

Global healthcare search engine WhatClinic.com plans to double investment in the United Arab Emirates

- Aims to increase its network of clinic listings in the next 12 months by 100%
- Expansion in UAE as domestic demand for private treatments grows by 136%
- Most popular private treatments sought in UAE are within dental, plastic surgery and medical aesthetics
- Medical tourism a key sector with patients travelling from the UK, US and Saudi Arabia for treatment

Monday 5th October 2015: WhatClinic.com, a TripAdvisor style site for private healthcare, has responded to a surge in patient enquiries to clinics in the UAE (up 136% in the past year) by announcing plans to grow its network of partnered clinics in the region, specifically around dental, medical aesthetics and plastic surgery treatments. The site already lists almost 400 clinics across the UAE and has plans to more than double this number in the next 12 months.

WhatClinic.com is a private healthcare search engine which enables patients to find, compare and book treatments from over 120,000 private healthcare clinics across 135 countries worldwide. Each month, 1.5 million users visit the website to find detailed information on treatment, leave reviews and contact private clinics both at home and abroad.

The table below shows the most in-demand clinic types in UAE based on enquiries made through WhatClinic.com.

Top clinic types in UAE based on enquiries made through WhatClinic.com			
Clinic type	Number of patient enquiries made to UAE clinics in the past year	Number of patient enquiries made to UAE clinics in the previous year	Increase in enquiries
Dentists	19,722	10,739	84%

Plastic Surgery Clinics	10,030	4,323	132%
Medical Aesthetics Clinics	8,959	3,459	159%
Dermatology Clinics	5,931	1,669	255%
General Practices	5,278	2,090	153%
Hair Loss Clinics	3,314	1,293	156%
Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics	1,770	549	222%

Medical tourism patients account for 18% of all enquiries to local clinics within the UAE, with patients coming from as far away as the UK, US and Saudi Arabia. The treatments with highest demand from overseas patients are high-end dental, hair transplant and elective plastic surgery including liposuction and rhinoplasty.

Director of WhatClinic.com, Emily Ross says: *“The UAE is fast becoming an important destination for private healthcare consumers around the world. Dubai in particular is leading the way in healthcare excellence, with state of the art facilities and treatments for private patients across a range of clinic types.*

“We want all our users to have access to up-to-date, independent information about clinics in the UAE, so we are investing in growing our network of listings, particularly within the dental, plastic surgery and medical aesthetics markets. This will ensure that WhatClinic.com can offer all patients, both local and overseas, the best possible resource when they are choosing a clinic in the area.”

WhatClinic.com was founded in 2007 and has since positioned itself as the world’s number one destination for private healthcare patients, with more listings than any other online market. As more patients become empowered to make informed treatment choices, it is not surprising that private healthcare is booming.

Ross added: *“We are delighted to work closely with the best clinics that the UAE has to offer, providing an essential resource to English speaking patients from all around the region, and for those travelling from neighbouring states or overseas.”*

-Ends-

Notes to editor:

*This data is based on actual patient enquiries made to clinics in the UAE listed on WhatClinic.com, during the time range 25.09.2014 to 25.09.2015, compared to the period 25.09.2013 to 25.09.2014.

About WhatClinic.com:

WhatClinic.com is a global healthcare search engine that enables patients to find, compare and book private clinics across the globe, with unique features such as online booking and independent price checks. With detailed listings for over 120,000 private healthcare clinics across 135 countries worldwide, WhatClinic.com helps consumers make informed decisions about the treatments they want. WhatClinic.com was founded in 2007 by tech entrepreneur Caelen King and is headquartered in Dublin, Ireland. Since its launch, over 60 million people have visited the site to find, compare and book private clinics across a wide range of elective medical treatment.