

# Informed consent & agreement

Successful orthodontic treatment is a partnership between the doctor and the patient. As a general rule, informed and cooperative patients can achieve positive orthodontic results. While recognizing the benefits of a beautiful healthy smile, you should also be aware that, as with all healing arts, orthodontic treatment has limitations and potential risks. These are seldom serious enough to indicate that you should not have treatment; however, all patients should consider the option of no treatment at all by accepting their present oral condition. You should also ensure that you have discussed all orthodontic alternatives available to you with your doctor prior to beginning treatment.

Please read this information carefully, and ask your Snazzy representative to explain anything you do not fully understand. Ensure you know what is expected of you as the patient (or as the parent/guardian of a young patient) during treatment.

## About clear aligners

Clear aligner therapy is an orthodontic treatment in which the patient wears a series of clear, removable aligners that gradually move the teeth to improve bite function and/or esthetic appearance. This treatment is intended to provide the end benefits of traditional “wired” orthodontic treatment, such as straight teeth and improved bite function, as well as the following benefits that are only available when going wireless:

- The aligners are clear, so people may not even notice you wearing them.
- There are no cuts or abrasions from wires or brackets, so clear aligners are more comfortable than traditional braces.
- The aligners are removable, allowing you to eat, drink, brush and floss with freedom.

Although the benefits generally outweigh the potential risks, all factors should be considered before making the decision to wear aligners.

## Potential risks of clear aligners

As with other orthodontic treatments, clear aligners may carry some of the potential risks described below:

- Treatment time may exceed estimates. Poor compliance to given instructions, wearing aligners less than 22 hours per day, not checking in with the orthodontist assigned to you, excessive bone growth, poor oral hygiene and broken appliances can lengthen treatment time, increase the cost, and affect the quality of the end results.
- Unusually shaped teeth can also extend treatment time and affect results. For instance, short clinical crowns can cause problems with aligner retention and slow or prevent teeth movement.
- Tooth decay, periodontal disease, decalcification (permanent markings on the teeth), or inflammation of the gums may occur if proper oral hygiene and preventative maintenance are not maintained, whether wearing aligners or otherwise.
- Sores and irritation of the soft tissue of the mouth (gums, cheeks, tongue and lips) are possible but rarely occur due to wearing aligners.
- Initially, the aligners may temporarily affect your speech. Patients generally adapt quickly to wearing aligners and it is rare that speech is impaired for an extended period of time.
- While wearing aligners, you may experience a temporary increase in salivation or dryness of the mouth. Certain medications can increase this.
- It may be necessary to temporarily affix engagers (small bumps of composite material) to your teeth to assist with difficult tooth movements. When you are not wearing your aligners, these engagers can feel awkward in the mouth.
- In cases of crowding, IPR, also known as interproximal reduction (reducing the thickness of a tooth's enamel), may be required to create enough space to allow teeth movement.
- Interproximal Reduction (IPR) is filing between your teeth to create up to a .3mm of space per tooth surface. Since this is the thickness of a few pieces of paper, it is generally not even noticeable. Temporary sensitivity may occur. IPR is only recommended for natural tooth structure and not fillings, veneers or crowns. IPR on restorations may weaken the restoration and it may need replacement. Snazzy is not responsible for any restorations that need replacement as a result of IPR.
- Any medications you may be taking and your overall medical condition can affect your orthodontic treatment.

