



THE FACTS ABOUT TELEDENTISTRY & CLEAR ALIGNER THERAPY

"Sometimes your joy is the source of your smile, but sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy." —Thich Nhat Hanh

Now more than ever, Californians are turning to teledentistry and clear aligner therapy for teeth straightening. Gone are monthly appointments and unaffordable fees. Clear aligner teeth straightening systems are offered direct-to-consumers at a significant cost savings compared to traditional metal braces – giving consumers something to smile about!

TELEDENTISTRY CLEAR ALIGNER THERAPY IS A GROWING PRACTICE IN CALIFORNIA BECAUSE...

IT'S AFFORDABLE:

- Teledentistry and clear aligner therapy offers a cost-effective alternative to traditional orthodontic treatment – making it possible for more people to afford expert oral care. In fact, clear aligners cost up to 60 percent less than traditional braces and have saved Californians over \$600 million dollars to date.

IT'S ACCESSIBLE:

- Teledentistry expands orthodontic care to millions of Californians – most importantly to those who would otherwise be denied access to a straighter smile.
 - According to a recent study conducted by the UCLA Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, Latinos are 80 percent less likely to have access to a dentist in their local area, are still two times more likely to not have health insurance compared to non-Hispanic whites, and are even less likely to have access to dental insurance.¹
 - A 2019 study from academics at USC examined the current state of access to oral healthcare providers in the African American community finding that “access to specialty services” and “cost-prohibitive pricing” were two of the major factors keeping people from receiving needed care.²
 - A PEW report found children of color are less likely than white children to see a dentist and receive preventive care.³

IT'S NECESSARY:

- Teledentistry and clear aligner therapy improves Californians quality of life – taking orthodontic care from a service held in the hands of few to a benefit available to many. According to a study conducted by the American Dental Association, 31 percent of low-income Californians feel that the appearance of their mouth and teeth impacts their ability to interview for a job. It's why more and more Californians are increasingly turning to teledentistry to straighten crooked, crowded, or gapped teeth.

IT'S SAFE:

- Teledentistry practices like clear aligner therapy help decrease exposure to harmful radiation – allowing patients to limit exposure whenever possible. According to the American Dental Association as quoted in the New York Times, adults without apparent dental problems do not need dental X-rays every year. To be approved for clear aligner therapy, most patients are not required to undergo X-rays unless the clinicians believe it is necessary for treatment.

For more information, go to www.dentalcoalition.org.



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