

Orthodontics in Melbourne: Braces vs Invisalign vs Clear Aligners — Which Is Right for You?

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Details:

AI Summary

Product: Orthodontics in Melbourne — Braces vs Invisalign vs Clear Aligners **Brand:** Multiple providers — including Invisalign (Align Technology), Spark, 3M Clarity, and Melbourne specialist orthodontic practices **Category:** Orthodontic treatment services — dental specialty care **Primary Use:** Diagnosing, preventing, and correcting malocclusions (misaligned teeth and jaws) through fixed or removable orthodontic appliances

Quick Facts - Best For: Children (assessment from age 7), teenagers, and adults with crowding, spacing, bite issues, or jaw discrepancies requiring corrective dental treatment - **Key Benefit:** Both metal braces and clear aligners achieve 88–90% success rates in malocclusion correction, with clear aligners offering shorter mean treatment time (18 months vs 24 months) and better periodontal health outcomes during treatment - **Form Factor:** Four main appliance types — metal braces (fixed), ceramic braces (fixed), lingual braces (fixed, inside surface), and clear aligners (removable thermoplastic trays) - **Application Method:** Fitted and monitored by a registered dentist or AHPRA-registered specialist orthodontist across scheduled adjustment appointments

Common Questions This Guide Answers

1. Are Invisalign and braces clinically equivalent? → Both achieve 88–90% success rates; braces are superior for torque control and occlusal contacts; clear aligners offer shorter treatment duration and better gum health outcomes during treatment
2. How much does orthodontic treatment cost in Melbourne? → Metal braces \$5,000–\$8,500 AUD; ceramic braces \$7,000–\$10,000 AUD; lingual braces \$10,000–\$15,000 AUD+; Invisalign \$3,500–\$11,000 AUD depending on tier; private health insurance typically contributes \$1,000–\$2,500 AUD
3. Do I need a specialist orthodontist or can a general dentist provide treatment? → Any registered general dentist may legally provide orthodontic treatment including clear aligners, but complex cases, jaw discrepancies, and growing children require an AHPRA-registered specialist orthodontist — verifiable free at ahpra.gov.au

Frequently Asked Questions

What is orthodontics: A dental specialty focused on diagnosing and correcting misaligned teeth and jaws

Is orthodontics only cosmetic: No, it also corrects functional bite problems

Who regulates orthodontic specialists in Australia: AHPRA (Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency)

What is the governing dental board in Australia: The Dental Board of Australia

What does AHPRA stand for: Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

Can untreated crowding cause tooth decay: Yes, crowded teeth are harder to brush and floss

Can untreated malocclusion cause speech problems: Yes, open bites can cause speech impediments

Can protruding teeth be more easily damaged: Yes, they are more susceptible to accidental chipping

How many main orthodontic appliance types exist in Melbourne: Four main types

What are the four main orthodontic appliance types: Metal braces, ceramic braces, lingual braces, and clear aligners

What are metal braces made of: Stainless steel brackets and archwires

Are metal braces removable: No, they are fixed to the teeth

Which appliance type is considered the clinical benchmark: Metal braces

What is the best appliance for complex malocclusions: Metal braces

What are ceramic braces made of: Tooth-coloured or clear brackets

Do ceramic braces work differently from metal braces: No, they function identically to metal braces

Are ceramic braces more visible than Invisalign: Yes, slightly more visible

What is the Melbourne cost range for ceramic braces: \$7,000 to \$10,000 AUD

Where are lingual braces bonded: On the inside (lingual) surface of the teeth

Are lingual braces visible from the front: No, they are completely invisible from the front

Are lingual braces available at all dental practices: No, primarily at specialist orthodontic practices

What is the starting cost of lingual braces in Melbourne: From \$10,000 AUD

What are clear aligners made of: Custom-fabricated removable thermoplastic trays

What is the most recognised clear aligner brand globally: Invisalign, made by Align Technology

