IHE Work Item Proposal (Short)

# Proposed Work Item: IUA.b

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Version: 0.1

Domain: ITI

# The Problem

Since its initial publication in 2015, IUA started out with a few incompatibilities with base standards. Additionally, since then, OAuth 2.0 and related authentication frameworks (OpenID Connect, SMARTonFHIR) have matured. IUA still fills a void within these specifications and thus deserves an update. This work item replaces the following CPs that have been opened over the years:

* CP-ITI-907 - IUA Maintenance and alignment with FHIR initiatives
* CP-ITI-1166 - IUA - update to token specification
* CP-ITI-1149 - IUA - improve JWT token extension claim names

17 companies have tested IUA over the years at Connectathons. Many of the vendors have experienced the issues recorded in the CPs during testing. Besides these issues, each of these vendors will run into additional integration issues when they need to connect to HL7 FHIR SMART enabled systems. Conversly, IHE unaware SMARTonFHIR enabled clients can not integrate with MHD enabled HIEs. These integration issues are causing delays in project delivery and result in higher costs due to the need for custom integration software. This impact is even expected to grow with the rise of popularity of REST based interaction.

# Key Use Case

Same as for IUA; citing from IUA Vol 1: “the IUA Profile adds authorization information to HTTP RESTful transactions. The IUA actors and behavior will be added to other profiles and transactions that need authorization.”

# Standards & Systems

Same as for IUA with some updates. Probably the new IUA profile will be more explicitly based on OpenID Connect.

# Discussion

IHE developed the original IUA Profile. Action is needed: it either has to be updated or withdrawn.