



A Trustworthy and Reliable User Authenticated Key Agreement Scheme for the Hierarchical Multi-medical Server Environment in the TMIS

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***Abstract*—The telecare medicine information system (TMIS), which consists of a sensor, medical server, and physician servers to sense human biological readings and monitor the health condition of the patients, has been developed as a result of the rapid advancement of pervasive computing, nanotechnology, and wearable systems. This has allowed for the development of low-power internet-based systems that eliminate distance-related complications. Patient authentication, data integrity, and data privacy are essential requirements due to the association of sensitive patient data and its transmission across an unsecure and public communication channel. Many researchers have put forward different user authentication and safe data transfer via TMIS techniques in this area. A three-factor user authentication and key agreement mechanism for TMIS was recently presented by A.K. Das et al. They said that the proposed protocol is effective, secure, and lightweight. We assess their plan's defense against well-known cryptographic assaults. Even while the A.K.Das et al. method is resistant to significant cryptographic attacks, our in-depth examination shows that it has security flaws, including the inability to withstand replay attacks, known session-specific temporary information attacks, and stolen-verifier attacks.**

Keywords- Telecare medicine information systems, Authentication, Biometrics, Smart cards, Healthcare, Privacy, Key agreement, Multi-medical servers.

I. INTRODUCTION

The rapid development of networking, radio frequency identification (RFID), and communication technologies led to the evolution of the mobile health-care paradigm, in which low-power sensors fixed



to the human body collect information about the body's motion and physical state and communicate over networked systems, such as Telecare Medicine Information Systems (TMIS) or Wireless medical sensor networks (WMSNs) [1, 2, 3, 4–10, 20–21]. Patients may remotely access health-related information using TMIS. Additionally, it offers a platform for communication between patients at home and medical staff at the clinic via a public channel. Due to its significant advantages over wired BANs, such as lower administrative costs, instant quality of healthcare, accurate record keeping, efficient continuation and preventative treatment, improved patient comfort, etc., TMIS have attracted a lot of interest in recent years. [2,11-30].

The implanted sensors in TMIS are dispersed throughout the body of the patient, regardless of the patient's or doctor's location, and each of the distributed sensor nodes is capable of gathering the patient's vital statistics, including heart rate, blood pressure, glucose level, respiration rate, and electrocardiogram, among others [3,18]. The patient can send these health-related data and communicate with the doctor via video chat. Any wireless transmission device that employs radio waves for communication, such as Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, etc., may be used by the doctor or laboratory, among others, to log into WMSN.

However, since TMIS uses radio waves to transmit patient physiological data in a public setting (the internet), an attacker may eavesdrop on, alter, or redirect the medical data from the open channel. Serious privacy and security problems could result from this, including user impersonation attacks, medical server spoofing attacks, and the modification of exchanged sensitive patient medical information. These problems could be very expensive for both patients and healthcare professionals [1,2,11-14,18-21].

As a result, the TMIS must preserve patient identification and privacy. Because patients may have isolated illnesses like leprosy, HIV, etc., patient confidentiality is another essential necessity of TMIS [1,2,3,13,15,19,20,17]. Therefore, TMIS needs a secure authentication system so that authorized users may receive medical services with confidence and security..