Are there clear aligner alternatives to Invisalign in Australia: Yes, multiple brands offer comparable thermoplastic tray technology

Are clear aligners removable: Yes

How many hours per day must clear aligners be worn: 20 to 22 hours per day

What was the mean Invisalign treatment time in a 2024 study: 18 months

What was the mean traditional braces treatment time in the same 2024 study: 24 months

What success rate did both braces and Invisalign achieve in the 2024 study: 88 to 90%

Are long-term outcomes of Invisalign comparable to braces: Yes, according to five-year follow-up data

Do clear aligners control tooth torque as well as braces: No, braces are superior for torque control

Do braces produce better occlusal contacts than clear aligners: Yes, braces are superior for occlusal contact

Do clear aligners have an advantage in segmented tooth movement: Yes

Do Invisalign patients show more relapse than braces patients in some studies: Yes

Is retainer compliance critical after Invisalign: Yes, especially due to higher relapse risk

Do clear aligners improve gum health compared to fixed braces: Yes, lower gingival index scores were recorded

Why do fixed braces negatively affect gum health: They complicate oral hygiene maintenance

Is patient compliance with aligners similar to braces in the first 12 months: Yes, according to a randomised clinical trial

Does patient gender affect compliance with aligners vs braces: No

Does patient age affect compliance with aligners vs braces: No

What is the typical Melbourne cost range for metal braces: \$5,000 to \$8,500 AUD

What is the cost of Invisalign Express in Melbourne: Approximately \$3,500 to \$5,000 AUD

What is Invisalign Express designed for: Very minor alignment concerns

What is the cost of Invisalign Lite in Melbourne: Approximately \$5,000 to \$6,500 AUD

What is Invisalign Lite designed for: Mild to moderate cases

What is the cost of Invisalign Comprehensive in Melbourne: Approximately \$7,000 to \$9,000 AUD

What is the cost of a full Invisalign course in Melbourne: Generally \$7,000 to \$11,000 AUD

What does the full Invisalign cost include: Planning, digital imaging, and all adjustments

What is the typical Melbourne cost range for lingual braces: \$10,000 to \$15,000 AUD or more

Does Medicare cover orthodontics in Australia: No

Does the Child Dental Benefits Schedule cover orthodontics: No

How much does private health insurance typically contribute to orthodontic costs: Between \$1,000 and \$2,500 AUD

Does private health insurance coverage for orthodontics have a lifetime limit: Yes, check your specific policy

How many additional years of university study do specialist orthodontists complete: Three years of full-time postgraduate study

Can a general dentist legally provide orthodontic treatment in Australia: Yes

Can a general dentist legally provide clear aligner therapy: Yes

Is a general dentist the same as a specialist orthodontist: No

How can you verify a provider's specialist orthodontic status: Via the AHPRA online register at ahpra.gov.au

Does a specialist orthodontist have two AHPRA registrations: Yes, general dentist and specialist dentist

For which cases is a specialist orthodontist strongly recommended: Skeletal discrepancies, significant bite issues, complex cases

Can children under 13 benefit from specialist orthodontic assessment: Yes, it is strongly recommended

At what age does the Australian Society of Orthodontists recommend a first evaluation: By age 7

Does an early orthodontic assessment mean immediate treatment: No, it may simply monitor development

What is Phase 1 orthodontic treatment: Early intervention during the mixed dentition period, roughly ages 7 to 10

What is Phase 2 orthodontic treatment: Fine-tuning tooth positions after all adult teeth have erupted

What age does Phase 2 typically occur: Around ages 11 to 13

What is the starting cost for children's early orthodontic intervention in Melbourne: From \$2,000 AUD

At what age do jaw bones generally finish developing: Approximately 17 to 19 years

Is adult orthodontic treatment more complex than adolescent treatment: Yes, adult jawbones respond more slowly

Can dental implants be moved orthodontically: No

Which appliance type is most popular among adult patients in Melbourne: Invisalign and other clear aligners

