10 TIPS FOR CHOOSING THE PERFECT INVISALIGN PROVIDER

By Dr. Pale, Dr. Gemmi, & Dr. Middleberg
Are you researching Invisalign?

Choosing the right Invisalign provider requires more than simply finding someone who provides this service.

There are many orthodontists who provide Invisalign, but there are only a small fraction that have the accreditations, the knowledge, and the training to really help you transform your smile.

If you are looking for an orthodontist that specializes in Invisalign, here are ten tips that can help you make sure you are working with someone who has the skills and experience you need.
Invisalign offers a number of commendations for providers who go above and beyond when it comes to their training.

Being part of the top 1% of preferred providers, sometimes called the Invisalign Elite, means that the orthodontists has not only passed all of the necessary Invisalign certification requirements, but has completed over 200 Invisalign cases in one year. This means they have much more experience with Invisalign that most providers.

1. Find an Invisalign Elite Top 1% preferred provider.
While there are providers who offer Invisalign who are not part of this elite class, picking an orthodontist who has undertaken the extra training and taken the extra time to really prove their commitment to learning about Invisalign ensures that you have a doctor who deeply understands the system, how it is used, and the best way to create a treatment program that will correct your bite and straighten your teeth.

Finding a top 1% preferred provider who has all of the right accreditations is usually not difficult.

If a provider has the proper accreditation and the top 1% certification, they will likely display it on their website. If you don’t see the certification posted online, you can always call their office and ask if the provider has any Invisalign certifications and the proper accreditations.

Every orthodontist has to complete some degree of continuing education in order to keep his or her license current, but you want to work with someone who is constantly looking for new information and the latest treatments for their patients.

If you find a provider who is in that top 1% of Invisalign providers, you have likely found someone who is on the cutting edge of Invisalign care and will always have the best treatment options available for you.

Invisalign is quickly growing and changing, with new and more effective features being developed all the time. It’s best to choose a provider who not only has extensive expert experience with Invisalign, but who offers it as one of their primary services.

Why is this important?

Choosing the Perfect Invisalign Provider
2. **Know what questions you need to ask.**

Asking the right questions is a big part of finding the right Invisalign provider for you.

When trying to decide who you want to work with, you should schedule appointments with a few different providers, and make sure that they first, have the right qualifications, and second, have the right treatment options for you.
Here are some of the questions you might consider asking a provider:

“What treatment would you recommend for me?”

You might have your heart set on Invisalign, but a good provider will tell you if this treatment is insufficient to totally correct the problems you want corrected. Conversely, you might think that metal braces are the only option for you, when in reality, Invisalign could work just as well for you, if not better.

“How long will my treatment take?”

It’s important to remember that treatment length varies from person to person and that all estimates are just that - estimates. How long a treatment takes will depend heavily on how compliant you are with treatment.

“What are your office hours?”

Some offices are only open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. For teenagers that have school and extracurricular activities and adults that work full time, this means leaving school or work in order to have your treatment (which isn’t always a bad thing).

Asking these questions, among others, is a good way to make sure that the provider you ultimately choose is the best one for you and your needs.
While there are orthodontists all over the country, there is nothing worse than having to travel in order to meet with your orthodontist.

Because Invisalign requires fairly regular meetings with your orthodontist, the last thing you want to do is choose a provider who is in the next state over. If making it to your appointments is inconvenient, you are more likely to cancel them, which sets your treatment time back.

3. Find someone local.
How do you find orthodontists in your local area?

The first step is to hit the internet. Most offices now have websites that make them easy to find. If you are still looking for a provider, ask around. You probably know someone who has had orthodontic treatment or knows someone who has had it, and can recommend a doctor that they like or warn you about a doctor they dislike. If you don’t know anyone who has had treatment, look for an orthodontist that displays real Invisalign patient reviews on their website. This is a great way to find a provider that excels at Invisalign treatment.
4. **Find someone who cares primarily about your health and well-being.**

The last thing you want in an orthodontist is someone who is just trying to get you in and out of their chair as quickly as possible.

Instead, you should be looking for someone who cares about helping you get the straightest smile and the healthiest mouth.

