Crysvita

Abu Dhabi · access guide

How to access Crysvita for X-linked hypophosphatemia or tumor-induced osteomalacia from Abu Dhabi: 2026 pathway via Abu Dhabi paediatric endocrinology, adult metabolic bone, and oncology coordination

By Reserve Meds clinical & regulatory team. Last reviewed 2026-05-20.

Abu Dhabi has the most concentrated paediatric endocrinology, genetic-disease, and adult metabolic bone infrastructure in the UAE for the management of rare bone-mineral disease. Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi runs a paediatric endocrinology service with genetic-disease programme depth and an adult endocrinology service that handles FGF23-mediated phosphate-wasting disorders; Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC) runs paediatric endocrinology and adult metabolic bone clinics; Sheikh Khalifa Medical City (SKMC) runs paediatric endocrinology with genetic-disease referral; Tawam Hospital Al Ain runs paediatric endocrinology with regional referral depth; Burjeel Medical City handles paediatric and adult endocrinology including oncology coordination for TIO cases. The Department of Health Abu Dhabi (DoH) governs Abu Dhabi-side licensing, and the UAE EDE governs imported-medicine registration at federal level. Crysvita (burosumab-twza, Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical with Kyowa Kirin as ex-US partner) is the anti-FGF23 humanized IgG1 monoclonal antibody, dosed subcutaneously every 2 to 4 weeks, that targets X-linked hypophosphatemia (XLH) and tumor-induced osteomalacia (TIO).

For an Abu Dhabi-resident child age 6 months and older with genetic or biochemical XLH, an adult with XLH continuing into adulthood, or an adult with TIO awaiting or following tumor resection, the operational question is no longer whether anti-FGF23 therapy is reachable: Abu Dhabi has the strongest in-emirate genetic-disease and paediatric endocrinology infrastructure in the UAE. The question is how the case meets prescribing criteria, how conventional therapy is discontinued, what Thiqa or commercial insurance will cover, and how the monthly phosphorus-monitoring rhythm fits into the family's life.

This page explains how the pathway works in 2026 for an Abu Dhabi-resident patient: who qualifies, where the prescribing paediatric endocrinologist or adult metabolic bone specialist conversation happens, how Crysvita is dispensed and stored, what the dose-titration rhythm looks like, what the cost band is in AED, and how the years-long treatment course fits into a UAE family's routine.

Why Crysvita, and why now

Crysvita is burosumab-twza, a humanized IgG1 monoclonal antibody that binds and neutralises fibroblast growth factor 23 (FGF23). In XLH, an inactivating mutation in the PHEX gene on the X chromosome causes circulating FGF23 to be inappropriately elevated. Excess FGF23 reduces phosphate reabsorption at the renal proximal tubule and suppresses renal 1-alpha-hydroxylase, leading to chronic phosphate wasting, low serum phosphorus, low active 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D, defective bone mineralisation, paediatric rickets, short stature, dental abscess vulnerability, and adult osteomalacia with bone pain, fractures, and enthesopathy. In TIO, a mesenchymal phosphaturic tumor secretes FGF23 ectopically and produces the same biochemical and skeletal picture in an adult.

The historic conventional therapy was lifelong high-dose oral phosphate salts combined with active vitamin D analogs (calcitriol or alfacalcidol). Conventional therapy is partially effective and does not address the underlying FGF23 excess. Crysvita addresses the upstream mechanism: serum phosphorus moves toward the lower-normal range within 4 to 8 weeks; paediatric radiographic rickets scores improve over 1 to 2 years; adult bone pain reduces over months. The FDA approved Crysvita for paediatric XLH age 1 year and older in April 2018, for adult XLH in September 2018, expanded paediatric XLH to age 6 months in March 2020, and added TIO age 2 years and older in June 2020.

Reserve Meds does not advocate Crysvita over conventional therapy in cases where conventional response is adequate. The page describes the Crysvita pathway because Crysvita is the therapy the family has asked about.

What Crysvita is, in plain language

Crysvita is a subcutaneous injection given every 2 to 4 weeks. There is no infusion centre, no inpatient stay. After a supervised first dose at the prescribing endocrinology clinic, the family may be trained for home self-injection in later cycles, although many Abu Dhabi families prefer clinic-administered dosing during titration. The vials are 10 mg, 20 mg, and 30 mg single-dose presentations; the dispensed dose is weight-based and titrated by serial phosphorus measurement. Paediatric XLH starting dose is 0.4 to 0.8 mg per kg every 2 weeks. Adult XLH dosing is 1 mg per kg every 4 weeks, capped at 90 mg. TIO dosing is weight-based every 2 weeks.

This is not a short-course therapy. XLH is a lifelong genetic condition; Crysvita is taken for as long as it controls the phosphate-wasting biochemistry. TIO patients may discontinue if and when the underlying tumor is fully localised and resected with biochemical cure.

Eligibility at an Abu Dhabi paediatric endocrinology or adult metabolic bone clinic

For Abu Dhabi-resident patients, the services apply the FDA-label and EMA-label eligibility:

1. Confirmed diagnosis. For XLH: genetic confirmation of a PHEX mutation (available through Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi genetic-disease programme and reference laboratory partnerships), OR a clinically compatible picture (low serum phosphorus, normal serum calcium, elevated alkaline phosphatase, elevated FGF23, low or low-normal 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D) with a positive family history. For TIO: an adult with acquired hypophosphatemia, elevated FGF23, oncology team coordination for tumor localisation, and a resection plan. 2. Age. Paediatric XLH age 6 months and older. Adult XLH age 18 and older. TIO age 2 and older. 3. Baseline biochemistry. Serum phosphorus, calcium, alkaline phosphatase, 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D, 25-hydroxyvitamin D, intact PTH, urine phosphate, creatinine and eGFR. 4. Discontinuation plan for conventional therapy. Oral phosphate supplements and active vitamin D analogs must be discontinued before Crysvita is started. This is essential. 5. Renal imaging baseline. Renal ultrasound to document baseline nephrocalcinosis status. 6. Hypersensitivity history review. 7. Pregnancy planning discussion for women of childbearing potential.

