Minister for Health Natasha Fyles will today travel to Canberra to attend the National Health Ministerial Council.

The Northern Territory Government will use this opportunity to fight for every possible dollar of health funding on a national stage.

Topics for discussion at COAG will be:

- Safe and high quality care for end of life
- Public dental services for children and adults
- Ways to limit the impact of unhealthy food and drinks to battle childhood obesity
- Button battery safety

“Also of particular importance to the Territory will be the government’s alcohol policies and a shift to more community control of Indigenous health services.” Ms Fyles said.

“I will also be pushing for the delivery of the PET scanner at the Alan Walker Cancer Centre and for the Palmerston Hospital to be open as soon as possible.

“The Territory Government wants the PET scanner delivered. I look forward to discussing it with Federal Health Minister Susann Ley and getting the PET scanner delivered as soon as possible.”

Ms Fyles will also discuss the safety of remote area nurses with other states, particularly with South Australia, with whom we share a number of remote health staff.

“The tragic death of Gayle Woodford earlier this year was a reminder of the potential dangers of remote nursing.” Ms Fyles said.

The Northern Territory Government is conducting a review into the safety of remote area nurses, the results of which will be released before the end of this year.

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