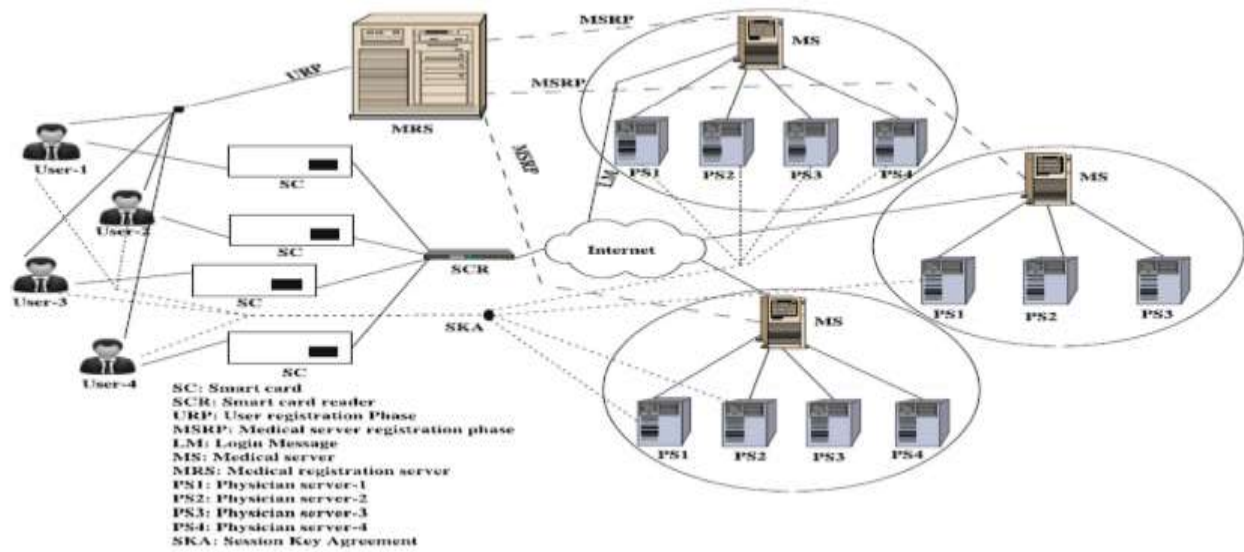


Fig. 1. Architecture for accessing multi-medical server system in Amin et al scheme (Source: [1])

Architecture of TMIS and its benefits in healthcare Services:

Fig. 1 shows the TMIS's architectural layout. The user authentication process using TMIS involves four communicating entities, which are listed below:

1. Patient / User: A registered user who is receiving therapy while being monitored in real time by a medical expert using distributed medical sensors (MS).
2. Medical personnel that closely monitor and observe patient physiological data using TMIS include doctors, nurses, and lab workers.
3. MRS: A resource-intensive master node that serves as the user, MS, and PS registration authority and serves as a conduit between the user and the medical server.
4. MS: The physical servers' controlling authority is the medical server. Through a medical server MS_j, the PS_k offers services on demand to the approved registered users/patients P_i.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

A few authentication methods that have been suggested to protect healthcare sensor networks are summarized in this section. To improve the security and data integrity of Telecare medical information systems, several researchers [1-31] have put forward authentication approaches throughout the years.



The researchers use a variety of techniques, including the cryptographic one-way hash function[1], ECC-RSA cryptosystem[3,6,12], chaotic maps[2], and light weight cryptographic operations like XOR, concatenate[12], among others, to build an authentication protocol.

Wu et al. [1] suggested an authentication technique for TMIS in 2012 and claimed that it was resistant to all significant cryptographic attacks since it was based on the difficulty of solving the Discrete Logarithm Problem (DLP). Wu et al's approach fails to achieve user anonymity, according to He et al's [8] thorough review of their cryptanalysis of Wu et al's [1] scheme. Additionally, He et al. [8] confirmed that Wu et al's system [1] is susceptible to insider attacks and user impersonation assaults. The session key in the authentication and key agreement technique Lee et al.[9] developed for TMIS is based on chaotic maps. The chaotic map-based remote user authentication approach for TMIS was recently suggested by Jiang et al [10]. Their approach benefits from minimal costs and Chaos theory-based session key agreement. Jiang et al [10] 's method was examined by Mishra et al. [11], who found that it was vulnerable to denial-of-service attacks and had security issues during the password changing phase.

Amin et al [12] introduced a unique multi-medical servers architecture and secure user authentication using key agreement protocol for TMIS in order to enable access to many medical servers with a single registration. Through the utilization of physician servers, Amin et al [12] 's architecture makes safe user authentication and key agreement protocol possible. The Amin et al. [12] scheme was recently shown to be vulnerable to replay attack, privileged-insider attack, session key disclosure attack, fails to provide patient untraceability, and fails to provide backward secrecy. Ravanbakhsh et al. proposed an effective remote mutual authentication scheme on ECC and Fuzzy Extractor. Li et al. [17] developed a new anonymity-based privacy-preserving data collection (PPDC) technique for healthcare services as well as a (a,k)-anonymity model based privacy protection strategy for data gathering using IoT devices connected to patient bodies. On the client-side, Li et al [17] construct anonymous tuples that can withstand potential attacks using the (a,k)-anonymity idea, and on the server-side, they lowered the communication cost using generalization technology.

Amin et al. [3] recently suggested a smart card-based security protocol for the TMIS system utilizing the cryptographic one-way hash function and the biohashing function, and they asserted that their plan is resistant to significant cryptographic assaults. Later, A.K.Das et al [5] demonstrated that the Amin et al [3] system had a number of security flaws, including a failure to defend against powerful replay attacks, privileged insider attacks, and man-in-the-middle attacks, among others. A.K.Das et al. [5] suggested a strong user authentication with key agreement approach in hierarchical multi-medical server architecture in TMIS after demonstrating the security flaws in Amin et al. [3]'s system. According to A.K.Das et al. [3], their authentication method prevents listening in, unauthorized portable device usage by medical workers, inhibits unauthorized access to patient medical records, and withstands all significant cryptographic assaults.



