



## Clever design helps Dental Excellence grow in style

**D**ental Excellence is located on Scarborough Beach Road in Mount Hawthorn, one of Perth's inner northern suburbs, just four kilometres from the Perth CBD. Principal Dr Spiro Agapitos and his highly skilled team are committed to excellence in all areas. They take pride in their relaxed and modern practice that delivers the highest level of care, tailoring services to meet the individual needs of each client and with strong involvement in the local community.

Dr Agapitos had successfully operated his practice for 15 years but by 2016, the existing space was proving to be too small

for the growth that had taken place. Rather than relocate, he decided to contact Medifit to see if they could create some "magic" to design and fitout an extra surgery, exclusively for the use of his hygienists.

Dr Agapitos graduated from the University of Western Australia in 1994. Having worked for the government and several private practices, he decided to start up his own practice 8 years after graduating.

Dental Excellence was designed and built by Medifit Design & Construct in 2002. Not only was it Dr Agapitos' first practice, but also Medifit's inaugural project, itself established in February 2002 as Australia's only true design and construct company with a full cache of services which include architectural and interior

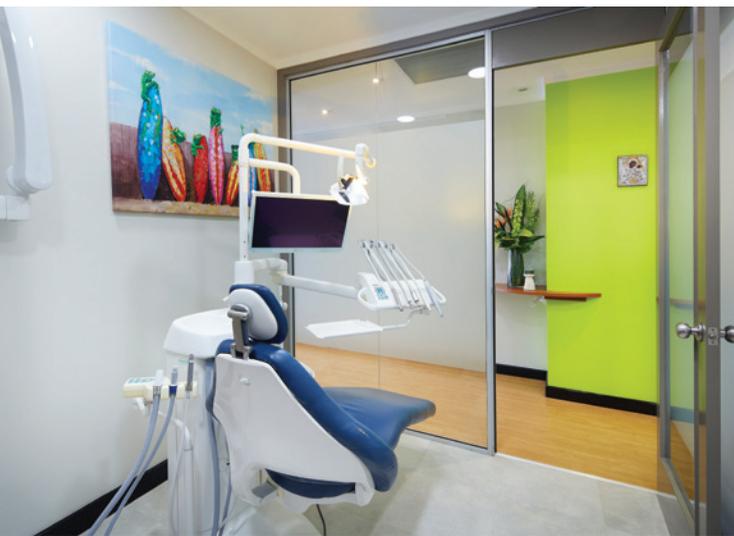
design; construction; fitout; and fabrication of all of their own joinery in their high-tech manufacturing facility.

Sam Koranis, Managing Director of Medifit, stated "It's great to see Spiros' practice has gone from strength to strength over the years. It's an even greater compliment when a client contacts us to say that they want to employ our services again to see if we can assist them in creating an extra operatory within the same space. We took up the challenge with open arms and the final result clearly shows that with some creativity, anything is possible. When we were there for the discussion, Dr Agapitos also requested that we freshen up the look of the practice, even though it still looked quite contemporary and relevant.



“The original commercial tenancy had its unique challenges as it was quite narrow. We alleviated those concerns and diverted away from the tunnel effect by curving the walls with segmented sections to create some interest in the corridor. Two operatories; sterilisation room; combined reception/admin; waiting room; staff area; toilet and plant room under the stairs were designed along the corridor.

“The new brief was successfully achieved by downsizing surgeries 1 and 2 slightly and moving these forward towards the reception area. The staff room was relocated to an apartment within the complex, making way to further move forward the former staffroom wall by 350mm allowing us to create the new sterilisation room and new hygienist room where the former sterilisation room was located.



“One of the major challenges was to relocate the existing joinery in the sterilisation room to the new location (which had a different configuration) as well as reconfigure the joinery in surgeries 1 and 2. This allowed the cost of the project to be minimised. The hygienist room consisted of all new joinery and benchtops and the selections had to match the existing specifications from 2002.”

Mr Koranis said that because Medifit has its own manufacturing facility, it allowed them to template the site and ensured that all the joinery was pre-manufactured and the old joinery was taken back to the factory to be reconfigured to minimise any down time for the busy practice.

“There was no on-site education required by suppliers; these issues were all discovered at the planning stage. The Medifit team were extremely accommodating and honoured all their commitments throughout the refurbishment project,” Dr Agapitos said.

“Despite the fact that we had to increase the number of rooms in a long and narrow space, the original design idea of accentuating curved walls from the reception area to the corridor to maintain the feeling of a common area was retained,” said Geoff Raphael, Interior Design and Medifit Director, who oversaw the original design as well as the renovation design.



## Summary

### The Practice

Practice Name	Dental Excellence
Principal	Dr Spiro Agapitos
Practice Type	General
Location	Mt Hawthorn, Perth, Western Australia
Size	70 square metres
No of chairs	3

### The Team

Design	Medifit Design & Construction
Construction	Medifit Design & Construction
Joinery	Medifit Design & Construction
Project Manager	Medifit Design & Construction

### Equipment

Dental Units	Planmeca
Sterilisation	Mocom B22 Futura
X-ray	Planmeca Pro X
Compressor	Cattani Turbo Smart
Suction	Cattani
Software:	Exact

“The number of frosted inserts of glazing was amplified in the surgeries and new hygienist areas to contrast with the long wall in the corridor and create a roomy perception of the practice while increasing the possibility of more light through the rooms. Additionally, new bright colours were brought up throughout the practice to maintain a segmented vista for gradual spaces, once again resulting in an enigma of not really knowing what is beyond as a total and therefore a presumption of larger space.”

The reception is compact yet very accommodating, utilising the same broken inserts and element-based design but now with modern and sophisticated furniture to contrast with a grey colour on some walls.

The operatories and hygienist rooms were redesigned inline with Dr Agapitos’ operational requirements with three different cabinetry shapes and common glass splash backs to add a colour feature to each room.

“The surgeries were redesigned in such a way to make an ideal working environment for myself and my staff,” Dr Agapitos said. “The excellent design by Medifit solved all the challenges relating to this difficult project. Medifit’s knowledge of our industry is a real bonus.

“It is incredible how Medifit were able to re-design the small space within our practice to accommodate another surgery. This has saved us the need to relocate the premises. Well done in having the ability to deliver!

“They were on time and to budget and we’re amazed at the transformation. Patients now comment on how modern, fresh and bright the practice looks.

“Medifit exceeded our expectations with how quickly they were able to transform the practice in minimum time with a fantastic result,” Dr Agapitos said. “They are easy to deal with and we have no hesitation in recommending them to anyone that wants the very best in dental design and construction.”

