

## CLEAR ALIGNER THERAPY INFORMED CONSENT

### Benefits

- Clear aligners offer an esthetic alternative to conventional braces for minor tooth movement.
- Aligners are nearly invisible so many people won't realize you are in treatment.
- Aligners allow for normal brushing and flossing tasks that are generally impaired by conventional braces.
- Aligners do not have the metal wires or brackets associated with conventional braces.

### Risks and Inconveniences

Like other orthodontic treatments, the use of clear aligner products may involve some of the risks outlined below:

1. Clear aligners are capable of producing minor movement of the front 12 teeth (6 upper and 6 lower). They are not designed to correct major bite problems, close large spaces, or move back teeth;
2. Failure to wear the appliances for the required number of hours per day, not using the products as directed by your doctor, missing appointments, and atypically shaped teeth can lengthen the treatment time and affect the ability to achieve the desired results;
3. Dental tenderness may be experienced after switching to the next aligner in the series;
4. Gums, cheeks and lips may be scratched or irritated;
5. Teeth may shift position after treatment. Faithful retainer wear at the end of treatment should reduce this issue.
6. Tooth decay, periodontal disease, inflammation of the gums or permanent markings (e.g. decalcification) may occur if patients consume foods or beverages containing sugar, do not brush and floss their teeth properly before wearing the clear aligner, or do not use proper oral hygiene and preventative maintenance;
7. The aligners may temporarily affect speech and may result in a lisp, although any speech impediment caused by the clear aligner should disappear within one or two weeks;
8. Aligners may cause a temporary increase in salivation or mouth dryness, certain medications may exacerbate.
9. Teeth may require interproximal recontouring (or slenderizing) to create space to allow tooth movement;
10. General medical conditions and use of medications can affect orthodontic treatment;
11. Health of the bone and gums which support the teeth may be impaired or aggravated;
12. A tooth that has been previously traumatized, or significantly restored may be aggravated. In rare instances the useful life of the tooth may be reduced, the tooth may require additional dental treatment such as endodontic and/or additional restorative work and the tooth may be lost;
13. Existing dental restorations (e.g. crowns) may become dislodged and require re-cementation or in some instances, replacement;
14. Short clinical crowns can pose appliance retention issues and inhibit tooth movement;
15. The length of the roots of the teeth may be shortened during orthodontic treatment and may become a threat to the useful life of teeth;
16. Aligner breakage has a higher probability in cases with multiple missing teeth;
17. Orthodontic appliances or parts thereof may be accidentally swallowed or aspirated;
18. In rare instances, problems may also occur in the jaw joint, causing joint pain, headaches or ear problems;
19. Allergic reactions may occur; and
20. Teeth that are not at least partially covered by the aligner may move in an unplanned way.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient/ legal guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Doctor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness