Installation on http://www.predict.nhs.uk/

Installing the web content

The Document root on this server is at /var/www/html. This should contain everything you need and can be copied to your own document root. Copy the contents of this directory to your own document root.

Installing redirects

On this server, the necessary redirects are in /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/000-default.conf. Here's what they look like:

It may be possible to run these from a .htaccess file, but in that case you will need the server to have something like an AllowOverride settings.

Why these redirects are necessary

The predict_v2.1 directory contains a single page app located at /predict_v2.1/index.html. This has its own javascript routing engine which echoes 'clean' URLs like /predict_v2.1/about/overview/howpredictworks to the address bar for the page views within the app.

If a user copies or bookmarks this URL and enters it into a browser, she would expect that same view to load. To do so, the URL must be redirected by the server to /predict_v2.1/index.html. This happens in the last two Rewrite lines.

During development we run the site with hash-fragment URLs rather than clean URLs, and we do not redirect. The page above would show /predict_v2.1#/about/overview/howpredictworks in the address bar, and so js, css, and image assets are accessed using URLs acting relative to the base /predict_v2.1 directory.

On the production server, these relative URLs must now work with clean URLs, so we need to map URLs like /predict_v2.1/about/overview/howpredictworks/js to /predict_v2.1/js. The first three redirects do this.

Why Clean URLs?

We use clean URLs mostly because using hash-fragments for routing purposes would make screen readers more difficult to understand. Also, Google Analytics indexes can then index the single page app in the same way as it indexes standard html pages.

We are separately generating more detailed analytics for the SPA using MixPanel.

Post installation checks

- 1. Check the site looks like staging.wintoncentre.uk.
- 2. Check /predict v2.1 looks like staging.wintoncentre.uk/predict v2.1
- 3. Check /predict_v2.1/tools is working and generating results when all inputs have been filled in.
- 4. Check the URLs that appear in the address bar while running /predict_v2.1 can also be entered in the address bar and that they then take you to the expected page view.
- 5. Check that Google analytics are correct and working in all root HTML files (including /predict_v2.1/index.html). We haven't checked this since we have not been running at the coorect www.predct.nhs.uk URL during development.