

## **Informed Consent for Tooth Whitening**

### DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCEDURE

Tooth whitening is a procedure designed to lighten the color of my teeth using a combination of a hydrogen peroxide gel and a specially designed light. The treatment involves using the gel and light in conjunction with each other to produce maximum whitening results in the shortest possible time.

### ALTERNATIVE TREATMENTS

I understand I may decide not to have the Whitening treatment at all. However, should I decide to undergo the treatment, I understand there are alternative treatments for whitening my teeth for which my dentist can provide me additional information. These treatments include:

- ? Whitening Toothpastes/Gels
- ? Other In-Office Whitening Treatments
- ? Take-Home Whitening Kits

### RISKS FOR TREATMENT

I also understand that Teeth whitening treatment results may vary or regress due to a variety of circumstances. I understand that almost all natural teeth can benefit from whitening treatments and significant whitening can be achieved in most cases. I understand that whitening treatments are not intended to lighten artificial teeth, caps, crowns, veneers or porcelain, composite or other restorative materials and that people with darkly stained yellow or yellow-brown teeth frequently achieve better results than people with gray or bluish-gray teeth. I understand that teeth with multiple colorations, bands, splotches or spots due to tetracycline use or fluorosis do not whiten as well, may need multiple treatments or may not whiten at all. I understand that teeth with many fillings, cavities may not lighten and are usually best treated with other non-bleaching alternatives. I understand that provisionals or temporaries made from acrylics may become discolored after exposure to whitening treatment. I understand that Whitening treatment is not recommended for pregnant or lactating women, light sensitive individuals, patients receiving PUVA (Psoralen + UVA radiation) or other photochemo-therapeutic drugs or treatment, as well as patients with melanoma, diabetes or heart conditions. I understand that the whitening light emits either LED light energy or laser energy depending on the option. Any patients taking drugs that increase photosensitivity should consult with their physician before undergoing Zoom! treatment.

I understand that the results of my Whitening Treatment cannot be guaranteed.

I understand that in-office whitening treatments are considered generally safe by most dental professionals.

I understand that although my dentist has been trained in the proper use of the teeth whitening systems, the treatment is not without risk.

Existing Tooth Decay and Gum Disease (Periodontitis ) may Lead to exacerbated symptoms if Left Untreated to the whitening procedures . Therefore it is strongly advisable that any existing dental problems be treated prior to this procedure.

I understand I am not a good candidate for this procedure if I have significant periodontal disease, Fillings that may be breaking down, unfilled cavities or chipped or worn teeth.

I understand that some of the potential complications of this treatment include, but are not limited to:  
Tooth Sensitivity/Pain - During the first 24 hours after whitening treatment, some patients can experience some tooth sensitivity or pain. This is normal and is usually mild, but it can be worse in susceptible individuals. Normally, tooth sensitivity or pain following a whitening treatment subsides within 24 hours, but in rare cases can persist for longer periods of time in susceptible individuals.

People with existing sensitivity, recession, periodontal disease, exposed dentin, exposed root surfaces, recently cracked teeth, abfractions (micro-cracks), open cavities, leaking fillings, or other dental conditions that cause sensitivity or allow penetration of the gel into the tooth may find that those conditions increase or prolong tooth sensitivity or pain after whitening treatment.

Gum/Lip/Cheek Inflammation - Whitening may cause inflammation of your gums, lips or cheek margins. This is due to inadvertent exposure of a small area of those tissues to the whitening gel or the ultraviolet light. The inflammation is usually temporary which will subside in a few days but may persist longer and may result in significant pain or discomfort, depending on the degree to which the soft tissues were exposed to the gel or ultraviolet light.

**Financial Consent Portion:**

This is just an estimate not a guarantee of payment by your insurance company. All payments are due at the time of service. In the event that your insurance pays less than the estimated portion the patient is responsible for the balance.

**Legal Fees:**

The dental company is entitled to claim legal fees and lost wages incurred for any situation where legal action against the dental company is initiated and ultimately unsuccessful.