

Anthony C. Broccoli, DMD
ANDOVER ORTHODONTICS

Board Certified Specialist in Orthodontics

15 Central St., Andover, MA 475-0450

Generally, **EXCELLENT ORTHODONTIC RESULTS** can only be achieved with informed and cooperative patients.

But, you should be aware that orthodontic treatment, like any treatment of the body, has some risks and limitations.

You will receive a copy of this form to take home and keep on file. Since we only see you about once a month, you must inform us immediately if any of these problems occur during your treatment.

Tooth decay, gum disease and permanent markings (decalcification) on the teeth can occur if orthodontic patients do not brush their teeth frequently and properly and/or eat foods containing excessive sugar. These same problems also can occur in patients not in braces, but the risk is greater while in braces.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

Allergies to medicines and orthodontic materials may occur during orthodontic Tx. If you are aware of these allergies they can be avoided, but if they are unknown to you, it is impossible to predict any reaction. People who are already allergic to certain foods, or who have hay fever, are more prone to allergies to materials.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

In some patients the length of the roots of the teeth may shorten during orthodontic treatment. Some patients are prone to this happening, some are not. Usually this is of no significant consequence, but on occasion it may become a threat to the longevity of the teeth involved.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

Sometimes orthodontic appliances may be accidentally swallowed or aspirated, or may irritate or damage the oral tissue. Also, if *improperly handled*, headgear may cause injury to the face or eyes. But, if the patient is careful and follows the instructions given, the possibility of such a mishap is extremely rare.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

The health of the bone and gums which support the teeth may be affected by orthodontic tooth movement if a condition already exists, and in some cases where a condition doesn't appear to exist. Orthodontic treatment will not cure preexisting periodontal problems and could exacerbate them. Periodontal treatment may be necessary before, during, or after orthodontics to address these issues.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

Sometimes oral surgery or tooth removal is necessary in conjunction with orthodontic treatment, especially to correct severe jaw imbalances. There are extremely rare, life threatening risks and disabilities involved with anesthesia in oral surgery. You must discuss with your oral surgeon before deciding to proceed with the surgery.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

Teeth have a tendency to change their positions after treatment. This is usually only a minor change and faithful wearing of retainers reduces this tendency. Throughout life, the bite can change adversely due to poor growth, the eruption of wisdom teeth, mouth breathing and other oral habits that are out of the control of the orthodontist.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

Occasionally, unexpected or abnormal changes in the growth of the jaws, or shape and size of the teeth, may limit our ability to achieve the desired result. If growth becomes disproportionate the bite may change requiring additional treatment, and/or oral surgery. Growth disharmony is beyond the orthodontist's control.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

Some patients may have a high potential for Temporo-Mandibular-Joint (T.M.J.) problems, which may become evident before, during or after orthodontic treatment. These may include joint pain, ear pain and/or headaches. Orthodontic treatment will not cause or cure these joint problems. You may need to see a TMJ specialist to treat these joint problems as they occur.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

Ceramic brackets may inadvertently remove some of the tooth's enamel or cause enamel fracture lines when removed, or if the occlusion shears off a bracket. Also, if worn on the lower teeth they may cause abrasion of the upper teeth. Pieces of the ceramic brackets may break off and there is a possibility that they may be swallowed or aspirated.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

Orthodontic tooth movement may aggravate the condition of a tooth that was traumatized by a previous accident or has large fillings, which may have damaged the nerve of the tooth. In rare instances this may lead to root canal treatment. If the tooth has a root canal treatment, surgical re-treatment or even tooth loss may be necessary.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

The initial diagnosis of the case may have to be revised at a later date should the biological factors that mask some initial problems be alleviated. The change in treatment may include surgery in severe cases, or just extend the treatment time. If there are any changes in the treatment plan the doctor will discuss them with you to select the best course of action.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

The total time required to complete treatment may exceed our estimate. Excessive or deficient bone growth, poor oral hygiene or poor cooperation in wearing the appliance the required hours per day, broken appliances and missed appointments can lengthen the treatment time, affect the quality of the results and increase the cost of treatment.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

Impacted teeth, especially cuspids, may have various problems or cause them in adjacent teeth. This sometimes necessitates surgical exposure, periodontal surgery, or tooth loss.

INITIALS
Alerted Of Higher Risk

I have read, understood, and have had all my questions answered with regard to the above informed consent. I have also been alerted to the higher risk in some aspects of this case, which I have initialed above.

I consent to the orthodontic treatment of _____

Signature _____ Date _____, Witnessed by _____