Welcome

Patient Consent Form

Important note to Dentist/Orthodontist: This form is to be signed by the Smilelign patient prior to treatment and kept for your records.

Orthodontic Treatment

Your dentist has discussed the Smilelign Clear Orthodontic aligner system to straighten your teeth. Orthodontic treatment aims to create an attractive smile, leading to healthy teeth. You should also be aware that orthodontics (including Smilelign aligners) pose potential risks and limitations that you should consider before proceeding. This should have been discussed with you prior to treatment.

Smilelign Appliance Description

Smilelign aligners are a series of clear, removable appliances that move your teeth in small stages. They are prescribed by your dentist in conjunction with our 3D digital treatment planning technology. Once you and your dentist approve the treatment plan, a series of models and aligners are made specifically to suit your teeth.

Smilelign Process

You may undergo a routine dental examination which could include x-rays and photographs. Your dentist will take impressions of your teeth and send them to our laboratory with a prescription. Smilelign technicians will follow your dentist's prescription and proceed to 'Scan & Plan' your case. Upon approval of the treatment plan, Smilelign will produce a series of customised aligners and send to your dentist. The total number of aligners will vary, depending on the complexity of your case.

Smilelign Pre-Aligners

The pre-aligner will be sent to your dentist with instructions for use, along with a Smilelign bag including a free box of cleaning tablets and recommended cleaning instructions. Once the pre-aligners are fitted and comfortable, your dentist will authorise the active aligners to be constructed.

Remaining Aligners

The aligners will be individually numbered and sent to you in a Smilelign box. You should wear your aligners 24 hours per day, removing them only to eat and clean your teeth. Each stage aligner must be worn for a minimum of 3 weeks, allowing the teeth time to move. You should not move onto the next phase until the current aligner becomes easy to remove and feels loose.

In the unlikely event that you get to the end of your aligners and teeth have not moved as planned, it may be necessary to do some end-of-treatment adjustments.

Smilelign Benefits

- Smilelign clear orthodontic aligners offer an aesthetic alternative to traditional fixed metal braces.
- Aligners are almost invisible, ensuring treatment is discreet.
- Tooth movements and your treatment plan can be viewed on the Smilelign software.
- Clear aligners allow for normal brushing and flossing, often difficult with conventional braces.
- Treatment can be as little as 3 months.
- Improved function when chewing and biting.

Risks

Like other orthodontic treatments, the use of Smilelign aligners may involve some of the risks outlined below:

- Failure to wear the appliances for the required number of hours per day, not using the products as directed by your dentist, and missing appointments can lengthen the treatment time and affect the ability to achieve the desired results.
- Dental pain or some discomfort may be experienced when moving to the next aligner in the series.
- Gums, cheeks and lips may be scratched or irritated when removing the aligners. This is usually only experienced when learning to remove them in the first few days.
- Like any orthodontic treatment, teeth can still move or relapse after treatment. Regular wearing of retainers at the end of treatment should help prevent this.
- Tooth decay, periodontal disease, inflammation of the gums or permanent markings (e.g. decalcification) may occur if patients consume foods or beverages containing sugar whilst wearing the aligners.
- The aligners may temporarily affect speech for the first few days/weeks. This is not permanent and you will adjust to wearing your aligners.

- It is common to experience a temporary increase in salivation or mouth dryness.
- Your dentist may need to place attachments to one or more teeth during the course of treatment.
- Teeth may require adjustments in order to create space to allow tooth movement to occur.
- Crowded or overlapping teeth may lose some of the gum tissue or may change shape when the teeth have been straightened. Sometimes, small black triangular spaces may become visible between the teeth.
- Teeth that have been worn unevenly may need additional Cosmetic Restoration such as composite bonding to improve the appearance of the treatment.
- General medical conditions and use of medications can affect orthodontic treatment.
- Health of the bone and gums which support the teeth may be impaired or aggravated.
- Existing dental restorations (e.g. crowns) may become dislodged and require re-cementation, or in some instances, replacement as part of the treatment plan.
- Excessively worn teeth can pose appliance retention issues and inhibit tooth movement.
- 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.
- Aligner breakage has a higher probability in cases with multiple missing teeth.
- Orthodontic appliances or parts thereof may be accidentally swallowed or aspirated.
- Problems in the jaw joint, causing joint pain, headaches or ear problems can be experienced by patients undergoing orthodontic treatment.
- Very rarely, allergic reactions may occur.

Informed Consent

I have been given adequate time to read the preceding information describing orthodontic treatment with Smilelign aligners. I understand the benefits, risks and inconveniences associated with treatment. I have been sufficiently informed and have had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss concerns about orthodontic treatment with Smilelign products with my dentist offering me the treatment. I hereby consent to orthodontic treatment with Smilelign products that have been prescribed by my dentist.

I understand that orthodontics is not an exact science. I acknowledge that my dentist and Smilelign have not and cannot make any guarantees or assurances concerning the outcome of my treatment. I understand that Smilelign is not a provider of medical, dental or health care services and does not and cannot practice dentistry or give medical advice. No assurances or guarantees of any kind have been made to me by my dentist or Smilelign concerning any specific outcome of my treatment.

I authorise my dentist to release my records, including, but not be limited to, x-rays, medical history, photographs, plaster models or impressions of teeth, prescriptions, diagnosis, and other treatment records to Smilelign and associated companies. This is for the purposes of investigating and reviewing my case, as it pertains to orthodontic treatment with product(s) from Smilelign and/or for educational/research purposes.

I hereby consent to the disclosure(s) above. I will not, nor shall anyone on my behalf, seek legal, equitable or monetary damages or remedies for such disclosure. A photocopy of this Consent shall be considered as effective and valid as an original. I have read, understood and agree to the terms set forth in this Consent as indicated by my signature below.

Signature: ..... Date: .....

Print name: .....

Address: .....

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Postcode: .....

Signature of parent/guardian (if patient is under 18 years):

Signature: .....

Print name: .....