III. OUR CONTRIBUTION

The contribution of the paper is twofold. First, we briefly discuss A.K.Das et al [3] Hierarchical Multi-medical Server based authentication scheme for TMIS. Second, we demonstrate that A.K.Das et al [3] scheme is susceptible to following attacks. (1) Stolen-verifier attack leading to framing of session key and login request message by an attacker. (2) Replay attack (3) Known session-specific temporary information attack leading to medical server by pass attack, and fails to preserve patient identity.

The roadmap of this paper is sketched as follows. In Section IV, we briefly describe the A.K.Das et al scheme [3]. We then show that A.K.Das et al.'s scheme is insecure against four attacks in Section V. Finally, we conclude the paper in Section VII.

IV. REVIEW OF A.K. DAS ET AL.'S SCHEME

In this section, we describe the various phases of A.K.Das et al [3] scheme, which are (i) medical server registration phase, (ii) user registration phase, (iii) login phase, (iv) authentication and session key agreement phase. The notations used are provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Notations and their meanings

Symbol Description

P_i	i^{th} user/patient
MRS	Medical registration server
MS_j	j^{th} medical server ($1 \leq j \leq m$)
PS_k	k^{th} physician server ($1 \leq k \leq p$)
$PPID_i$	Identity of P_i
PPW_i	Password of P_i
PBi	Personal biometrics of P_i
$MSID_j$	Identity of MS_j
$PSID_k$	Identity of PS_k
KMRS	Secret key of the MRS
KMS_j	Secret key of MS_j
KPM_{jk}	Shared secret key between PS_k and MS_j
RP_i	Random nonce generated by P_i
RMS_j	Random nonce generated by MS_j
RPS_k	Random nonce generated by PS_k
TP_i	Current time-stamp generated by P_i
TMS_j	Current time-stamp generated by MS_j
TPS_k	Current time-stamp generated by PS_k
Δt	Maximum transmission delay, expected time interval for transmission delay
or	expected network delay time



$h(\cdot)$	Collision-free one-way hash function
$H(\cdot)$	Biohashing function [27, 35]
$Gen(\cdot)$	Fuzzy extractor generation algorithm
$Rep(\cdot)$	Fuzzy extractor reproduction algorithm
σ_i	Biometric key of P_i
τ_i	Biometric public parameter of P_i
ϵ_t	Error tolerance threshold
$P \oplus Q$	Bitwise XORed of data P with data Q
$P Q$	Data P concatenates with data Q

The proposed scheme consists of six phases: (i) predeployment phase, (ii) registration phase, (iii) login phase, (iv) authentication and key agreement phase, (v) password change phase and (vi) dynamic node addition phase.

Medical Server Registration Phase:

Suppose 'm' number of medical servers MS_j , ($1 \leq j \leq m$) are to be deployed initially in the network. We further assume that m^* number of additional medical servers MS_j , ($m + 1 \leq j \leq m + m^*$) may be added later in the network, where $m^* \ll m$. For example, initially $m = 100$ medical servers may be deployed and later we may add $m^* = 10$ additional medical servers after initial deployment in the network, if required, based on the demand of the medical services when more users want to access the services. For this purpose, a medical server MS_j , ($1 \leq j \leq m$), which wants to provide the medical services to the remote users (patients), needs to select a unique identity $MSID_j$ and send it to the MRS. After receiving $MSID_j$, the MRS computes the secret key $X_j = h(MSID_j || KMRS)$, where $KMRS$ is the 1024-bit secret key of the MRS for security reasons, and sends it back to MS_j via a secure channel. Thus, each MS_j keeps $(MSID_j, X_j)$. For m^* additional medical servers MS_p , ($m + 1 \leq p \leq m + m^*$), the MRS itself chooses a unique identity $MSID_j$ and also compute the secret key $X_q = h(MSID_j || KMRS)$. Note that these computed $(MSID_j, X_q)$ are kept to the MRS and will be used later during the user registration phase and dynamic medical server addition phase.

User Registration Phase

In this phase, a legal user P_i needs to register with the MRS for accessing the medical services from a particular physician server PS_k under a medical server MS_j in the network.

This phase has the following steps:

Step R1: P_i first inputs his/her desired identity $PPID_i$, password PPW_i , and then imprints the personal biometrics PBi at the sensor of a specific device. P_i generates a 1024-bit random number K , which is kept secret to P_i only. P_i then applies the fuzzy extractor generation function $Gen(\cdot)$ on the input



P_i in order to produce the biometric data key σ_i and the public parameter τ_i as $\text{Gen}(B_i) = (\sigma_i, \tau_i)$. Note that σ_i is kept secret to P_i only.

Step R2: P_i computes the pseudo-random password PRPW_i as $\text{PRPW}_i = h(\text{PPID}_i \| K \| \text{PPW}_i)$ and sends the registration request $\{\text{PPID}_i, \text{PRPW}_i\}$ to the MRS via a secure channel.

