

Re: adult invisalign orthodontics in Honolulu

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.med.dentistry/2005-04/msg00311.html>

- *From:* "prospectivegeek" <y9047mt1@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 2 Apr 2005 17:29:30 -0800
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> For a full case, my impression is that \$5000 (the benchmark used by the poster as a "ripoff") is a bit on the low side of average.

Please do tell us how much it should cost. Give us a range that is flexible to the complexity of the treatment, assuming it would take 12 months for the complete treatment.

>This shows a total lack of understanding of both the cost of RUNNING an office (much less "sprucing" it up) and of the actual service the orthodontist provides.

So you mean that multiplying the profit per patient times the number of patients isn't enough for you to run your office? What do you want to run? A clinic or a microprocessor chip fabrication plant?

>I defy you to take your own impressions with PVS material.

Who told you anyone was perfect?

> If you think that Invisalign is idiot-proof, that nothing can go wrong,

Who said so?

> I'd advise you go google this newsgroup and read the several stories about how Invisalign can and has gone wrong.

Yes, I already did several times over several years. I have found numerous cases. All those treatments were conducted by reputed orthodontists educated in non-correspondence dental schools. That does not mean that a patient treating themselves would be any better or worse. And it does not mean that an orthodontist educated in a correspondence dental school would be any better or worse. Well, my

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guess is that it would be worse as the patient and the orthodontist in question would have had little practical experience. It's practice, talent and knowledge that counts. As a patient, I really don't care who treats me, as long as they have these three qualities, and they do not rip me off. That was the basis of my post. However, it looks like you saw my post as a challenge to your profession of dentistry as a whole. There's too much sentiment in your response. It wasn't meant as a challenge of any sort.

My views were a patient's analysis of the situation, after collecting a lot of information and visiting dozens of dentists in three continents that I have lived for business reasons over five years. If you really want to find the costs of these braces, go to a country other than the US, where the dentists receive their set of braces by mail from the US company. Look at their receipts. The receipts from the US company don't lie. Those are the real costs involved. Add some more money to it, to pay for other things, including the cost of shipping. Also leave some room for the orthodontist to make profit. Then you get a ballpark figure. That's how I got my numbers.

To others who have posted,
If anybody has a better way to estimate, please let everyone know the numbers and how you calculated the costs. I would certainly welcome your ideas. Just don't post short sentences ridiculing other posters. Those short messages are rhetoric, not rational or logical statements.

- *Follow-Ups:*

- ◆ **Re: adult invisalign orthodontics in Honolulu**

- ◇ *From:* Steven Bornfeld

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