

NATIONAL
**CHEMICAL INJURY
AND SENSITIVITY
DAY**

PUBLIC HEALTH RALLY

*RECOGNISING
MULTIPLE CHEMICAL SENSITIVITY*

**SATURDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2005
12 MIDDAY**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
11 HINDMARSH SQUARE ADELAIDE**

The rally calls on the State Government to rapidly implement the recommendations of the Parliamentary Inquiry into MCS which found that “MCS is very real.”

The Minister for Health must ensure:

- MCS protocols and fragrance controls in hospitals and public health services
- an end to the routine use of herbicides in residential areas

MULTIPLE CHEMICAL SENSITIVITY

A Silent Epidemic

MCS is a serious and growing public health problem that affects people of all ages, races and economic backgrounds. People with MCS are made sick by exposure to chemicals found in common products such as pesticides, perfumes, tobacco smoke, new carpets, air “fresheners”, new paint and building materials, and many cleaning and laundry products. Symptoms of MCS vary from mild to life threatening and include headache, asthma, nausea, diarrhoea, fatigue, muscle and joint pain, dizziness, irregular heart beat and seizures. MCS symptoms in children include attention deficit, hyperactivity and other learning and behavioural problems. People with severe MCS are often diagnosed with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

Many people have developed MCS after a pesticide or solvent exposure

In 2005 a Parliamentary Inquiry into MCS found that up to 6% of South Australians may have MCS. Many of these people have been permanently disabled. MCS has no cure but symptoms can be prevented. Avoiding toxic chemicals is essential for a healthier environment.

Prevent MCS – Demand Clean Air