Dynamic Analysis of Medical Android Apps

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Problem Statement

- Analyse SSL implementation of Medical Apps
- Ideal SSL implementation in apps is divided into two parts –
- 1. Certificate Validation
 - While connecting to the server, App checks if server certificate is signed by a trusted certificate authority
- 2. Host name Verification
 - App checks if certificate presented by the server is having server's name in subjectAltName field of type dnsName. Common Name is deprecated.

Methodology

• Setup a MiTM proxy server – Telerik Fiddler

Send data packets from app to the proxy.

• Check Certificate Validation, Host Name Verification and Certificate Pinning individually.

Check Certificate Validation — correct Hostname, wrong Root CA

No Fiddler root is installed as a trusted root CA in the phone as we will be verifying –

✓ Is the app checking if server's certificate is signed by a trusted root CA.

• Fiddler will be sending the **fake server certificate with Correct Hostname** i.e. hostname of the actual server.

Check if we can log in the app.

Check Host name verification — correct CA, wrong hostname

• Fiddler root is installed as a trusted root CA in the phone

- Fiddler will be sending the server certificate with Fake Hostname as we want to check —
 - ✓ Is app explicitly checking the hostname of the certificate or it is letting it pass by just checking that its signed by a trusted CA.

Check if we can log in the app.

Check Certificate Pinning— correct CA, correct hostname (BOTH FAKE in a way)

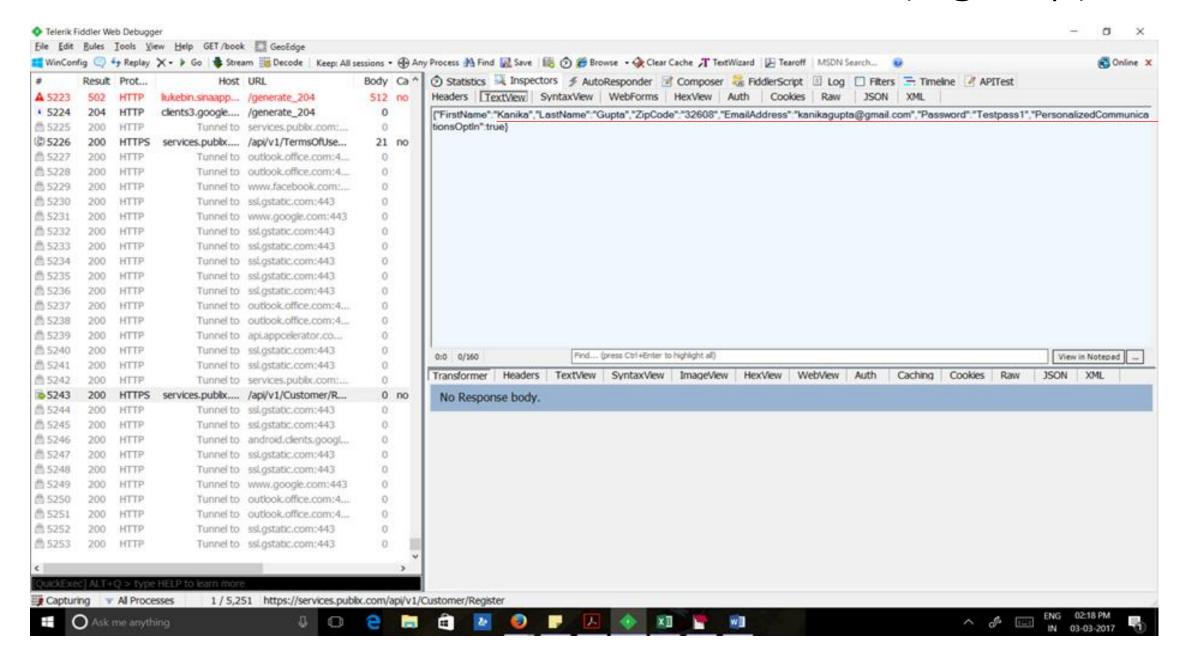
• Fiddler root is installed as a trusted root CA in the phone

Fiddler will be sending the server certificate with correct Hostname

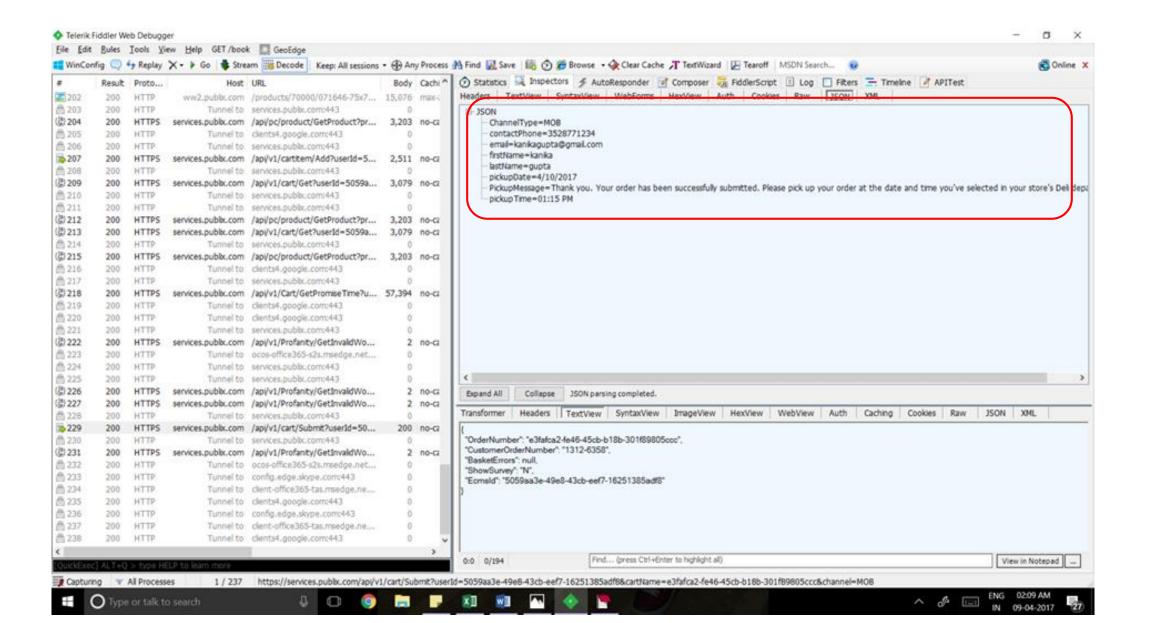
We want to check if we can give illegitimate certificate [signed by self-signed proxy] generated by an illegitimate server to the app and whether app accepts it or not.