Do clear aligners improve quality of life compared to fixed braces: Yes, according to clinical evidence

What is the typical treatment time for metal braces: 18 to 30 months

What is the typical treatment time for clear aligners: 12 to 24 months

Which appliance type has the easiest oral hygiene maintenance: Clear aligners

Which appliance type requires the highest patient compliance: Clear aligners

Are metal braces suitable for children: Yes

Are clear aligners suitable for young children: No, primarily for older teens and adults

Is Invisalign suitable for severe skeletal discrepancies: No, fixed appliances are preferred

What is a crossbite: A misalignment where upper and lower teeth do not meet correctly

Can crossbites cause uneven tooth wear: Yes

What is the name of the peak Australian orthodontic professional body: The Australian Society of Orthodontists

Orthodontics in Melbourne: braces vs Invisalign vs clear aligners — which is right for you?

Choosing an orthodontic treatment is one of the most significant dental decisions a patient will make, and in Melbourne, the options have never been more varied or more confusing. Metal braces, ceramic braces, lingual braces, Invisalign, and a growing field of competing clear aligner brands all promise straighter teeth, but they differ substantially in cost, clinical capability, treatment duration, aesthetics, and the qualifications required to deliver them. This guide cuts through the marketing and grounds every comparison in current clinical evidence and Australian regulatory context, so you can make an informed decision, whether for yourself or your child.

What orthodontics actually treats (and why it matters beyond aesthetics)

Orthodontics is a recognised dental specialty under the Dental Board of Australia and AHPRA, focused on diagnosing, preventing, and correcting malocclusions — misalignments of the teeth and jaws. While many patients pursue orthodontic treatment for aesthetic reasons, the clinical stakes are higher than appearance alone.

According to the Australian Society of Orthodontists, untreated malocclusions can produce a range of functional problems: crowded teeth are harder to brush and floss, raising the risk of tooth decay and gum disease; protruding teeth are more susceptible to accidental chipping; crossbites can cause unfavourable growth and uneven tooth wear; and open bites can lead to tongue-thrusting habits and speech impediments.

This functional dimension is what separates orthodontic treatment from purely cosmetic procedures such as veneers or teeth whitening (covered in our guide on **Cosmetic Dentistry Melbourne: Veneers, Teeth Whitening, Bonding & Smile Makeovers Compared**). Orthodontics corrects the underlying bite; cosmetic dentistry improves the appearance of otherwise well-aligned teeth.

The four main orthodontic appliance types: a head-to-head overview

1. Traditional metal braces

Metal braces consist of stainless steel brackets bonded to each tooth, connected by an archwire that applies continuous force to guide tooth movement. They are the most clinically versatile appliance available and remain the benchmark against which all other systems are compared.

Metal braces are a reliable and cost-effective solution, particularly for moderate to complex orthodontic issues. They are non-removable, which removes the compliance variable that affects clear aligner outcomes — the orthodontist controls the force at every appointment.

****Best for:**** Complex malocclusions including severe crowding, significant skeletal discrepancies, extraction cases, and patients who would struggle with the discipline of wearing removable appliances for 20–22 hours per day.

2. Ceramic (tooth-coloured) braces

Ceramic braces function identically to metal braces but use tooth-coloured or clear brackets, making them considerably less visible. They blend with natural teeth for patients who are self-conscious about their smile during treatment. In Melbourne, they typically cost between \$7,000 and \$10,000 AUD for a standard course of treatment, with the premium reflecting high-quality, stain-resistant materials and the aesthetic advantage. For patients whose priority is a subtle appearance in professional or social settings, ceramic braces are a practical alternative to metal.