Step R3: After receiving the registration request from P_i , the MRS continues to compute $\text{RM}_j = h(\text{PID}_i \| X_j) \oplus \text{PRPW}_i$ and $\text{RMS}_j = h(\text{MSID}_j \| X_j) \oplus \text{PRPW}_i$, for $1 \leq j \leq m + m^*$. Then the MRS stores the information $\{\text{MSID}_j, \text{RM}_j, \text{RMS}_j | 1 \leq j \leq m + m^*\}$, $h(\cdot)$, $\text{Gen}(\cdot)$, $\text{Rep}(\cdot)$, t in a smart card, say SCP_i and sends it to the patient/user P_i via a secure channel, where 'et' is the error tolerance threshold used in fuzzy extractor.

Step R4: After receiving the smart card SC_i from the MRS, the user P_i computes $e_i = h(\text{PPID}_i \| \sigma_i) \oplus K$ and $f_i = h(\text{PPID}_i \| \text{PRPW}_i \| \sigma_i)$. P_i then stores e_i and f_i in the smart card SCP_i . Finally, note that the smart card SCP_i contains the information $\{\text{MSID}_j, \text{RM}_j, \text{RMS}_j | 1 \leq j \leq m + m^*\}$, e_i , f_i , $h(\cdot)$, $\text{Gen}(\cdot)$, $\text{Rep}(\cdot)$, τ_i , and 'et'.

Login phase:

In this phase, a legal user P_i can access any medical server MS_j for the medical services from a physician server PS_k under that medical server MS_j at anytime from anywhere through his/her issued smart card PSC_i . This phase contains the following steps:

Step L1: P_i first inserts his/her smart card PSC_i into a smart card reader of a specific terminal, and then inputs his/her identity PPID_i , password PPW_i , and also imprints the personal biometrics P_i at the sensor.

Step L2: SC_i then computes $\sigma_i^* = \text{Rep}(B_i, \tau_i)$, $K^* = h(\text{PPID}_i \| \sigma_i^*) \oplus e_i$, $\text{PRPW}_i^* = h(\text{PPID}_i \| K^* \| \text{PPW}_i)$, $f_i^* = h(\text{PPID}_i \| \text{PRPW}_i^* \| \sigma_i^*)$. SC_i further checks the verification condition $f_i^* = f_i$. If it holds, it ensures that the user P_i passes successfully both password and biometric verification. Otherwise, this phase is terminated immediately.

Step L3: SCP_i further proceeds to generate a random nonce RP_i and the current time-stamp TP_i . Then SCP_i computes $\text{M}_1 = \text{RM}_j \oplus \text{PRPW}_i^* = h(\text{PPID}_i \| X_j) \oplus \text{PRPW}_i \oplus \text{PRPW}_i^* = h(\text{PPID}_i \| X_j)$, $\text{M}_2 = \text{RMS}_j \oplus \text{PRPW}_i^* = h(\text{MSID}_j \| X_j)$, $\text{M}_3 = \text{PPID}_i \oplus \text{M}_2$, $\text{M}_4 = \text{PPID}_i \oplus \text{M}_1 \oplus \text{RP}_i$, $\text{M}_5 = h(\text{M}_1 \| \text{M}_3 \| \text{M}_4 \| \text{RP}_i \| \text{TP}_i)$. SCP_i sends the login request message $\{\text{MSID}_j, \text{PYID}_k, \text{M}_3, \text{M}_4, \text{M}_5, \text{TP}_i\}$ to the medical server MS_j via a public channel, where PYID_k is the identity of the physician server PS_k from where P_i wants to access the medical service.

Authentication and Session key Agreement Phase

In this phase, a legal user P_i authenticates an accessed physician server PS_k and PS_k also authenticates P_i for mutual authentication purpose before they can establish asymmetric common session key SK_{PPS} between them for their future secure communication. This phase involves the following steps:



Step A1: {MSID_j, PYID_k, M₃, M₄, M₅, TP_i} from P_i, MS_j verifies the validity of the received time-stamp TP_i in the message. Let the login request be received by MS_j at time TP_i^{*}. MS_j then checks the condition $|TP_i^* - TP_i| \leq \Delta T$, where ΔT denotes the maximum transmission delay. If this condition fails, the login request message is rejected and also the session is terminated immediately. Otherwise, MS_j executes the next step.

Step A2: MS_j continues to compute $M_6 = h(\text{MSID}_j || X_j)$ using its own identity MSID_j and the secret key X_j, where $X_j = h(\text{MSID}_j || X_c)$ and X_c is the secret key of the MRS. MS_j then computes $M_7 = M_3 \oplus M_6$, $M_8 = h(M_7 || X_j) = h(\text{PPID}_i || X_j)$, $M_9 = M_4 \oplus M_7 \oplus M_8 = \text{RP}_i$, $M_{10} = h(M_8 || M_3 || M_4 || M_9 || TP_i) = h(h(\text{PPID}_i || X_j) || M_3 || M_4 || \text{RP}_i || TP_i)$. MS_j further checks the condition $M_{10} = M_5$. If it holds, MS_j believes the authenticity of the user P_i. Otherwise, MS_j terminates the session immediately.

