

Logical and Security testing

Endpoint: /client_registration

► #1 SQL Injection Vulnerability

Issue: The query string in the following line directly concatenates user input without sanitization:

```
q = 'select userName from users where email = "' + email + "'"
```

Risk: Allows attackers to inject malicious SQL code, potentially exposing or altering the database.

Risk Score: 10/10 (Critical)

Suggested Mitigation: Use parameterised queries for all database operations

► #2 Cleartext Password Storage

Issue: The password is stored directly in the database without encryption

```
dbCursor.execute("INSERT INTO users (fullName, userName,  
    email, password, phone, privillage) VALUES  
    (?, ?, ?, ?, ?, ?)",...)
```

Risk: If the database is compromised, all passwords are exposed in plaintext

Risk Score: 9/10 (Critical)

Suggested Mitigation: Use secure hashing algorithm to store passwords

► #3 Lack of HTTPS Enforcement

Issue: The code does not check if the request is made over HTTPS

Risk: User data, including passwords, could be intercepted in transit

Risk Score: 9/10 (Critical)

Suggested Mitigation: Force HTTPS (eg: use library like Flask-Talisman)

► #4 No Rate Limiting

Issue: The endpoint has no mechanism to limit the number of requests from a client

Risk: Makes the application vulnerable to brute force and denial-of-service attacks

Risk Score: 8/10 (High)

Suggested Mitigation: Use rate-limiting middleware (eg: use library like flask-limiter)

► #5 Error Disclosure

Issue: The message returned for duplicate email is predictable:

```
return {'msg': 'Email already Exist'}
```

Risk: Exposes sensitive information (e.g., valid emails in the system) to attackers during enumeration attempts

Risk Score: 7/10 (High)

Suggested Mitigation: Return generic error messages to prevent information disclosure

► #6 Hardcoded Privilege Value

Issue: Privilege is hardcoded as 2 without validation or flexibility

```
dbCursor.execute("...", (fullName, userName, email, password, phone, 2))
```

Risk: May allow unintended privilege escalation if the default privilege level changes in the system and may give sensitive operations access to unauthorised users

Risk Score: 6/10 (Moderate)

Suggested Mitigation: Dynamically determine or validate the privilege level instead of hardcoding it

► #7 Lack of Input Validation

Issue: No validation of the input fields beyond checking if they are empty.

Examples:

- `email` format is not validated
- `password` strength (length, special characters, etc.) is not checked.
- `phone` format is not validated.

Risk: Increases the likelihood of invalid or malicious data being stored in the database.

Risk Score: 6/10 (Moderate)

Suggested Mitigation: Use a library like `cerberus` or `marshmallow` for input validation

Examples:

- Validate email with a regex or dedicated library
- Ensure passwords meet strength requirements
- Validate phone numbers with a format check

► #8 Email Uniqueness Check Logic

Issue: The check for email uniqueness uses a raw query and fetches all rows:

```
dbData = dbCursor.execute(q).fetchall()  
if len(dbData) > 0:
```

Risk: Inefficient for large datasets and prone to performance issues.

Risk Score: 5/10 (Medium)

Suggested Mitigation: Add a `UNIQUE` constraint to the `email` column in the database for efficiency and integrity instead of querying all

► #9 Missing DB Error handling

Issue: The function does not handle potential failures/exceptions that may arise during database operations (eg: connections error, execution errors)

Risk: If db error occurs, it may cause server crash or return unhandled exception which can lead to poor user experience

Risk Score: 4/10 (Low)

Suggested Mitigation: Implement `try-except` blocks around database operations to handle exceptions gracefully and provide meaningful error messages to the client