

Obtaining identity from a production or test NASH certificate

Question 1

What identity information contained in a production or test NASH certificate should I use when validating a signature?

As part of receiving and processing clinical documents that conform to NEHTA document specifications (e.g. eDischarge Summary P2P Delivery Technical Service Specification v1.3), organisations are required to validate that the identity of the organisation contained in the signing certificate matches the organisational identity contained in the document metadata.

The NASH PKI Certificate for Healthcare Provider Organisations (NASH certificate) contains two fields that provide identity information, including the organisation identity: 'Subject' and 'Subject Alternate Names'. Only the Subject field is valid for use in production or test certificates for organisation identity.

The two fields are shown in the tables below (extracted from the NASH certificate profile, *Commonwealth Department of Human Services Community of Interest Certificate Policy for the National Authentication Service for Health PKI Certificate for Healthcare Provider Organisations v 2.0*, available from <http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/provider/vendors/pki/policy.jsp>)

Table 1

1.6. Subject		
1.6.1. Domain Component (dc)	au	M
1.6.2. Domain Component (dc)	net	M
1.6.3. Domain Component (dc)	electronichealth	M
1.6.4. Domain Component (dc)	id	M
1.6.5. Domain Component (dc)	<Healthcare Identifier of Organisation>	M
1.6.6. Organisation (o)	<Organisation Name>	M
1.6.7. Common Name (cn)	general.<Healthcare Identifier of Organisation>.id.electronichealth.net.au	M

Table 2

2.6. Subject Alternate Names	
2.6.1. rfc822Name	not present
2.6.2. Uniform Resource Identifier	URI for the Healthcare Identifier of Organisation http://ns.electronichealth.net.au/id/hi/ <Organisation Type>/1.0/ <Healthcare Identifier of Organisation> The process for populating this attribute is as per current arrangement with DHS. It will either be populated by the user using WebRAO or via a field in the batch file.

For NASH production and test certificates, use the Healthcare Provider Identifier – Organisation (HPI-O) value as the appropriate identity for the organisation. This identifier can be obtained from either:

- the Common Name (cn) subfield in the Subject field (Table 1):
general.<**Healthcare Identifier of Organisation**>.id.electronichealth.net.au
- or
- the fifth Domain Component (dc) subfield:
<**Healthcare Identifier of Organisation**>

Of these two locations, the Common Name (cn) is recommended. Do not obtain the HPI-O from the Subject Alternative Name field (Table 2), as this field may be removed in future.

Some vendors may have accessed and used test NASH certificates issued before June 2012, which are no longer supported. These certificates contained a different representation of the Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) shown in Table 2, which vendors may have used for identity validation.

For clarity, please note that all NEHTA specifications that require the HPI-O to be encoded as a Qualified Identifier (e.g. eDischarge Summary P2P Delivery Technical Service Specification v1.3) use the following format:

<http://ns.electronichealth.net.au/id/hi/hpio/1.0/<Healthcare Identifier of Organisation>>

Therefore, once extracted, to create a Qualified Identifier for the HPI-O, prefix <Healthcare Identifier of Organisation> with: <http://ns.electronichealth.net.au/id/hi/hpio/1.0/>

Question 2

What will be the impact on the CCA status of any SMD product that was tested with code that used the URI in the test NASH certificates issued before June 2012?

Re-accreditation of CCA may be required. Please contact NEHTA for further information (call 1300 901 001 or email servicedesk@nehta.gov.au).

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Contact for enquiries

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