Check if we can log in the app.

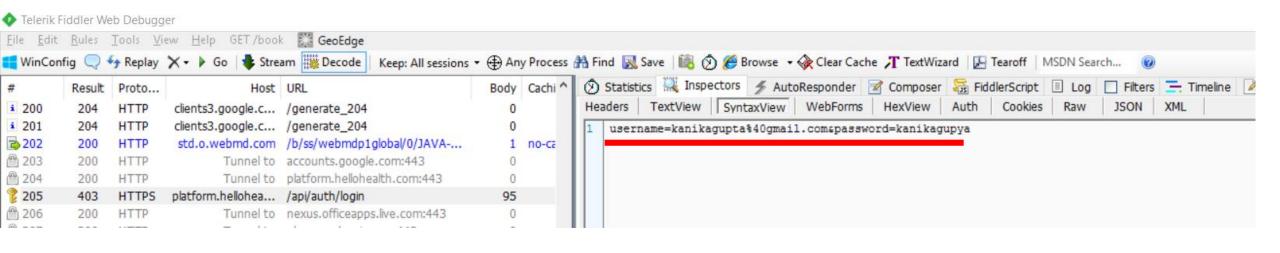
Publix - No root Installed, Bad Hostname (Sign Up)



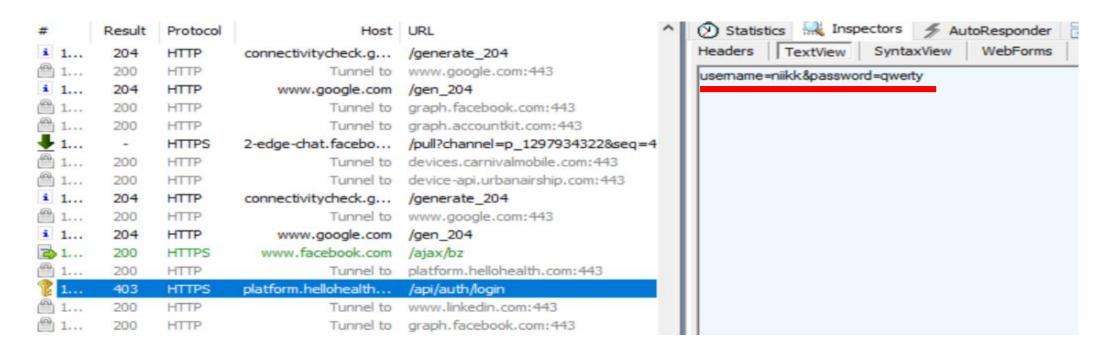
Publix — Order placed online, No certificate validation, No Hostname Verification



PortalConnect — Bad Hostname Verification

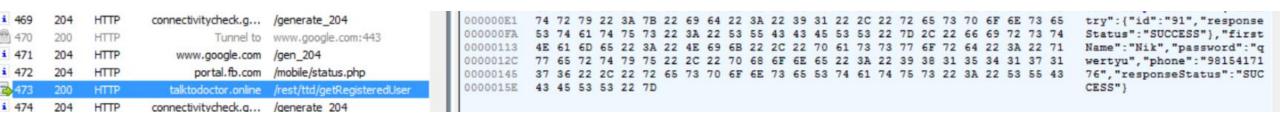






Certificate Validation Broken – some examples

TalkToDoctor



UpToDate



HeyDoc



Results

- Total Android Apps Tested 229
- Certificate Validation Broken 8
- Host name Verification Broken 8
- Certificate Pinning 20(Yes), 100(No)
- No HTTPS 12
- All Information Remains on the Phone, No internet Usage 73

Doubt

 There are 68 apps which show No SSL renegotiation in the following scenario –

- 1. Make SSL connection once, either by just starting the app or by trying to log in the app once using Fiddler's root and Correct Hostname.
- 2. Again, try to login but just before clicking the Login button, give fake hostname or delete the root or both.
- 3. Username and password given is visible in this case since SSL connection is already made and app is using the session.
- Can this be considered has Bad SSL Implementation scenario? There are 36 apps which re-negotiate the SSL for each Login request.