



# Abu Dhabi: Transparent Utilization

One decade after adopting Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) content

## SITUATION: An evolving health system

Policy makers saw the need to scale health care delivery capacity. In fact, between 2011-2020, the capacity of Abu Dhabi delivery facilities such as hospitals, centres and clinics has expanded at a 9.7% CAGR.

Health Facility  
Capacity Growth  
2011-2020

9.7%  
CAGR

Utilization of the Emirates' health system nearly doubled in size as reflected by annual insurance claims since adopting CPT code set in 2011.

14.1  
million  
2011

28.1  
million  
2019

Utilization  
Increase in annual  
health insurance  
claims volume

99.3%

<sup>1,2</sup> SOURCE: Department of Health—Abu Dhabi Open Data dashboard

## CHALLENGES

Department of Health Abu Dhabi (DOH-AD) recognized that this growing demand for health care utilization and the need to maintain affordability raised several challenges. Importantly, they needed a medical terminology that could support their transforming health system and new mandatory health insurance program.

### Sustainability

Data to support the determination of reimbursement rates and fees that reflect market prices and local operational conditions in Abu Dhabi.

#### USES

A comprehensive code set with an objective foundation of relative weights to support the establishment of prices based on the complexity and timing of the health care services delivered across all medical specialties in Abu Dhabi.

### Standardization

A standardized code set that can support demand for greater access and the expanding need to coordinate care across the entire Abu Dhabi health system.

#### USES

A seamless flow of health data that informs patient care across an array of emerging care settings in Abu Dhabi including inpatient, outpatient and digital care.

### Transparency

Greater transparency across the health care delivery network to ensure quality monitoring and the management of system resources to efficiently improve patient outcomes in Abu Dhabi.

#### USES

Measuring quality performance data of providers and enabling analytics to more easily highlight areas of overtreatment or undertreatment throughout the health system.

### Evidence-based Medicine

A rigorously developed code set that will stay relevant and inform research and data analytics in Abu Dhabi as medical care demand rises.

#### USES

A code set that enables the monitoring and measurement of the performance of new medical innovative practices or public health responses.

## SOLUTION

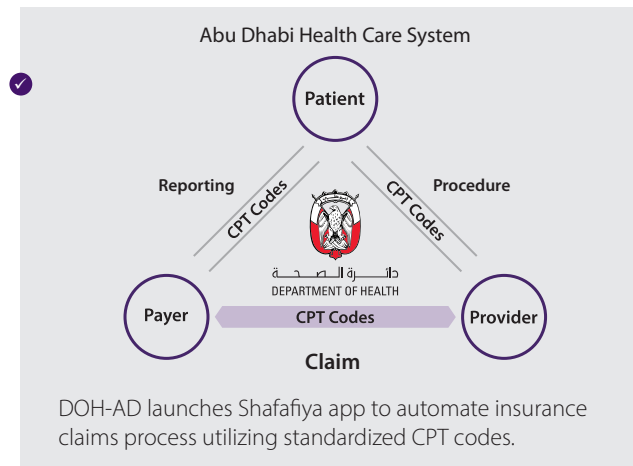
Current Procedural Terminology  
in Abu Dhabi since 2011



## RESULTS

### Sustainability

- ✓ CPT code set enables the Abu Dhabi DOH-AD to set their annual Mandated Tariff's based on the Relative Value Unit (RVU) value of CPT procedures. Abu Dhabi manages rates to sustain their health system by calculating its own RVU localization factors based on the Emirate's dynamic health system conditions. The ubiquitous use of CPT codes also supports universal health insurance coverage for the Abu Dhabi population through all approved private and public insurers.



✓ **41.9%**  
of all health care activity tracked using CPT codes by 2020

✓ **26.1%**  
increase in outpatient services  
From 2011-2020

<sup>3,4</sup> SOURCE: Department of Health—Abu Dhabi Open Data dashboard

### Standardization

- ✓ The CPT codes unlock the power of electronic medical records (EMRs) to communicate diagnostic results and procedural information in a standardized format exchanged throughout the Emirate's health system via Malaffi, a unifying health information exchange (HIE).

#### Sharing health records for more than 3 million patients

A longitudinal patient record view containing CPT codes reflecting COVID-19 testing and other clinical data enables frontline health care professionals to make timely decisions during the Emirate's COVID-19 response. The DOH-AD's digital vaccination program gained from improved communication and data sharing to achieve one of the most fully-vaccinated populations against COVID-19 in the world.



SOURCE: KHALEEJTIMES

### Transparency

- ✓ CPT codes also are reported on activity line items for inpatient, long-term diagnosis related groups (DRGs) and home care per diems for greater transparency and an increased ability to monitor over-treatment and under-treatment within the Abu Dhabi health system.
- ✓ MUASHIR, the Abu Dhabi Healthcare Quality Index, which includes the quality monitoring program called JAWDA, first launched in 2014 using CPT codes in several procedures as a tracking basis and to enable international benchmarking comparisons.



دائرة الصحة  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



مؤشر Muashir

### Evidence-based Medicine

- ✓ The Abu Dhabi health system can rely on CPT codes to keep pace with modern medicine as innovation and growth continue to transform it into the future.

## CONTACT US

Learn more about the CPT code set and how it supports the health system in Abu Dhabi by contacting the AMA, the DOH-AD or visiting our websites.

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