- Though uncommon, allergic reactions to the material used during treatment may occur. If you believe you are experiencing an adverse reaction, inform your doctor immediately.
- Tooth sensitivity and tenderness of the mouth may occur during treatment—especially when advancing from one aligner to the next.
- Bone and gums, both of which support the teeth, can be affected by wearing aligners. In some cases, their health may be impaired or aggravated.
- Oral surgery may be required to correct excessive crowding or severe, pre-existing jaw imbalances. All risks of oral surgery, such as those associated with anesthesia and proper healing, must be considered before treatment.
- Wearing aligners may aggravate teeth—previously traumatized or not. Though a rare occurrence, such teeth may require additional dental treatment such as endodontic treatment or other restorative treatment, the useful life of the teeth may be shortened, or the teeth may be lost completely.
- Existing dental restorations, such as crowns and bridges, may be affected by wearing aligners. They may become dislodged and require re-cementation or in some instances, replacement. Before any dental restorations are replaced or added, consult your doctor, as they can affect the way your aligners fit.
- Teeth may supra-erupt (come out of the gums more than other teeth) if not at least partially covered by the aligner.
- Root resorption (shortening) can occur during any type of orthodontic treatment, including clear aligners. Shortened roots are of no disadvantage under healthy conditions. In rare cases, root resorption can result in loss of teeth.
- In cases of severe crowding or multiple missing teeth, it is more likely that the aligner may break. Contact Snazzy as soon as possible if this occurs.
- Because orthodontic appliances are worn in the mouth, accidentally swallowing or aspirating the aligner—in whole or in part—may occur.
- Though rare, problems may occur in the jaw joint, causing joint pain, discomfort, headaches or ear problems. Inform your doctor of any such problems immediately.
- Aligners worn out of their intended sequence can delay treatment results and result in complications including (but not limited to) patient discomfort. Always wear aligners in the order specified by your doctor.
- In some cases, a “black triangle” of missing gingival tissue may be visible below the interproximal contact when teeth are aligned after being overlapped for an extended period of time.
- Results may relapse if proper retainer wear is not followed as directed by your doctor.

- A successful treatment outcome cannot be guaranteed. After the final planned aligners have shipped, some cases may require refinement with additional clear aligners, traditional orthodontic techniques, and/or cosmetic procedures like crowns or veneers to achieve ideal results. There may be additional costs to you if you require such procedures. Always follow the directions for use (included with each aligner package) for best results.

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TELEHEALTH - I hereby consent to use Snazzy's teledentistry platform so a licensed dentist and I can engage in telehealth as part of my aligner therapy treatment. I understand that "telehealth" includes the practice of health or dental care delivery, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, and transfer of medical/dental information, both orally and visually, between me and a licensed dental professional who has engaged Snazzy to provide certain non-clinical dental support organization services.

I understand that I am certifying that:

During my most recent visit, my dentist has cleaned my teeth and has checked for and repaired cavities, loose or defective fillings, crowns or bridges. My dentist checked my last x-rays or has otherwise verified that I have no shortened or resorbed roots or impacted teeth. My dentist has probed or measured my gum pockets and confirmed that I do not have periodontal or gum disease. My dentist performed a full oral-cancer screening and confirmed that I do not have oral cancer. I confirm that I do not have pain in any of my teeth or jaws. I further confirm that none of my teeth are loose, that I do not have any "baby teeth" and that all of my permanent teeth are present. I further consent to Snazzy sharing my personal and medical information with third parties, business associates, or affiliates for the purposes of aligner therapy treatment planning and/or manufacturing purposes. I certify that I can read and understand English. I acknowledge that neither the dentist prescribing my aligner therapy treatment nor Snazzy has made any guarantee or assurance to me. I have read this form and fully understand the benefits and risks listed in this form related to my use of Snazzy aligners. I understand that Snazzy contracts with licensed dentists and orthodontists who have engaged Snazzy. I hereby provide my consent for one or more of the dentists or orthodontists affiliated to review my records for potential evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment. I understand that neither the dentist who prescribed my aligner therapy treatment nor Snazzy can guarantee any specific result or outcome. I further understand that my clear aligner therapy treatment will only address localized bite issues and will not specifically treat Angle's orthodontic

classifications II and III of malocclusion. In order to correct Angle's orthodontic classifications II and III of malocclusion directly, I will need to seek more comprehensive treatment via my local dental professional. I understand that if the duration of the treatment is extended beyond the original estimate, additional fees may be assessed. I hereby authorize Snazzy's use of photographs taken of me, including certain personal health information such as my first name and likeness, for educational and/or marketing purposes, which may result in disclosure to the general public. I acknowledge this authorization is voluntary, I will receive no financial compensation, and my participation in clear aligner treatment does not confer upon me any right of ownership in such photographs. I hereby release Snazzy from any and all liability for any copyright, trademark, or other intellectual property-related claims by me or any third party in connection with my clear aligner treatment. I also understand (i) my treatment is not conditioned on my authorization of Snazzy's use of my name or likeness, (ii) I have the right to access, inspect, and receive a copy of any such photograph used by Snazzy, and (iii) I can refuse to provide or otherwise revoke such authorization by contacting Snazzy at [support@snazzyalign.com](mailto:support@snazzyalign.com). This authorization is valid in perpetuity from the date of my consent hereto, unless earlier revoked in the manner prescribed above.

By proceeding with the treatment you hereby state that you've read and understood the above risks.