An Abu Dhabi family should arrive at the prescribing conversation with: paediatric endocrinology or adult metabolic bone documentation, genetic test result if available or family-history pedigree, the most recent biochemistry panel, the radiographic rickets score documentation or skeletal survey, the complete conventional therapy history, and DoH / Thiqa / insurance paperwork.

The Abu Dhabi prescribing and supply picture, plainly

Crysvita UAE EDE registration status is verified at intake. Ultragenyx commercial supply runs through regional distributors. Where in-country registration is complete, in-country pharmacy dispensing applies. Where registration has not yet caught up, the named-patient European-import pathway covers the case. The pathway is:

1. **Prescribing physician**: a board-certified paediatric endocrinologist (paediatric XLH and paediatric TIO) or adult endocrinologist with metabolic bone expertise (adult XLH and adult TIO). Abu Dhabi services include Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi paediatric and adult endocrinology with the genetic-disease programme, SSMC paediatric and adult endocrinology, SKMC paediatric endocrinology, Tawam Hospital paediatric endocrinology, and Burjeel Medical City. For TIO cases, oncology team coordination at Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, Burjeel Medical City, or Tawam for tumor localisation and resection planning is required. 2. **Pharmacy dispensing**: hospital pharmacy with cold-chain refrigeration. Crysvita must be stored at 2 to 8 degrees Celsius; do not freeze; protect from light. 3. **Insurance preauthorisation**: Thiqa coverage for Emirati nationals has historically extended to rare-disease therapy on a case-by-case basis with confirmed-diagnosis documentation. Daman and the major commercial insurers (Oman Insurance, AXA Gulf, MetLife, Cigna, others) require documentation of diagnosis and prescribing physician rationale. 4. **Conventional therapy discontinuation**: the most important operational gate. The prescribing endocrinologist sequences discontinuation of oral phosphate supplements and active vitamin D analogs in the days before the first Crysvita dose. Phosphorus and calcium are monitored at baseline, week 2, and serially thereafter. 5. **Self-injection or clinic injection training**: typically a supervised first dose, then a training session if the family elects home administration. 6. **Ongoing monitoring**: serum phosphorus, calcium, alkaline phosphatase, 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D, PTH at week 2, week 4, then monthly during titration, then every 3 months during maintenance. Renal ultrasound annually. Paediatric height and rickets-score reassessment every 6 months.

Cost band

US WAC pricing is weight-dependent. Paediatric XLH annual band approximately USD 165,000 to 250,000. Adult XLH at 1 mg/kg every 4 weeks (typical dose 70 to 90 mg per cycle) approximately USD 240,000 to 340,000. TIO follows adult XLH range. At 2026 indicative cross rates, the AED-equivalent annual band is approximately AED 606,000 to 918,000 paediatric XLH and AED 882,000 to 1.25 million adult XLH and TIO. Thiqa coverage for Emirati nationals reduces out-of-pocket exposure substantially.

What to expect on Crysvita

Serum phosphorus moves toward the lower end of the age-appropriate normal range within 4 to 8 weeks. In paediatric XLH patients, the radiographic rickets score improves over 1 to 2 years, height velocity improves over the first 12 months, and bowing of the lower extremities slowly remodels. In adult XLH patients, bone pain reduces over months, stiffness improves, and stress-fracture healing accelerates. In TIO patients, biochemical correction precedes definitive surgical tumor resection if resection is delayed, and serves as a bridge.

Most common adverse events: injection-site reactions, headache, restless legs symptoms, dizziness, rarely hypersensitivity. Hyperphosphatemia is possible if conventional therapy is not properly discontinued or if dose titration overshoots; serial phosphorus monitoring is the central operational discipline.

When Crysvita is the wrong drug

Crysvita is the wrong drug for hypophosphatemia that is not FGF23-mediated (nutritional, refeeding, dialysis-related, Fanconi syndrome, autosomal dominant hypophosphatemic rickets without confirmed FGF23 elevation). It is the wrong drug in severe renal impairment with elevated baseline serum phosphorus, in familial-tumoral-calcinosis-like states, and where the family cannot reliably attend the monthly phosphorus-monitoring visits. For TIO, definitive surgical resection of the localised tumor remains the preferred curative pathway.

What Reserve Meds does on this case

We are a US-based concierge coordinator. We are not the prescriber and not the dispensing pharmacy. On an Abu Dhabi Crysvita case we build the documentation pack with the treating paediatric endocrinologist or adult metabolic bone specialist office, confirm UAE EDE registration status and the appropriate dispensing pathway, run the Thiqa or insurance preauthorisation conversation, coordinate the cold-chain supply logistics, organise the conventional-therapy discontinuation sequencing, and stay with the case through the first year of titrated dosing. Clinical decisions remain with your treating endocrinologist or metabolic bone team.

Reserve Meds's role

US-based concierge coordinator for cross-border specialty medicine. We are not the prescriber, not the dispensing pharmacy, and not the manufacturer. All clinical decisions remain with your treating physician.

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Composite case examples. This document is for general information only and does not constitute medical advice. Please consult your treating physician.
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