Radiation Oncology Unit on track

Work on the $19 million radiation oncology unit at Royal Darwin Hospital has hit the halfway mark.

Northern Territory Health Minister, Kon Vatskalis, inspected the site today saying the facility is on schedule for completion and expected to treat its first patients early next year.

“This is a facility both the Territory and Commonwealth Governments are very pleased to be delivering to Territorians,” said Mr Vatskalis.

“Up to 400 patients are expected to be treated in the first few years of operation.”

The Minister said almost 50 per cent of the work is now complete with framework for the roof being installed and the forming up of the two walls for the linac bunkers also complete.

"The Commonwealth has provided $19 million to construct this facility under the Better Access to Health Services Program,” he said.

“In addition to this, the Territory Government has committed to fund nursing and Allied Health staff for the unit."

Recruitment is already under way to ensure the Radiation Oncology Unit is fully staffed.

The Royal Adelaide Hospital will provide the specialist radiation staff required which will include radiation oncologists and registrar, and will provide ongoing support to the unit.

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