

Research Organization Protects Clinical Trial Data with GeoTrust SSL Certificates

Krakow Cardiovascular Research Institute (KCRI) is a contract research organization that specializes in heart-related clinical trials. Founded in 2004 by a team of university-affiliated physicians, nurses, and technicians, KCRI provides clinical trial design and management, data analysis and management, as well as core laboratories for ECG, angiography, and other imaging modalities. KCRI is located in Krakow, Poland, and serves clients across Europe, Israel, and the United States.

Challenge: Secure Highly Sensitive Patient Data Collected During Clinical Trials

KCRI operates an industry-standard laboratory facility capable of handling clinical trials of almost any size from start to finish. To help its staff manage trials effectively, KCRI relies on advanced technology solutions, including an electronic data capture (EDC) system. "With the EDC, our investigators and data managers can record vital information without writing anything down. It makes the entire process much faster," says Wojciech Zasada, M.D., Medical Director at KCRI.

As Zasada points out, making sure that confidential patient data is secure is one of the organization's top concerns. "Human medical research is conducted under strict regulations and must meet rigorous ethical standards," he says. "In practice, that means we subject all of our procedures and protocols for safeguarding patient information to the highest scrutiny possible."

Given its commitment to patient safety, KCRI needed strong, reliable security to both protect its EDC system and enable the organization to comply with international standards for clinical data security. Zasada began to look for an SSL solution from a credible provider that is well known around the world.

Solution: A Solid Track Record for Strong Security Recognized Worldwide

At the outset of his search, KCRI was using SSL from a reputable vendor, but Zasada wanted a less expensive alternative. After exploring his options, he selected GeoTrust. "There are only a handful of SSL providers that I consider credible, and GeoTrust is the clear stand out," he says. "Considering that GeoTrust offers strong security that is also much more affordable than other SSL vendors, it was an easy choice."

For Zasada, finding an SSL solution that would help KCRI meet strict compliance requirements was also a key factor in his decision. "GeoTrust SSL has a solid track record and its reputation is well-established," he says. "If our security practices come under review, we can point to our GeoTrust SSL certificate and it answers those questions for us."

Solution Summary:

Krakow Cardiovascular Research Institute (KCRI) conducts highly specialized medical research that is governed by strict compliance requirements. Because securing patient data is a vital part of those standards, KCRI needed a credible SSL certificate provider with a strong track record of keeping data safe. After turning to GeoTrust for its SSL security, KCRI has been able to protect patient information while lowering costs.

Industry: Healthcare

Key Challenges:

- Secure electronic data capture system (EDC) to protect patient information
- Meet strict international compliance standards for human medical research
- Find an inexpensive alternative for SSL security

Solution: GeoTrust® True BusinessID Wildcard

To give KCRI data collection teams maximum flexibility, Zasada opted for GeoTrust True BusinessID Wildcard SSL certificates. "With wildcard certificates, we can set up subdomains for each particular trial," he says. "That makes it easier for our technicians to collect patient data and organize it more effectively."

Results: Safeguarding Patients While Lowering Cost of Security

After switching to SSL certificates from GeoTrust, KCRI has been able to protect patient data while substantially lowering the cost of its SSL security. KCRI has also been able to meet rigorous compliance requirements, a fact that gives Zasada and his team peace of mind. "Our business depends on our upstanding reputation, and security is a critical part of that," says Zasada. "With GeoTrust, there's no question that our patient data is secure. That means we can focus on our core mission, which is to give our clients exceptional clinical trial management services."

Future: Continuing to Rely on GeoTrust for Strong Protection

Based on the quality and reliability of GeoTrust SSL, Zasada says he plans to continue working with GeoTrust for many years to come: "GeoTrust SSL is easy to manage and meets all of our security requirements. In my view, there's no reason to spend time even considering any other providers."

About GeoTrust

The internet's one million most-visited domains rely on GeoTrust SSL more than any other certificate authority.* GeoTrust is the largest low-cost SSL brand solely focused on security. With GeoTrust, you get inexpensive SSL without sacrificing convenience, choice or reliability. We're a trusted security partner with a proven track record for reliability, quality and convenience.

Results:

- Significantly lowered cost of SSL security
- Enables organization to create subdomains for each clinical trial, improving data collection
- Gives staff peace of mind that patient data is secure at all times

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—Wojciech Zasada, M.D.,
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*August 18, 2011: Netcraft Alexa index shows more of the top one million most visited web domains use GeoTrust.