If the condition $M_{10} = M_5$ holds, MS_j stores the pair $(M_7, M_9) = (\text{PID}_i, \text{RP}_i)$ in its database. Later, when MS_j receives the next login request message, say MSID_j, PSID_k, M₃^{*}, M₄^{*}, M₅^{*}, TP_i, MS_j first checks the validity of the time-stamp TP_i. If it is valid, MS_j computes $M_6^* = h(\text{MSID}_j || X_j)$, $M_7^* = M_3^* \oplus M_6^*$, $M_8^* = h(M_7^* || X_j)$, $M_9^* = M_4^* \oplus M_7^* \oplus M_8^*$. After that MS_j compares M₉^{*} with the stored M₉ = RP_i corresponding to the user P_i's identity M₇ = PID_i in its database. If there is a match, MS_j ensures that the received login request message {MSID_j, PSID_k, M₃^{*}, M₄^{*}, M₅^{*}, TP_i} is a replay message and discards this message. Otherwise, MS_j replaces M₉ with M₉^{*} in its database and treats this message as a fresh message.

Step A3: MS_j generates a random nonce RMS_j and the current time-stamp TMS_j. MS_j computes $M_{11} = h(\text{MSID}_j || \text{PSID}_k || \text{KPM}_{jk})$, where 'KPM_{jk}' is the secret key shared between MS_j and PS_k. MS_j further computes $M_{12} = \text{PPID}_i \oplus M_{11}$, $M_{13} = h(\text{PPID}_i || \text{KPM}_{jk}) \oplus \text{RMS}_j$, $M_{14} = \text{PPID}_i \oplus M_9 \oplus \text{RMS}_j = \text{PPID}_i \oplus \text{RP}_i \oplus \text{RMS}_j$, $M_{15} = h(\text{PID}_i || M_{11} || M_{12} || M_{13} || M_{14} || M_9 || \text{RMS}_j || \text{TMS}_j)$. MS_j then sends the authentication request message {MSID_j, PSID_k, M₁₂, M₁₃, M₁₄, M₁₅, TMS_j} to the physician server PS_k via a public channel.

Step A4: After receiving the message in Step A3, PS_k checks the validity of the received time-stamp TMS_j in the message by the condition $|TMS_j^* - TMS_j| \leq \Delta T$, where TMS_j^{*} is the time when the message is received by PS_k. If it is valid, PS_k further continues to compute $M_{16} = h(\text{MSID}_j || \text{PSID}_k || \text{KPM}_{jk})$, $M_{17} = M_{12} \oplus M_{16} = \text{PPID}_i$, $M_{18} = M_{13} \oplus h(M_{17} || \text{KPM}_{jk}) = \text{RMS}_j$, $M_{19} = M_{14} \oplus M_{17} \oplus M_{18} = \text{RP}_i$, $M_{20} = h(M_{17} || M_{16} || M_{12} || M_{13} || M_{14} || M_{19} || M_{18} || \text{TMS}_j) = h(\text{PID}_i || h(\text{MSID}_j || \text{PSID}_k || \text{KPM}_{jk}) || M_{12} || M_{13} || M_{14} || \text{RP}_i || \text{RMS}_j || \text{TMS}_j)$. PS_k then checks the condition $M_{20} = M_{15}$. If it does not hold, the session is terminated by PS_k. Otherwise, PS_k believes the authenticity of both MS_j as well as P_i.

Step A5: PS_k generates a random nonce RPS_k and the current time-stamp TPS_k. PS_k also computes $M_{21} = h(M_{17} || \text{KPM}_{jk}) = h(\text{PPID}_i || \text{KPM}_{jk})$, $M_{22} = M_{17} \oplus M_{19} \oplus \text{RPS}_k = \text{PPID}_i \oplus \text{RP}_i \oplus \text{RPS}_k$, $M_{23} = M_{21}$



$\oplus RPSk = h(PPiDi || KPMjk) \oplus RPSk, SKPPS = h(M17 || PSIDk || M19 || RPSk || M21 || TPSk) = h(PPiDi || PSIDk || RPi || RPSk || h(PPiDi || KPMjk) || TPSk), M24 = h(SKPPS || M22 || M23 || M19 || RPSk || TPSk)$. PSk finally sends the authentication reply message $\{PSIDk, M22, M23, M24, TSk\}$ to the user Pi via a public channel.

