Bonded Lingual Retainers

Supplemental Informed Consent

Your orthodontist has recommended the use of a bonded lingual retainer for purposes of retention, that is, to prevent your teeth from moving to a less than favorable position following the completion of treatment. Bonded lingual retainers, also referred to as fixed or 'permanent' retainers, are often comprised of a metal wire (smooth or braided) affixed to the lingual (back) side of your teeth using a light-cure resin, very similar to the bonding of brackets to your teeth during active treatment.

Generally, the use of a bonded lingual retainer is a safe and predictable procedure. As with any procedure, the outcome cannot be guaranteed. The purpose of this document is to help you be aware of possible risks before agreeing to the utilization of a bonded lingual retainer:

Biannual (twice a year) cleanings and evaluations by your general dentist are required to aid in maintaining oral health in the region of the bonded lingual retainer. Diligence in maintaining good oral health during the usage of the bonded lingual retainer is very important. Gum disease and tooth decay (or potential loss of teeth) may result from poor oral hygiene and/or poor diet choices while the bonded lingual retainer is in place.

As with any oral appliance placed in the mouth, it is possible that the bonded retainer could become dislodged, swallowed, aspirated, or lead to tongue and gum irritation or damage. This may also occur during the original placement of the retainer.

As with traditional braces, a break in cementation of the bonded retainer on any given tooth or teeth may result in the uncontrolled movement of that tooth or those teeth. When a fixed retainer becomes detached from a tooth or teeth, the orthodontist may repair the retainer by re-adhering it with new composite. This repair is often not as strong as the original bonding, and there is no guarantee of how long the repair will last. It is likely to last less time than a new fixed retainer; additional repairs will incur additional costs. Small amounts of enamel may be removed during the repair/removal of the fixed retainer.

Damage or distortion of the bonded retainer could lead to unintended movement of the affected tooth or teeth; in that case, orthodontic re-treatment may be required, and new costs will be assessed at the time of service.

Should you desire the removal of the bonded retainer, the use of a removable retainer will be required to maintain the alignment of your dentition. Custom-made retainers are recommended to be worn indefinitely. Any procedures to remove and/or replace a bonded lingual retainer will incur additional fees, and these fees are to be determined at the time of service.

I have read and understand the above. I have discussed this form with my orthodontist and have had the opportunity to ask questions. Subject to the conditions set out in this document, Including understanding my responsibilities involved in treatment with a bonded lingual retainer, I consent to the utilization of a bonded lingual retainer for treatment/retention for:

Patient Name: _____ and authorize the orthodontists) listed below to provide this treatment.

Signature of orthodontist/group name:_____ **Date:**_____

Signature of patient/ parent/ guardian:_____ **Date:**_____

Witness:_____ **Date:**_____