

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 aesthetic 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. If you choose to undergo clear aligner therapy, Easysmile Limited, will manufacture aligners customized for your teeth based on Easysmile’s prescription. Easysmile (not Easysmile's supplier) is responsible for delivering and managing your care.

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 Easysmile's instructions, wearing aligners less than 22 hours per day, missing appointments, 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.
- 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 Easysmile 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, maybe 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 Easysmile, 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 Easysmile 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 Easysmile 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 Easysmile.
- 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 Easysmile.
- 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.

Informed consent and agreement

Informed consent & agreement I have read and understand the content of this document describing considerations and risks of clear aligners. I have been sufficiently informed and have been given the opportunity to discuss this form and its contents with Easysmile, and to have my questions adequately answered. I have been asked to make a choice about my treatment, and I hereby consent to receive treatment with clear aligners manufactured by Easysmile's supplier as planned, prescribed and provided by Easysmile. I agree to follow Easysmile's treatment exactly as s/he plans, prescribes and

provides it for me, and I understand that any questions, concerns or complaints I have regarding my treatment must be communicated to Easysmile as soon as they arise.

I acknowledge that neither Easysmile nor Easysmile's supplier, its employees, orthodontists, representatives, successors, assigns, affiliates, or agents, have, can, or will make any promises or guarantees as to the success of my treatment or give any assurances of any kind concerning any particular result of my treatment. I understand that Easysmile's supplier does not practice dentistry or give medical advice. I understand that Easysmile's supplier manufactures medical devices based on instructions from Easysmile. I understand that I should always contact Easysmile in the first instance (not Easysmile's supplier) regarding my expectations, difficulties, results, or any other aspects of my treatment.

I understand that it may be necessary to take impressions, intraoral scans, digital model scans, radiographs (x-rays), and/or photographs for diagnosis, professional review by Easysmile or other consulting dentists and orthodontists, and submission to Easysmile's supplier. I recognize that these will be included in my medical records, which records encompass "individually identifiable health information" as that term is defined and protected by the HIPAA

Privacy Rule. I understand that Easysmile, as a covered entity under HIPAA, is not required to obtain my consent to use and disclose my individually identifiable health information for treatment, payment, and health care operations activities, but has chosen to do so voluntarily through this document. I further agree that Easysmile or Easysmile's supplier may use my medical records for research and educational purposes, but only to the extent that no individual identifiers, including but not limited to my name or address, are disclosed. I hereby consent to such uses and disclosure(s) as described herein.

Unless otherwise permitted or required by law, other uses and disclosures of my medical records, including advertising or marketing by either Easysmile or Easysmile's supplier, shall be made only with my prior written authorization (for which I acknowledge Easysmile or Easysmile's supplier may use my contact information to seek to obtain). I acknowledge I will not, nor shall anyone on my behalf, seek or obtain damages or remedies—legal, equitable, monetary, or otherwise—arising from any use of my medical records that complies with the terms of this Informed Consent and Agreement.

I acknowledge I have read, understand, and voluntarily consent to the use of clear aligners in accordance with

terms of this Informed Consent and Agreement.