Having crooked teeth can prevent you from having a mouth that is healthy and happy. The right orthodontist for you is the one who is invested in your orthodontic issues and has the knowledge to correct them.
How can you gauge whether or not the Invisalign provider you are considering cares about you and your issues?

Pay attention to how much time they spend with you during your consultation, and how personalized the treatment options they present are. An orthodontist who wants your mouth to be the healthiest it can be will develop a treatment specifically for you.

Another great way is to read their patient’s reviews. Having a lot of positive Invisalign reviews is evidence that they care deeply about their patients and the success of their treatment.
Most orthodontic treatments are about more than just getting straight teeth.

A straight smile is usually a byproduct of sorting out other issues, including crowding, gaps, turned teeth, and beyond. These issues can make it difficult for you to easily keep your mouth clean, which eventually leads to cavities, gingivitis, gum disease, root canals, etc. The cleaner you can keep your mouth, the healthier it will be.

You need to find an orthodontist who understands this and who has all of the proper certifications. One of the most important board certifications will be from the American Board of Orthodontics (ABO).

An ABO certified orthodontist is an orthodontist who has voluntarily gone through hundreds of additional hours of preparation to demonstrate their judgment, skills and knowledge required for providing the highest level of patient care.

Achieving ABO board certification is the last step in a long and intensive educational experience to ultimately provide excellent patient care.
6. Know how to get a free consultation.

Avoid orthodontists who do not provide free consultations.

You want someone who is willing to meet with you to determine if you are a good fit before you pay any money or sign any contracts. Before making a decision about who you want to get treatment from, you should be able to meet with that person and discuss your needs.

Great orthodontists know that a free consultation helps you, the patient, find the perfect match for treatment.
If you want Invisalign, you must look for an orthodontist who doesn’t just offer Invisalign, but offers it as one of their primary services.

This is why looking for someone who is among the Invisalign Elite is extremely important. In order to obtain that recognition, they have to treat a large number of Invisalign patients every year.

Don’t be afraid to ask how many other Invisalign treatments that provider has completed and how many Invisalign patients they currently have. This will help you determine whether or not this orthodontist has the necessary experience to provide you with the best possible care.
Conventional wisdom used to be that if you didn’t get braces while you were a teenager, you had missed your opportunity to straighten your teeth.

That just isn’t the case these days.

While most people do still get their orthodontic treatment when they are a teenager, many adults still invest in these kinds of treatments.
Invisalign is an especially great option for adults. Though teenagers can also benefit from the invisible plastic aligners and the ability to remove them, many of their peers will be wearing metal braces, making traditional braces sometimes more acceptable.

Adults, on the other hand, who are believed to be beyond the age for braces, prefer the discreet nature of Invisalign.

All that said, the time you approach a doctor for treatment is really up to you.

Orthodontic treatment can benefit young teenagers and even preteens, while some prefer to wait until they are older to have their treatment. The right time for you to go or the right time for you to take your child is when you are tired of dealing with crowded or crooked teeth and are ready for a lasting fix.

Picking a provider who treats individuals at all stages is always a good idea - they have the widest knowledge and the most comprehensive treatment experience.
9. Choose an orthodontist who is affordable.

It is a common misconception that Invisalign is more expensive than traditional metal braces. While some orthodontists may charge more for Invisalign, it is possible to find a provider that prices Invisalign as closely to that of metal braces as possible.

The provider you want to work with is the one who helps you find a payment option that works for you, whether this is through taking your insurance or by creating a payment plan that makes getting Invisalign affordable.

Look for an orthodontist that offers a range of different payment options, such as providing a discount for treatment that is paid in full, accepting credit card payments, offering down payment and financing plans, or providing options that align with your insurance.
10. Know when to run for the hills.

Not every orthodontist is going to be right for every patient. How do you know if it’s time for you to run for the hills?

Your first sign will be the lack of a free consultation. Most orthodontists will require some sort of consultation, but if you have to pay for it, that is probably not a provider you want to work with.

Additionally, if they do not have the flexibility to help you find a payment plan that makes treatment affordable, it’s probably best to look for a different provider.

