

Figure 1. Upper left, the new facility and adjacent parkland. Upper right, reception, waiting and hospitality area. Lower left, UQ students at AIDER. Lower right, AIDER staff with Professor Laurie Walsh and Dr Dimosthenis Mantokoudis.

## Design features of the new AIDER Implant Education Clinic

By Professor Laurence J. Walsh

October 2009 saw the completion of the Australian Institute of Dental Education and Research (AIDER) clinic at DaVinci Park in the Brisbane Airport precinct. The clinic is the result of five years of collaboration between the Global Microsurgery Foundation (a Swiss philanthropic organisation dedicated to supporting patient-focused scientific projects) and the University of Queensland. Dental implantology is a major current focus of the Foundation, but the clinic has also been designed so that it can support educational programs in other areas of

clinical practice. The Brisbane facility is the prototype for a network of similar clinics for theoretical and practical training in oral implantology which the Foundation plans to establish over coming years.

As a UQ-affiliated teaching clinic, AIDER provides new clinical placement opportunities for UQ undergraduate dental students, as well as being the springboard for the UQ Masters of Clinical Dentistry program which is focused on dental implantology. UQ academics and AIDER staff have been working with the Global Association for the Standardization of

Implant Dentistry, an international group of leading academic clinicians and researchers in the field of implant dentistry headed by Professor Klaus Lang, to develop a new approach to post-graduate education in implant dentistry for general practitioners. The AIDER program focuses on treatment planning, sequencing of care and long term outcomes and goes further and deeper in terms of clinical technique than shorter courses. Patient treatments have already commenced at AIDER, as have seminars for UQ students in implant dentistry (Figure 1).



Figure 2. Upper left, main seminar room and adjacent demonstration operator. Upper right, UQ student seminar being presented by Dr Dimos Mantokoudis. Lower left; Wall mounted short throw data projector. Lower middle, second seminar room. Lower right, staff room and catering area.



Figure 3. Frosted glass has been used for doors, light panels, benchtops and splashbacks.

The floor plan and fit-out was designed by Dr Dimosthenis Mantokoudis, with support and input from the author. Because a major consideration in the design was to support student learning, the facility incorporates in its design a large demonstration operator from which an entire wall opens out into a seminar room. The surgery can be closed fully using sliding glass doors which are concealed in wall cavities (Figure 2). The teaching space includes

two seminar rooms and areas for implant case work-up and simulation exercises, which are contiguous with a catering area and staff room. The seminar space uses a short-throw data projector to gain maximum use of space.

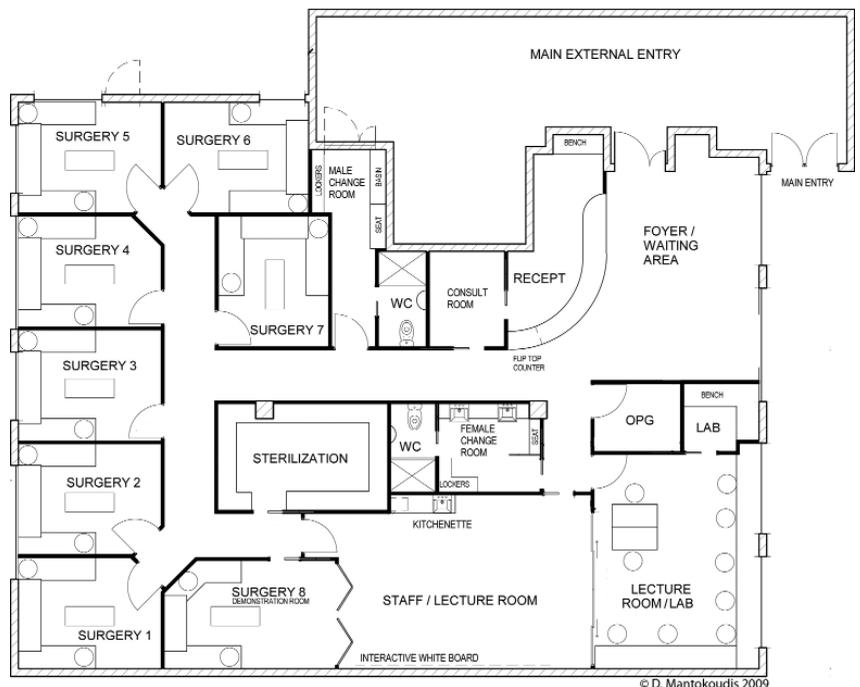
The internal design of AIDER makes maximal use of natural light and includes features AIDER such as large frosted glass panels for diffusion of light through the operatory walls and doors, as well as



Figure 4. One the 8 operatories, showing the clean design, and the instrument reception and cleaning area within the sterilizing room.

glass benchtops, glass basins and glass splashbacks (Figure 3). The corridors have 45 degree branches at their ends to visually extend their length and improve movement of staff and patients. A front corridor services the consultation room, cone beam VT room and the operatories, while there is a separate circulation which occurs “back of house” for staff and students. The sterilizing room is placed centrally to all eight operatories and includes a large instrument washer and several autoclaves. Strip lights ensure optimal illumination for instrument reprocessing (Figure 4).

The operatories do not have traditional fixed dental cabinets, but rather all requirements for a procedure are included in custom-designed mobile cabinets. The benchtops are kept free of cables by using wall mounted iMac computers, VOIP phones, wireless networking and Bluetooth keyboards and mice. The operatories are fitted with Planmeca cantilever design knee-break chairs with continental delivery, intraoral cameras, ceiling-mounted video displays and digital X-ray systems.



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