The Northern Territory and Federal Governments will jointly fund a feasibility study into the establishment of a radiation oncology service in Darwin.

Minister for Health and Community Services Jane Aagaard said she was pleased to announce the study, which will examine ways to ensure a radiotherapy facility is both clinically safe and sustainable.

"The NT Government is keen to improve Territorians’ access to this form of cancer treatment by reducing the need for people to have to travel long distances for this care" Mrs Aagaard said.

The NT Government deferred the decision to establish an oncology unit at Royal Darwin Hospital earlier this year because a major review identified a number of concerns regarding sustainability and clinical safety.

"The Bansemer Review into Health and Community Services identified legitimate concerns that warranted deferral of this new radiation oncology service," Mrs Aagaard said.

"At that time the NT Government indicated it would help fund a specialist report on the most appropriate options for the provision of radiation oncology services.

"And today I am pleased to announce this study to look at options for oncology services in the Territory over the next 10 years."

The study will commence very soon and is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

Radiotherapy, along with surgery and chemotherapy, is one of the three main treatments for cancer.