Health and Community Services Minister Jane Aagaard today said she will work with the Commonwealth Government and AMA to ensure Territory medical services are not disrupted by the collapse of medical insurer United Medical Protection.

Mrs Aagaard said she had received an assurance from Federal Health Minister Kay Patterson as recently as yesterday that health services would not be adversely affected.

However, 100 General Practitioners in the Territory currently indemnified by UMP will be affected.

"Fortunately, most medical specialists in the Territory will not be affected, as they are employed in the public health system and, as such, are indemnified by the Territory Government," Mrs Aagaard said.

Mrs Aagaard said all Australian Health Ministers had met last week to discuss medical indemnity issues.

"At that conference, State and Territory Health Ministers sought and received a guarantee from the Commonwealth that medical services around Australia would not be disrupted in the event of UMP going into receivership," she said.

"However, we are not privy to what the Federal Government is planning to do at this stage."