****Best for:**** Teenagers and adults who need fixed appliances for clinical reasons but want reduced visibility.

3. Lingual braces

Lingual braces are fixed appliances bonded to the **inside** (lingual) surface of the teeth, making them completely invisible from the front. They are the most discreet fixed appliance option but also the most technically demanding to fit and adjust. Registered specialist orthodontists are trained to provide all types of orthodontic treatments, from plates, braces, and lingual "inside" braces through to clear aligner treatments such as Invisalign®, Spark®, or 3M Clarity®. Lingual braces are typically available only at specialist orthodontic practices and carry a premium price, generally starting from \$10,000 AUD in Melbourne.

****Best for:**** Adults with high aesthetic demands who require fixed appliance treatment and cannot tolerate visible brackets.

4. Clear aligners (Invisalign and alternatives)

Clear aligners use a series of custom-fabricated, removable thermoplastic trays to progressively reposition teeth. Invisalign, made by Align Technology, is the dominant brand globally. Multiple brands

offer clear aligners in Australia; while Invisalign® is the most recognisable, other options include clear aligner systems from various providers using comparable thermoplastic tray technology.

Aligner therapy has changed orthodontic care considerably, offering removable, transparent trays that guide teeth into position gradually. Melbourne patients have access to a range of leading clear aligner options, including Invisalign® and comparable alternatives.

Braces vs Invisalign: what does the clinical evidence actually show?

This is the question patients ask most, and the answer is genuinely nuanced.

Treatment effectiveness

A 2024 retrospective study published in the *Journal of Pharmacy and Bioallied Sciences** found the mean treatment time for Invisalign was significantly shorter (18 months) than for conventional braces (24 months), with both techniques achieving success rates of 88–90% in malocclusion correction.

A separate 2024 retrospective cohort study of 200 subjects with five-year follow-up, published in the same journal by Reddy et al., found that both traditional braces and Invisalign effectively improved dental alignment and occlusal stability over the five-year follow-up period, with patient satisfaction scores consistently higher in the Invisalign group. The study concluded that Invisalign may offer comparable or superior long-term outcomes compared to traditional braces, particularly for patients seeking aesthetic and convenient orthodontic solutions.

Fixed appliances retain a meaningful clinical advantage in specific movement types, though. A systematic review and meta-analysis by Ke et al. (2019), published in *BMC Oral Health**, found that both clear aligners and braces were effective in treating malocclusion, but clear aligners had an advantage in segmented movement of teeth and shortened treatment duration, while they were not as effective as braces in producing adequate occlusal contacts, controlling teeth torque, and retention.

A 2022 randomised controlled trial from Texas A&M; University College of Dentistry (Buschang et al., published in *The Angle Orthodontist**) found that while patients with simple malocclusions required 4.8 months longer treatment times with aligners than traditional braces, the treatment and six-month post-treatment occlusal outcomes were similar.

Stability and relapse

The Invisalign group showed more relapse than braces patients in some studies, which means post-treatment retention strategies deserve careful attention with Invisalign. Treatment should be tailored to individual patient needs, with a clear understanding of what each modality does and doesn't do well.

This makes retainer compliance after Invisalign treatment particularly critical — a point that tends to get underemphasised in direct-to-consumer marketing.

Periodontal health during treatment

One clinically meaningful advantage of removable aligners is their effect on gum health. A cross-sectional study published in *BMC Oral Health** (Miethke & Vogt, 2005; updated by Levrini et al.) found that significantly better gingival health conditions were recorded in Invisalign® patients compared to those with fixed orthodontic appliances, with lower gingival index and sulcus bleeding index scores. The evaluation also showed greater patient satisfaction in Invisalign® patients.

Fixed orthodontic appliances temporarily interfere with the periodontal health of patients because the appliance complicates oral hygiene. This is worth considering for adults with pre-existing gum health concerns (see our guide on *Specialist Dentistry in Melbourne: Periodontists, Endodontists,*

Prosthodontists, Oral Surgeons & Paediatric Dentists* for information on managing gum disease alongside orthodontic treatment).

