



KIDSNET's HTTPS Security Certificate is being upgraded on January 3, 2017

What is changing?

HTTPS certificates are reflected in the browser's URL bar to indicate a secure connection while accessing secure websites, including KIDSNET.

Because the industry has shifted to use more complex algorithms for HTTPS certificates, KIDSNET will be replacing its current HTTPS certificate for kidsnet.health.ri.gov, signed with the SHA-1 hash algorithm, with a new certificate signed with the SHA-256 hash algorithm.

KIDSNET has no choice in this matter; certificate vendors have stopped issuing SHA-1 certificates and all secure websites on the Internet have made or are in the process of making this transition.

What action do KIDSNET users and data sharing partners need to take?

In order for users to continue to have access to KIDSNET, users and data sharing partners need to ensure their Operating Systems, browsers, and server client software are capable of accepting HTTPS certificates with the SHA-256 hash algorithm.

End users using desktop or mobile web browsers

Modern web browsers all support SHA-256 certificates. Users who are running up-to-date versions of Chrome, Firefox, or Safari; as well as Internet Explorer version 7 or higher, will be unaffected. Users who are running Internet Explorer version 6 will be unaffected as long as they are on an SHA-256 compatible operating system such as Windows XP SP 3. Because many secure websites have already migrated, it is unlikely that an end-user with a non-SHA-256-compatible browser could successfully browse the Internet at this point in time.

Data sharing partners such as HL7 senders

Data sharing partners will need to ensure that their HTTPS client software supports SHA-256 certificates. To verify compatibility, there are numerous testing sites and resources on the Internet.

Java clients in particular should pay attention to the Java version being used, because older versions of Java do not support SHA-256.

- Java version earlier than 1.4.2: Not supported. Please upgrade to a newer version.
- Java version 1.4.2 to 1.4.2_19: Not supported, but BouncyCastle's crypto-provider library can be added to provide compatibility.
- Java version 1.50 and higher: Compatible

When will the new certificate be implemented?

KIDSNET plans to implement the new certificate on January 3, 2017.

What do I do if I encounter problems accessing KIDSNET on or after January 3, 2017?

End users should upgrade to a modern browser, or talk to their IT department.

Data sharing partners should ensure that their client software is compatible with SHA-256 certificates and make the necessary changes to the software.