

MEDIA RELEASE

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DDHHS welcomes maxillofacial surgeon

Patients in need of corrective facial surgery will now be able to access a range of services following the appointment of oral-maxillofacial surgeon Dr Duncan Campbell at Toowoomba Hospital.

This will not be Dr Campbell's first tenure in Toowoomba, having spent time at the hospital previously.

"I actually worked at the Oral Health Clinic at Toowoomba Hospital for a year or so around 12 years ago, and Toowoomba seemed like a good fit both professionally and for my family as well," Dr Campbell said.

"Oral and maxillofacial surgeons tend to do the majority of surgery involving trauma to the face, also orthognathic, or jaw corrective surgery, and surgery to deal with sleep apnoea so I think that will keep me fairly busy here."

Dr Campbell's first patient, Miles resident Kyle Cockburn, said he was very pleased to have had access to the oral-maxillofacial service in Toowoomba.

"I was airlifted to Toowoomba on a Thursday afternoon and had surgery that night so it was really good to be able to have the operation here in Toowoomba," Mr Cockburn said.

"There'll be a follow-up appointment as well so coming in from Miles it's a lot better than having to go all the way to Brisbane."

Dr Campbell comes to Toowoomba from the Princess Alexandra Hospital (PA) in Brisbane. Prior to his appointment, patients needing oral or maxillofacial surgery would have been faced with the prospect of numerous visits to the PA.

"The majority of patients we'll see here would have previously been seen at the PA and I did notice, when working in outpatients there, we saw a lot of trauma and a lot of infections from the Darling Downs region," Dr Campbell said.

"Patients like Mr Cockburn would be faced with a lot of travel, and in another example we had a patient from Gatton who had orthognathic surgery a few months ago.

"That patient had to come in to the PA at least four or five times, so in a case like that, coming to Toowoomba multiple times would prove much less of a hassle."

Dr Campbell outlined some exciting prospects for the future of oral-maxillofacial surgery in Toowoomba.

"We are planning to have a 3D printer here at Toowoomba Hospital in the not-too-distant future," he said.

“I’ve been using 3D printer technology for the last two-and-a-half-years primarily with orbital or eye socket reconstruction. I started with it in New Zealand with the Engineering Department at the University of Canterbury and also used it in Brisbane at Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital and the PA, and the Gold Coast University Hospital as well.

“We’ll be using that routinely for trauma, particularly orbital and mid-face and any other applications we can find for it.”

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