



Significance Dental Specialists

Periodontics Orthodontics Endodontics

One of the biggest things that people don't like about traditional metal braces is that they are so obvious.

Invisalign®: Truth vs Myth

By Victoria W. Chen, DDS MS



Invisalign® has been on the market for more than 20 years. I still remember when it first appeared in one of TIME magazine's issues talking about how orthodontists will be obsolete due to the innovation of Invisalign®. Invisalign® is truly an amazing and invisible tool to straighten your smile without wearing braces at all.

How does Invisalign® work? Your orthodontist will take impressions or scan and send your tooth images to the Align company. Upon receiving the images of your teeth, Align will use 3D software to simulate tooth movement to the final best positions. Orthodontists will predict, plan, communicate and instruct the Align company with a prescription to correct your crooked teeth and bite. Upon approval by your orthodontist, the Align company will fabricate a series of customized trays ready for you to wear.

Myth #1: All patients are eligible for Invisalign®.

The Truth: Invisalign® technology has been improving to treat more complicated cases nowadays. However, there will still be lots of more complicated treatments that can't be accomplished efficiently and effectively by Invisalign® treatment, such as severe bite problems and extraction cases.

Myth #2: Invisalign® moves teeth faster than braces.

The Truth: Invisalign® moves the teeth at the same speed as braces. Invisalign® and braces are just different tools to apply pressure to your teeth and create tooth movement. Your teeth have no idea whether this comes from the plastic tray or metal wires.

Myth #3: Invisalign® treatment is shorter than braces.

The Truth: As I mentioned, Invisalign® moves your teeth at the same rate as braces. Orthodontists tend to offer Invisalign® for relatively simple to moderate cases, which results in the false impression that Invisalign® has a shorter treatment time.

Myth #4: All dentists can provide Invisalign® treatment.

The Truth: When Invisalign® was first launched, it was distributed strictly to orthodontists. The general dentists saw the potential consumer demand and financial rewards, and took legal action to request that the Invisalign® company distribute the products to all dental professionals, and not limit distribution to orthodontists only. Thereafter, Invisalign® can be purchased at either a dentist's or an orthodontist's office.

If I offer you an airplane and give you a two-day crash course, will you hop on it and feel confident flying to Europe? Would you feel more confident having a pilot flying your plane who has gone through two to three years of intensive pilot training? Having an airplane does not warrant you the comprehensive knowledge about how to fly. This analogy applies to Invisalign® treatment as well.

Myth #5: Invisalign® does not hurt as much as braces.

The Truth: You will feel the same amount of pressure when your teeth start to move, whether it is by Invisalign® or braces. Your teeth can not differentiate between Invisalign® or braces moving your teeth.

Myth #6: Invisalign® is more expensive than braces.

The Truth: It depends on the orthodontic office. It is true that Invisalign® has a higher cost of lab fees payable to the Align company. Some orthodontic offices do charge more for Invisalign® due to the extra lab cost. However, the lab expenses are offset by less chair time for patients and less office and emergency visits. Therefore, we do not charge differently for Invisalign® and braces in our offices.

Invisalign® does offer great benefits:


 **Invisible Look**

 **No Food
Restrictions:**

You can enjoy all your favorite food and not worry about breaking the appliances.

 **Non-Restricted
Lifestyle:**

Your social life is not affected due to the invisible look and no food restriction.

 **Fewer office and
emergency visits to
your orthodontist's
office**

 **Better Oral
Hygiene**



6018 S Fort Apache Road, Suite 100, Las Vegas, NV 89148 T: (702) 547-9977
2777 W Craig Road, Suite 101, North Las Vegas, NV 89032 T:(702) 647-8114
2430 E Harmon Avenue, Suite 6, Las Vegas, NV 89121 T: (702) 733-0558

www.significanceorthodontics.com