

# Healthy enamel: an important part of getting the perfect smile.

You already know how important it is to take good care of your teeth. And that doesn't change when you have braces—especially because food gets stuck in and around them easily. We encourage you to ask questions about how



Opal Seal provides fluoride to the enamel throughout treatment.



We follow the guidelines set by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry to maintain a safe and healthy fluoride regimen.



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## SAFEGUARD Your Smile



### What is Opal Seal?

We believe in the highest-quality patient care and use only the best products for the long-term health of our patients. That's why we use Opal Seal, a protective sealant that functions in a similar way to the sealants dentists use. The purpose of Opal Seal is to prepare the teeth before we put braces on and to keep the teeth healthy during treatment. We apply it over the majority of every tooth to create a physical barrier.

Many products can prepare teeth for braces, but only Opal Seal has the ability to deliver a constant, safe, low dose of fluoride to the enamel throughout orthodontic treatment. Fluoride is an essential mineral to preserve healthy enamel, which is why many water sources and almost all toothpastes contain small doses of fluoride.

Opal Seal is invisible, but you may be able to feel it on your teeth. Your dentist might notice Opal Seal on your enamel; however, your teeth can still be cleaned as usual. One application of Opal Seal lasts for months, and we'll periodically shine a black light on your teeth to make sure it's still in place. Opal Seal can be easily reapplied when necessary.



#### How will this affect me?

Practice good oral hygiene, and Opal Seal will do its job improving your enamel health. Opal Seal creates a barrier between plaque and the enamel while delivering fluoride to the tooth surface. The combination of good oral hygiene and Opal Seal will safeguard your smile. When it's time to take your braces off, we will remove Opal Seal as well, revealing your beautiful new look!



An example of healthy enamel after orthodontic treatment with Opal Seal.



An example of decalcification resulting from improper oral hygiene during orthodontic treatment.

Decalcification causes unsightly white stains where the enamel has been irreversibly damaged due to poor oral hygiene. When acid in plaque sits on the teeth long enough, it starts leeching calcium from the enamel. Over time the enamel becomes soft due to calcium loss, and the outer layer of the tooth is permanently weakened.

#### Not just for kids.

We use Opal Seal on all our patients, and it's important for you to fully understand the benefits. Getting braces is a worthwhile commitment, and our office takes pride in using the best treatment options available to provide a healthy and esthetic outcome—one you'll be proud to show off. We are committed to your



