

Ramesh Balasubramaniam



I graduated with a Bachelor of Dental Science from the School of Dentistry at the University of Western Australia in 2000 and then completed a Master of Science in Orofacial Pain from the University of Kentucky, and specialist training in oral medicine and a Fellowship in Interdisciplinary Geriatrics at the University of Pennsylvania in 2008.

I have developed skills in the unique field of orofacial pain and have had wonderful opportunities to care for patients whose suffering and dysfunction affects them daily. I feel fortunate to be able to help patients with chronic orofacial pain and provide them with relief and quality of life.

Early in my second year of dentistry, I attempted my first amalgam filling supervised by Dr Nicholas Albatis. I proceeded with cutting through the old filling with high speed and off came one of the walls of the tooth. I consulted Dr Albatis who was convinced that an amalgam with two pins was simple enough. He looked on as I desperately carved this amalgam. He told me it wasn't bad, then proceeded to carve out the most beautiful anatomy on this premolar tooth. At that moment, I realised I would make an average general dentist and needed to specialise in a field that required lots of thinking and very little doing. Ironically, this beautiful amalgam was my final year case presentation and I passed!!

Students, when you graduate, you will receive a lot of advice on how to 'market' yourself. The best advice I can give you is to serve your patients with sincerity and compassion.