Step A6: After receiving the message in Step A5, the smart card SCi of the user Pi checks the validity of the time-stamp $TPSk$ in the received message by the condition $|TPSk^* - TPSk| \leq T$, where $TPSk^*$ is the time when the message is received by Pi . If it holds, Pi computes $M25 = M22 \oplus (PPiDi \oplus RPi) = RPSk, M26 = M23 \oplus M25 = h(PPiDi || Xk), SKPPS^* = h(PPiDi || PSIDk || RPi || M25 || M26 || TPSk), M27 = h(SKPPS^* || M22 || M23 || RPi || M25 || TPSk)$. $SCPi$ then checks if $M27 = M24$. If it matches, Pi authenticates PSk , and both Pi and PSk treat $SKPPS^* = SKPPS$ as the session key shared between them.

V. CRYPTANALYSIS OF A.K DAS ET AL'S SCHEME

In this section, we show that A.K Das et al.'s authentication scheme is vulnerable to various major cryptographic attacks, which are detailed in the following subsections.

In this section, we cryptanalyze A.K.Das et al.'s scheme [3] and demonstrate that their scheme is vulnerable to security attacks. According to the threat model discussed above and depicted in [1,2,15,20,21], an attacker 'E' can intercept, eavesdrop and alter any message transmitted in the public communication channel. As discussed in [1,2,15,18], the attacker by carrying out power consumption analysis, can extract all the parameters stored in the smart card [1,2,11]. Built on these two well accepted assumptions, the A.K.Das et al scheme is susceptible to subsequent cryptographic attacks.

A. Failure to resist Replay attack

Patient (Pj)	Medical Server (MSj)
Step 1) Login Message 1: $\{MSIDj, PYIDk, M31, M41, M51, TPi1\}$, using $RPi1$ as random number.	Step 1) Stores $(PIDI, RPi1)$ in its database.
Step 2) Attacker intercepts the first login message.	
Step 3) Login Message 2: $\{MSIDj, PYIDk, M32, M42, M52, TPi2\}$, using $RPi2$ as	Step 3) In step A2, MSj compares $M9^*$ i.e. $RPi2$ with $M9$ i.e. $RPi1$. As both are different, MSj



random number.	replaces RPi1 with RPi2. i.e.(PIDi, RPi1) -> (PIDi, RPi2) in its database.
Step 4) Now the Attacker replays the intercepted first login message in step 1 above with in the valid time frame.	Step 4) MSj compares RPi1 with the current entry i.e.RPi2. As both are different, MSj accepts the replayed message as original.

In A.K.das et al [5] scheme they are resisting the replay and MiM attacks based on match between the random number stored in the data base (last successful login message) and the random number used in the current login request. So, the adversary can impersonate as Pi by replaying any of the intercepted login messages from the patient which are framed based on the random number other than the one currently stored in the database as shown in the table above. Hence, we can conclude that A.K Das et al., scheme suffers from replay attack, user impersonation attack.

B. Known session-specific temporary information attack

The compromise or leakage of a short-term secret (session specific random values) information shouldnot compromise the generated session key [20, 21, 22, 23,29]. However, in A.K.Das et al scheme, if session specific random numbers i.e.RPi, RMSj and RPSk are compromised,then the adversarycan compute the session key SKPPS as follows:

E can intercept and record the transmitted messages {PSIDk, M22, M23, M24,TSk} and {MSIDj, PYIDk, M3, M4, M5, TPi}.

With these messages in hand the adversary can frame the session key as follows:

Compute:

$$M23 = M21 \oplus RPSk \Rightarrow M21 = M23 \oplus RPSk = h(PPIDi || KPMjk).$$

$$M22 = PPIDi \oplus RPi \oplus RPSk \Rightarrow M22 \oplus RPi \oplus RPSk = PPIDi$$

With these values, the adversary can compute the session key SKPPS = h(PPIDi || PSIDk || RPi || RPSk || h(PPIDi || KPMjk)||TPSk). Therefore, A.K.Das et al scheme is vulnerable to Known session-specific temporary information attack in which the compromise of RPi, RPSk, RMSj results in framing of session key by an attacker.