Lastly, if that provider does not seem to have your health and well-being as their primary concern, that is not an orthodontist you want to seek treatment from.
Because Invisalign requires a bit of time and financial investment, it’s important for you to find an orthodontist who helps you establish goals for treatment, helps you set up a unique treatment plan to reach those goals, and motivates you to stick to your treatment plan - all while making you feel 100% comfortable.

The perfect Invisalign provider will always make it easy for you to stay on track with your goals of achieving that beautiful smile!
Dr. Gemmi, Dr. Middleberg, and Dr. Pale are Invisalign Elite Top 1% providers. This means they are in the top 1% of all dentists and orthodontists in the world in the use of Invisalign and Invisalign Teen.

They are 1 of only 3 dental practices in Pennsylvania to receive this special distinction.

If you live in Philadelphia or surrounding Philadelphia suburbs and are looking for an Elite Invisalign orthodontist, contact Orthodontics Limited today to schedule your FREE consultation.

For more information, visit http://www.orthodonticslimited.com

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Dr. Pale is so grateful to be part of a profession that is a gorgeous blend of art and science. She is passionate about working one-on-one with her patients to create their ideal smile. There is nothing more exciting to Dr. Pale than the moment a patient first glances at their new smile!

Dr. Pale became interested in orthodontics after she received her first set of braces and an expander in fourth grade. Dr. Middleberg was her orthodontist! She was so fascinated by the process even after her braces were removed, that she continued to tag along to her sister’s orthodontic appointments. At the young age of sixteen, Dr. Pale started an after school job with Drs. Gemmi and Middleberg. She continued to work with them as an orthodontic assistant while attending college, until the day she left for dental school. Dr. Pale is so excited to be back with her orthodontic family!

Dr. Pale is an active member of the American Association of Orthodontists, the Greater Philadelphia Society of Orthodontists, the Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists, and the American Dental Association.
When asked what are his most important and rewarding professional activities, Dr. Gemmi answers, without hesitation, creating beautiful smiles, and teaching. Since 2000, Dr. Gemmi has been on the staff of Albert Einstein Medical Center. He enjoys passing on his knowledge of orthodontics to the many residents who have studied at Albert Einstein Medical Center. Also, each February during dental health month, Dr. Gemmi volunteers his time to the community by educating school children on the importance of proper care of their teeth and gums. He has done over 30 presentations and educated over 5,000 children!

Throughout his schooling and residency, Dr. Gemmi was the recipient of many awards including the Hinman Scholarship for Outstanding Dental Student, the Benjamin Lebby Award for Outstanding General Practice Resident and induction into the prestigious Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honorary Dental Society. His most notable accomplishment, though, was receiving the Schatz Award for Outstanding Member of the entire House Staff while a resident at Albert Einstein Medical Center.
Dr. Middleberg completed his orthodontic residency at Albert Einstein Medical Center, where he served as chief resident in his last year. Dr. Middleberg received his Doctorate in Dental Medicine from Temple University School of Dentistry and his Bachelor of Science Degree from LaSalle University. He has lectured at the University of Pennsylvania Department of Orthodontics, the Philadelphia Dental Assistants Association, and at Albert Einstein Medical Center where he is currently a faculty member.

Dr. Middleberg is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics. Board Certification is a voluntary process that provides an extensive review of the orthodontist’s clinical expertise. Certification by the Board is a unique achievement, of which only a few thousand orthodontists worldwide have attained.

Most recently, Dr. Middleberg is the Immediate Past President of the Greater Philadelphia Society of Orthodontists, and elected to the Pierre Fauchard Academy Dental Honor Society. Dr. Middleberg has also been requested to consult for various dental insurance companies, and has also served as president for his dental fraternity, Alpha Omega. Dr. Middleberg has served as Secretary, Treasurer, and President of the Eastern Dental Society. Dr. Middleberg is a governor of the Philadelphia County Dental Society.

Dr. Middleberg has been in practice since 1986 and is very active in Pennsylvania organized dentistry. Dr. Middleberg was born and raised in Northeast Philadelphia and currently resides with his wife and three children in Bucks County. Dr. Middleberg enjoys computers, skiing, biking, and many outdoor activities.

Dr. Middleberg is an active member of the American Association of Orthodontists, the Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists, The World Federation of Orthodontists, the Pennsylvania Dental Association, and the American Dental Association.