Minister for Health and Community Services Jane Aagaard will attend six Ministerial Council meetings in three days this week, including the key Australian Health Ministers’ Conference in Perth on Thursday.

Mrs Aagaard will present a paper at the Australian Health Ministers’ Conference addressing strategies to improve the labour market supply of dentists – in particular in rural and remote Australia where people experience greater difficulties in accessing dental services.

She will also use the Health Ministers’ Conference as another opportunity to highlight the Federal Government’s inadequate Australian Health Care funding Agreement, outlined earlier this year.

"The cost of delivering health services in the Northern Territory is increasing, yet the offer of the Commonwealth Government to the NT is $16 million less than the current agreement," Mrs Aagaard said.

"I will again be strongly voicing the concerns of the Territory Government and all Territorians about the issue when I meet with the other Ministers."

The other conferences the Minister will attend are:

- Health, Aged Care and Disability Ministers Meeting;
- Ministerial Council on Drugs Strategy;
- Australia New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council Meeting
- Gene Technology Ministerial Council
- Community and Disability Services Ministers’ Conference