Patient compliance

A concern often raised about clear aligners is whether patients — particularly teenagers — will actually wear them consistently. A randomised clinical trial found that patient compliance was similar in the first 12 months of treatment regardless of the protocol used, the patient's gender, or age, concluding that compliance was not influenced by the type of appliance, whether conventional fixed or aligner-based.

Side-by-side comparison table

Factor	Metal Braces	Ceramic Braces	Lingual Braces	Invisalign / Clear Aligners		---	---	---	---	---	
Visibility	High	Low–Moderate	None	Very Low		**Removability**	No	No	No	Yes	
Typical Treatment Time	18–30 months	18–30 months	18–30 months	12–24 months							
Melbourne Cost Range	\$5,000–\$8,500 AUD	\$7,000–\$10,000 AUD	\$10,000–\$15,000 AUD+	\$3,500–\$11,000 AUD		**Complex Case Suitability**	Excellent	Good	Good	Moderate–Good	
Oral Hygiene Ease	Moderate	Moderate	Difficult	Easy		**Compliance Required**	Low (fixed)	Low (fixed)	Low (fixed)	High (20–22 hrs/day)	
						Suitable for Children	Yes	Yes	Limited	Older teens primarily	

Cost ranges sourced from Melbourne specialist orthodontic practice data, 2025–2026.

Melbourne orthodontic costs: what to budget

Orthodontic treatment in Australia generally costs between \$3,000 and \$9,000 AUD, depending on the patient's age, the type of treatment chosen, and the complexity of the case.

For clear aligners specifically, costs vary by product tier:

- **Invisalign Express** (very minor alignment concerns): approximately \$3,500–\$5,000 AUD.
- **Invisalign Lite** (mild to moderate cases): approximately \$5,000–\$6,500 AUD.
- **Invisalign Comprehensive** (complex cases requiring significant movement): approximately \$7,000–\$9,000 AUD.
- For a full course of Invisalign® (usually 18 to 24 months), the cost in Melbourne is generally \$7,000 to \$11,000 AUD, including all planning, digital imaging, and adjustments.
- Advanced clear aligner alternatives using premium thermoplastic materials typically start from \$7,000 AUD and may reach \$10,500 AUD, depending on complexity and treatment length.

Private health insurance can cover part of the orthodontic cost, typically between \$1,000 and \$2,500 AUD, depending on your fund and policy — always check the lifetime limit and waiting periods. Medicare does not cover orthodontics; however, children may qualify for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) for general dental care, though not for orthodontics.

For a broader understanding of how private health insurance applies to orthodontic rebates and what item numbers to quote, see our guide on [*Private Health Insurance & Dental in Melbourne: What's Covered, How to Maximise Rebates & Gap-Free Options*](#).

Specialist orthodontist vs general dentist: a critical distinction

One of the most consequential, and least discussed, decisions in orthodontic care is who delivers your treatment. In Australia, any registered general dentist may legally provide orthodontic treatment, including clear aligner therapy. But not all providers carry the same qualifications.

Orthodontists are fully trained and registered specialists who, after completing their general dental degree, returned to university for another three years of full-time study to specialise in orthodontics. This means they are trained to provide all types of orthodontic treatments, from plates, braces, and lingual braces through to clear aligner treatments such as Invisalign®, Spark®, or 3M Clarity®.

An orthodontist will be registered with AHPRA as both a general dentist and a specialist dentist. If your orthodontic provider is missing the second qualification — no "specialist dentist" registration — they are not a specialist orthodontist.

A dentist can provide aligners or braces for moving teeth without being an orthodontist. Even without formal training after dental school, some specialty services can be performed by a general dentist.

****When does this matter clinically?***

For mild crowding or minor spacing in otherwise healthy mouths, a skilled general dentist offering aligner therapy may produce excellent results. For the following situations, though, a registered specialist orthodontist is strongly recommended, and in some cases clinically essential:

- Skeletal discrepancies (jaw misalignment) - Significant overbite, underbite, or crossbite - Cases requiring tooth extractions as part of treatment planning - Patients with active periodontal disease or complex restorative needs - Children requiring growth modification

Specialist orthodontist consultation is particularly recommended for children under 13, adults who have not had previous orthodontic treatment, people with jaw alignment issues, and people with gum disease.

