

MEDIA RELEASE

**NATASHA FYLES
MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Natasha Fyles
Minister for Health

Health Heads Meet to Talk Funding

2 February 2017

A meeting of the National Health Funding Pool (NHFP) being held in Darwin today will decide how state and Territory public hospitals are funded.

The Minister for Health, Natasha Fyles opened the Jurisdictional Advisory Committee's workshop, which included delegates from jurisdictions across the country.

"Having this national health workshop in Darwin is an important opportunity to share the Territory's unique health challenges and advocate strongly for continued 'Activity Based', rather than population based, federal funding," Minister Fyles said.

"We have the highest rates of chronic disease in the country and continued access to a fair share of federal funding is key to meeting high demand.

"The Territory Labor government is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of Territorians by investing in children and families.

"We have a strong plan to turn around high infant mortality rates with the development of an early childhood strategic plan to strengthen services and supports.

"The Labor government is expanding the Australian Nurse Family Partnership Program which means Territory families have access to more nurse visits at home.

"We're also updating the Territory's 'Yellow Book' Health records system for children to boost e-capability and make it more functional for parents."

The one day workshop will look at how to implement the Council of Australian Governments' Heads Agreement that recognises responsibility for health is shared between the Commonwealth and states.

Communications Advisor: Laetitia Lemke 0418 973 602