with Premier Steven Marshall on putting the Men B vaccine on to the State’s Immunisation Program and this has been well received. The Government is now in talks with GSK and scientific researchers on whether it can afford to put this vaccine on its schedule for babies.

MCA has now launched campaigns in South Australia and on social media to hold the Government accountable and has urged its followers to write to their local South Australian Member of Parliament urging them to put the Men B vaccine on to the immunisation schedule....Watch this Space!