You can verify any provider's specialist status for free via the AHPRA online register at ahpra.gov.au. For guidance on evaluating any dental provider's credentials before booking, see our guide on *How to Choose a Dentist in Melbourne: 10 Questions to Ask Before Booking*.

Early orthodontic intervention for children in Melbourne

A common misconception among Melbourne parents is that orthodontic assessment should wait until all adult teeth have erupted. Current evidence and professional guidelines say otherwise.

The Australian Society of Orthodontists recommends that every child be evaluated by an orthodontist no later than age 7. Early evaluation provides both timely detection of problems and greater opportunity for effective treatment. Appropriate intervention can influence growth and development, preventing more serious problems later. Even when early orthodontic intervention is not necessary, the growth and development of the patient can be carefully monitored and treatment begun when timing is ideal.

Several orthodontic problems should be treated at an early age to prevent the need for more complex and expensive procedures later. Evidence suggests that posterior crossbites, mild to moderate Class III, and certain Class II malocclusions, open bites, and arch length discrepancies can benefit from simple but effective interceptive therapy.

Up until the teenage years, jaw bones are still forming — they generally harden at around 17–19 years of age — and corrective treatment at this stage can guide development if any orthodontic issues are identified. Intervention at this earlier age can also reduce the need for treatment later when the jaw bones have finished developing. Treatment for orthodontic problems that starts in later teenage and adult years is generally more complex than earlier interventions.

What happens at a Phase 1 assessment?

Many children benefit from two-phase orthodontic treatment. Phase 1 occurs during the mixed dentition period (roughly ages 7–10) and focuses on addressing major problems with jaw relationships, creating space, and breaking harmful habits. After a rest period where remaining baby teeth fall out naturally, Phase 2 typically occurs around ages 11–13 when all adult teeth have erupted, fine-tuning tooth positions and ensuring everything fits together correctly.

An early assessment does not necessarily mean immediate treatment. In many cases, the consultation provides reassurance that development is progressing normally.

Children's early intervention may start from \$2,000 AUD. For more on what the Child Dental Benefits Schedule covers and how paediatric dental care works in Melbourne, see our guide on [*Children's Dentistry in Melbourne: First Visits, Fissure Sealants, Orthodontic Screening & the Child Dental Benefits Schedule*](#).

Adults and orthodontics: a growing trend

Fixed braces have been the conventional and effective orthodontic appliance for over a hundred years. In recent years, though, demand for aesthetic and comfortable orthodontic treatment among adults and adolescents has grown considerably.

Adult orthodontics is increasingly common in Australia, with options like Invisalign or ceramic braces popular for their subtle appearance. Adults may face slightly longer treatment times than adolescents because fully developed jawbones respond more slowly to orthodontic forces, and existing dental restorations — crowns, bridges, implants — can constrain treatment planning. Adults with implants should note that implants cannot be moved orthodontically, which must factor into treatment design (see our guide on [*Dental Implants in Melbourne: The Step-by-Step Process from Consultation to Final Crown*](#)).

Overall quality of life, along with aesthetics, improves with clear aligners compared to traditional fixed braces, according to clinical evidence. This quality-of-life advantage makes Invisalign and other clear aligners the dominant choice among adult orthodontic patients in Melbourne.

