

# Welcome

## Patient Consent Form

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

### Orthodontic Treatment

Your dentist has discussed the Smilealign clear orthodontic aligner system to straighten your teeth. Orthodontic treatment aims to create an attractive smile and healthy teeth. You should also be aware that orthodontic treatment (including Smilealign) poses potential risks and limitations that you should consider before proceeding. This should have been discussed with you prior to treatment.

### Smilealign Appliance Description

Smilealign 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 aligners are made specifically to suit your teeth.

### Smilealign Process

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

### Smilealign Pre-Aligners

Your pre-aligners will be sent to your dentist with instructions for use. 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 Smilealign box. You should wear your aligners 24 hours per day, removing them only to eat and drink, and clean your teeth. Each aligner must be worn for a minimum of 2 weeks, allowing the teeth time to move before progressing. On occasion, certain cases may require refinement aligners at the end of treatment to complete your smile journey. If relevant to your case, this will be communicated by your dentist.

### Smilealign Benefits

- Smilealign clear orthodontic aligners offer an aesthetic alternative to traditional, fixed braces.
- Aligners are almost invisible, ensuring treatment is discreet.
- Tooth movements and your treatment plan can be viewed on the Smilealign 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 Smilealign 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.
- Once treatment is complete, retainers must be worn as recommended. Failure to do so could cause relapse of the teeth.
- There can be an increased risk of tooth decay, periodontal disease, inflammation of the gums or permanent markings (e.g. decalcification).

- The aligners may temporarily affect speech for the first few days/weeks. This is not permanent.
- It is common to experience a temporary increase in salivation or mouth dryness.
- When crowded or overlapping teeth have been straightened, this can cause some changes to gum tissue and small black triangles can form between the teeth.
- 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/replacement at an additional cost.
- During treatment, some aligners may fracture and parts, thereof, may be accidentally swallowed or aspirated.
- Problems in the jaw joint, causing joint pain, headaches or ear pain, can be experienced/worsened by patients undergoing orthodontic treatment.
- Very rarely, allergic reactions may occur to some material used in orthodontic appliances.
- Any teeth not covered/partially covered by the aligners may overerupt throughout treatment.
- Ankylosed teeth/impants cannot be moved.
- Aligner treatment may result in sensitivity.
- As with any orthodontic treatment, root resorption may occur.

**General**

- Your dentist may need to place attachments on one or more teeth during the course of treatment.
- Teeth may require adjustments in order to create space to allow tooth movement to occur.
- Teeth that have been worn unevenly may need additional cosmetic restoration, such as composite bonding, to improve the appearance of the teeth.
- Only teeth moved in the original treatment plan will be covered by refinements. Any changes requested from the original treatment may incur additional charges.
- You must contact your dentist if you experience any issues with your treatment or aligners.
- Additional refinements are sometimes required at the end of treatment to reach the desired results. This can increase the length of treatment from the original, proposed treatment plan.

**Informed Consent**

I have been given adequate time to read the preceding information describing orthodontic treatment with Smileign 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 Smileign products with my dentist offering me the treatment. I hereby consent to orthodontic treatment with Smileign products that have been prescribed by my dentist.

I understand that orthodontics is not an exact science. I acknowledge that my dentist and Smileign have not, and cannot, make any guarantees or assurances concerning the outcome of my treatment. I understand that Smileign 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 Smileign 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 Smileign and associated companies. This is for the purposes of investigating and reviewing my case, as it pertains to orthodontic treatment with product(s) from Smileign 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: .....  
 .....

Postcode: .....

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

Signature: .....

Print name: .....