



ANZAOMS

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION OF
ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGEONS

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (OMS) are surgical experts of the medical and dental professions. They are specialists in face, mouth, jaw and oral surgery.

OMS is a complex specialty combining dental, medical and surgical expertise. The qualification recognised in Australia and New Zealand as the registrable qualification for practice is the Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, FRACDS (OMS).

Training

The achievement of the FRACDS (OMS) takes a minimum of four years to complete and encompasses a comprehensive training program which requires the following as pre-requisites for applying to commence the Fellowship:

- A Dental degree and full registration as a dentist in Australia or New Zealand
- A Medical degree and full registration as a medical practitioner in Australia or New Zealand
- A full year of surgery in general (SIG) rotations.

Scope of Practice

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons are specialists in the diagnosis and treatment of a broad range of disorders affecting the facial complex and skeleton, including the jaws and oral cavity.

Contemporary training in both medicine and dentistry enables oral & maxillofacial surgeons to treat conditions requiring expertise in both fields. These include a range of common oral surgical problems (e.g. impacted teeth, dental implants), jaw and congenital facial disproportion, facial trauma, oral cancer, salivary gland disease, temporomandibular joint disorders, and various benign pathologies (e.g. cysts and tumours of the jaws).

Following the acquisition of dental and medical degrees, prospective trainees must complete basic general surgical training as residents and then apply to be selected on to the OMS Training Program. Specialty training involves four years with an examination in the first year and the final examination in the fourth year. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery training, together with a compulsory research component and the final Fellowship qualification, is accredited by the Australian Medical Council, Australian Dental Council, Medical Council of New Zealand and the Dental Council of New Zealand. The training, accreditation and examination requirements are administered by the Board of Studies in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery within the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons.

Patients are referred to an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon by both general and specialist dental and medical practitioners. In many instances, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons work in collaboration with other specialists such as orthodontists, ear nose and throat surgeons, plastic and reconstructive surgeons and oncologists as part of multidisciplinary teams to optimise the treatment of major conditions and diseases of the mouth, faces and jaws.



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An overview of the main sub-specialist areas of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is outlined on the ANZAOMS website. <https://www.anzaoms.org/surgery/what-is-oral-maxillofacial-surgery>

- Full scope of oral surgery including Wisdom Teeth & Dento-alveolar Surgery.
- Head & Neck and facial reconstructive surgery.
- Corrective Jaw (Orthognathic) Surgery
- Dental Implantology
- Facial Injuries
- Obstructive Sleep Apnoea
- Temporomandibular Joint Disorders (TMD)
- Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology
- Salivary Gland Disease
- Cleft Lip & Palate / Craniofacial Surgery
- Facial Aesthetic (Cosmetic) Surgery
- Head & Neck Cancer

Medicare

As registered dental and medical specialists and with oral and maxillofacial surgery being recognised as a principal surgical specialty, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons have full access to the Medicare Schedule for patient rebate on a range of services that they provide.