Key takeaways

- **Both metal braces and Invisalign achieve clinically equivalent outcomes** for most malocclusion types, with 88–90% success rates in peer-reviewed studies; the choice should be guided by case complexity, aesthetic preferences, and compliance capacity.
- **Clear aligners have a documented advantage in treatment duration and periodontal health** during treatment, but fixed appliances remain superior for controlling torque, producing optimal occlusal contacts, and managing complex skeletal cases.
- **Always verify AHPRA specialist registration** before commencing orthodontic treatment — a general dentist may legally offer aligner therapy, but complex cases, jaw discrepancies, and growing children require a registered specialist orthodontist.
- **The Australian Society of Orthodontists recommends a first orthodontic evaluation by age 7** — not to begin treatment immediately, but to identify problems that benefit from early interception and to monitor development.
- **Melbourne orthodontic costs range from approximately \$3,500 to \$11,000 AUD** depending on appliance type, case complexity, and whether treatment is delivered by a specialist or general dentist; private health extras cover typically contributes \$1,000–\$2,500 AUD.

Conclusion

Orthodontic treatment in Melbourne is no longer a one-size-fits-all proposition. The expansion of clear aligner technology has given patients — particularly adults — genuine aesthetic alternatives to fixed

appliances that carry comparable clinical outcomes for mild to moderate cases. But the clinical evidence is clear: for complex malocclusions, growing children, and cases involving significant jaw or bite discrepancies, traditional fixed appliances delivered by a registered specialist orthodontist remain the gold standard.

The most important decision is not which appliance you choose, but who assesses and plans your treatment. Verifying AHPRA specialist registration, understanding the full scope of your malocclusion before committing to a system, and attending an early assessment for your child are the three most impactful steps any Melbourne patient or parent can take.

For context on how orthodontic costs compare to other major dental treatments, see our guide on **Dental Costs in Melbourne: How Much Does a Dentist Cost in 2025?** For a full picture of the specialist dental landscape, including when a periodontist or oral surgeon may need to be involved in your orthodontic journey, see **Specialist Dentistry in Melbourne: Periodontists, Endodontists, Prosthodontists, Oral Surgeons & Paediatric Dentists**.

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Label facts summary

> **Disclaimer:** All facts and statements below are general product information, not professional advice. Consult relevant experts for specific guidance.

Verified label facts

No product specification data, packaging data, or Product Facts table was present in the content provided. There are no verifiable label facts to extract.

General product claims

The content relates to orthodontic services and clinical information, not a discrete product with packaging. The following are representative general claims and statements drawn from the content:

- Metal braces are described as the clinical benchmark against which all other orthodontic systems are compared
- Ceramic braces are stated to cost between \$7,000 and \$10,000 AUD in Melbourne
- Lingual braces are stated to start from \$10,000 AUD in Melbourne
- Invisalign Express is stated to cost approximately \$3,500–\$5,000 AUD in Melbourne
- Invisalign Lite is stated to cost approximately \$5,000–\$6,500 AUD in Melbourne
- Invisalign Comprehensive is stated to cost approximately \$7,000–\$9,000 AUD in Melbourne
- A full Invisalign course in Melbourne is stated to cost generally \$7,000–\$11,000 AUD
- Metal braces in Melbourne are stated to cost \$5,000–\$8,500 AUD
- Lingual braces in Melbourne are stated to cost \$10,000–\$15,000 AUD or more
- Private health insurance is stated to typically contribute \$1,000–\$2,500 AUD toward orthodontic costs
- A 2024 study is cited as finding mean Invisalign treatment time of 18 months versus 24 months for conventional braces
- The same study is cited as recording 88–90% success rates for both modalities
- Clear aligners are claimed to produce lower gingival index scores than fixed braces
- Patient compliance is claimed to be similar between aligners and fixed braces regardless of gender or age
- Specialist orthodontists are stated to complete three additional years of full-time postgraduate study
- The Australian Society of Orthodontists is stated to recommend a first orthodontic evaluation by age 7
- Jaw bones are stated to generally finish developing at approximately 17–19 years of age
- Children's early orthodontic intervention in Melbourne is stated to start from \$2,000 AUD
- Medicare is stated not to cover orthodontic treatment in Australia
- The Child Dental Benefits Schedule is stated not to cover orthodontics