

DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER CLEAR ORTHODONTICS

Clear aligners are now available for the public to order online. Without direct contact with a dentist or orthodontist, this is referred to as "Do It Yourself[DIY] Clear Orthodontics".

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are the advantages of DIY clear orthodontics?

- Cost savings. Less expensive than orthodontic treatment provided by a dentist or orthodontist.
- Convenience. Does not require direct access to a dentist or orthodontist.

2. What are the disadvantages of DIY clear orthodontics?

- Dentists and orthodontists must attempt to manage your care from remote locations. "Selfie" photos and 90-day email "check-ups" with company representatives fail to provide an adequate level of care for the complexities involved in safely moving teeth.
- The evaluation for DIY orthodontic care is extremely limited. Current dental health is critical in evaluating potential orthodontic treatment. Without a qualified dentist's review of traditional orthodontic records [necessary X-rays, the health of teeth and gums, jaw relations, jaw joints etc.] prior to treatment, your results are likely to be less predictable and your health is placed at risk.
- Serious adverse events to the teeth may occur. Remote dental caregivers might overlook unerupted [impacted] teeth, cysts, tumours, dental decay and dental infections before treatment begins.
- Serious life-threatening events have been associated with the use of clear aligners, which pose a risk for unsupervised patients. These include among others difficulty with breathing, sore throat, swollen tongue and a feeling of the throat closing.
- DIY orthodontics requires you to agree to their "Terms of Service" online to purchase their clear aligners. The terms you must agree to include releasing any and all parties associated with the direct-to-consumer orthodontics from all claims of damage and lawsuits of any kind or nature. In addition, you must grant permission for unlimited use of personal information [full name, images, voice] for any use desired. Rights for patients that are a normal part of a doctor-patient relationship must be waived to receive DIY orthodontics.

3. What if I choose no treatment for my orthodontics?

- Your teeth of course will remain where they are.
- If you have functional and/or cosmetic issues that could be helped with orthodontics, these issues will not be addressed and may worsen over time.

Dr. _____ has explained to me that the risks associated with Direct to Consumer Clear Orthodontics. I have had any additional questions answered by my dentist.

Patient signature _____ Date _____ Patient print _____
Witness signature _____ Date _____ Witness print _____
Dentist signature _____ Date _____