User (Pi)	Medical Server MSj	Physician Server PSk
<p>Inserts SC into a terminal</p> <p>Inputs PPIDi, PPWi</p> <p>Step a)</p> <p>Compute: $\sigma_i^* = \text{Rep}(B_i, \tau_i)$, $K^* = h(\text{PPIDi} \sigma_i^*) \oplus e_i$, $\text{PRPWi}^* = h(\text{PPIDi} K^* \text{PPWi})$, $f_i^* = h(\text{PPIDi} \text{PRPWi}^* \sigma_i^*)$.</p> <p>SCi further checks the verification condition $f_i^* = f_i$.</p> <p>Step b)</p> <p>Generate : R_{Pi}</p> <p>Current time-stamp T_{Pi}.</p> <p>Computes:</p> <p>$M1 = R_{Mj} \oplus \text{PRPWi}^* = h(\text{PPIDi} X_j) \oplus \text{PRPWi} \oplus \text{PRPWi}^* = h(\text{PPIDi} X_j)$</p> <p>$M2 = R_{MSj} \oplus \text{PRPWi}^* = h(\text{MSIDj} X_j)$</p> <p>$M3 = \text{PPIDi} \oplus M2$</p> <p>$M4 = \text{PPIDi} \oplus M1 \oplus R_{Pi}$</p> <p>$M5 = h(M1 M3 M4 R_{Pi} T_{Pi})$.</p> <p>SCPi sends the login request message $\{ \text{MSIDj}, \text{PYIDk}, M3, M4, M5, T_{Pi} \}$ to MSj</p> <p style="text-align: right;">→</p>	<p>Receive:</p> <p>$m1 = \{ \text{MSIDj}, \text{PYIDk}, M3, M4, M5, T_{Pi} \} @ T_{Pi}^*$</p> <p>Checks if $T_{Pi}^* - T_{Pi} < \Delta T$</p> <p>MSj continues:</p> <p>Compute $M6 = h(\text{MSIDj} X_j)$.</p> <p>$M7 = M3 \oplus M6 = \text{PPIDi}$</p> <p>$M8 = h(M7 X_j) = h(\text{PPIDi} X_j)$</p> <p>$M9 = M4 \oplus M7 \oplus M8 = R_{Pi}$</p> <p>$M10 = h(M8 M3 M4 M9 T_{Pi}) = h(h(\text{PPIDi} X_j) M3 M4 R_{Pi} T_{Pi})$.</p> <p>MSj further checks the condition $M10 = M5$.</p> <p>Generates a random nonce R_{MSj}, T_{MSj}.</p> <p>MSj computes $M11 = h(\text{MSIDj} \text{PSIDk} \text{KPMjk})$.</p> <p>$M12 = \text{PPIDi} \oplus M11$,</p> <p>$M13 = h(\text{PPIDi} \text{KPMjk}) \oplus R_{MSj}$,</p> <p>$M14 = \text{PPIDi} \oplus M9 \oplus R_{MSj} = \text{PIDi} \oplus R_{Pi} \oplus R_{MSj}$,</p> <p>$M15 = h(\text{PPIDi} M11 M12 M13 M14 M9 R_{MSj} T_{MSj})$.</p> <p>sends the authentication request message $\{ \text{MSIDj}, \text{PSIDk}, M12, M13, M14, M15, T_{MSj} \}$</p> <p style="text-align: right;">→</p>	<p>Step a)</p> <p>PSk checks $T_{MSj}^* - T_{MSj} \leq \Delta T$,</p> <p>where T_{MSj}^* is the time when the message is received by PSk.</p> <p>Compute $M16 = h(\text{MSIDj} \text{IDk} \text{KPMjk})$,</p> <p>$M17 = M12 \oplus M16 = \text{PPIDi}$,</p> <p>$M18 = M13 \oplus h(M17 \text{KPMjk}) = R_{MSj}$,</p> <p>$M19 = M14 \oplus M17 \oplus M18 = R_{Pi}$,</p> <p>$M20 = h(M17 M16 M12 M13 M14 M19 M18 T_{MSj}) = h(\text{PIDi} h(\text{MSIDj} \text{PSIDk} X_k) M12 M13 M14 R_{Pi} R_{MSj} T_{MSj})$.</p> <p>PSk then checks the condition $M20 = M15$.</p> <p>Step b)</p> <p>PSk generates : R_{PSk}, T_{PSk}.</p> <p>$M21 = h(M17 \text{KPMjk}) = h(\text{PPIDi} \text{KPMjk})$,</p> <p>$M22 = M17 \oplus M19 \oplus R_{PSk} = \text{PPIDi} \oplus R_{Pi} \oplus R_{PSk}$,</p> <p>$M23 = M21 \oplus R_{PSk} = h(\text{PPIDi} \text{KPMjk}) \oplus R_{PSk}$</p> <p>$\text{SKPPS} = h(M17 \text{PSIDk} M19 R_{PSk} M21 T_{PSk}) = h(\text{PPIDi} \text{PSIDk} R_{Pi} R_{PSk} h(\text{PIDi} \text{KPMjk}) T_{PSk})$,</p> <p>$M24 = h(\text{SKPPS} M22 M23 M19 R_{PSk} T_{PSk})$. PSk sends the</p>



<p>←</p> <p>Receive at $TPSk^*$:</p> <p>Check : $TPSk^* - TPSk \leq T$, If it holds, Computes $M25 = M22 \oplus (PPIDi \oplus RPi) = RPSk$</p> <p>$M26 = M23 \oplus M25 = h(PPIDi KPMjk)$,</p> <p>$SKPPS^* = h(PPIDi PSIDk RPi M25 M26 TPSk)$, $M27 = h(SKPPS^* M22 M23 RPi M25 TPSk)$. SCi then checks if $M27 = M24$. If it matches, Pi authenticates PSk, and both Pi and PSk treat $SKPPS^* = SKPPS$ as the session key shared between them.</p>	<p>{ PSIDk, M22, M23, M24, TPSk }</p>	<p>authentication reply message {PSIDk, M22, M23, M24, TPSk } to the user Pi via a public channel.</p>
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Fig1 : Login and authentication phases of Amin et al [] scheme.

C. Failure to resist stolen-verifier attack

The stolen-verifier attack occurs when an adversary steals the verification table from the server and uses it directly to masquerade as a legal user. ‘E’ as an insider can access to MSj database to get all the pairs of $(PPIDi, RPi)$. As the patient identity is stored in plain format without any encryption, the adversary can find out all the identities of the patients. Hence, A.K.Das et al fail to preserve the patient identity $PIDi$ which is a critical requirement in TMIS systems. As the communication messages are transmitted over insecure public communication channel, ‘E’ can intercept all these communication messages exchanged among the communication entities i.e $\{MSIDj, PYIDk, M3, M4, M5, TPi\}$.

$$M3 = PPIDi \oplus M2 \Rightarrow M2 = M3 \oplus PPIDi.$$

$$M1 = M4 \oplus PPIDi \oplus RPi$$

The MSj transfers the message $\{MSIDj, PSIDk, M12, M13, M14, M15, TMSj\}$



$M11 = M12 \oplus PPIDi$, // from M12.

$M14 = PPIDi \oplus M9 \oplus RMSj = PPIDi \oplus RPi \oplus RMSj$

$RMSj = M14 \oplus PPIDi \oplus RPi$ // from M14.

$M13 = h(PPIDi || KPMjk) \oplus RMSj$

$h(PPIDi || KPMjk) = M13 \oplus RMSj$ // from M13.

Now the adversary can frame the session key and the login request by MS_j i.e {MSID_j, PSID_k, M12, M13, M14, M15, TMS_j}.

Therefore, A.K. das et al scheme is susceptible to stolen verifier attack, once the database or verifier table is stolen by the attacker, the attacker can frame the session key SKPPS and the login request message sent by the MS_j to PS_k. Hence, we can confirm that A.K.Das et al scheme is susceptible to resist Replay attack, Known session-specific temporary information attack. Now the adversary can frame the session key and the login request by MS_j i.e. {MSID_j, PSID_k, M12, M13, M14, M15, TMS_j}.

Based on the above discussion, we can confirm that, A.K. das et al scheme is susceptible to stolen verifier attack. Once the database or verifier table is stolen by the attacker, the attacker can frame the session key SKPPS and the login request message sent by the MS_j to PS_k. Hence, we can confirm that A.K.Das et al scheme fails to resist Replay attack, resist stolen-verifier attack, Known session-specific temporary information attack, medical server by pass attack, and fails to preserve patient identity.

VI. ANALYSIS OF WEAKNESS OF DAS ET AL. SCHEME

6.1 Huge Data Storage and Computation Requirement for Generating User Smart Card

In A.K. Das et al. scheme the smart card memory is stored with key-plus-Id combination $(A_j, P_j) \{ 1 \leq j \leq m + m^* \}$ of all the medical servers MS_j. Based on the A.K.Das et al. discussion, for a total of $m = 100$ and $m^* = 10$, on each user 110 values are stored. If the system contains n users, then a total of $(n * 110)$ hash operations need to be performed to load the smart card memory of corresponding user which requires huge computation cost from the MS. The major issue is that the user may not interested or in need of data from all the medical servers (because a cardiac patient access only the cardiac and related medical servers). Hence storing all the $m+m^*$ medical server details is a major drawback in das et al. scheme. If any medical server or patient server structure has been changed, then all the smart card users data corresponding to that specific server has to be changed, which is a computationally intensive task.

6.2 Fails to achieve mutual authentication among all the communicating entities.

In A.K. Das et al. scheme on receiving the login request from from the medical server MS_j, the patient server responds directly to the patient by passing the medical server. Hence, the mutual authentication among the communicating entities is not achieved.



VII. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have first reviewed the recently proposed A.K.Das et al.'s scheme for TMIS. A.K.Das et al.'s scheme is efficient in resisting most of the cryptographic attacks. Unfortunately, on in-depth analysis, we have verified that their scheme is insecure against several major well known attacks. Thus, their proposed scheme is not suitable for practical application in TMIS. In future work, we will come up with an improved version of authentication scheme for TMIS which can resist all major cryptographic attacks.

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