e-LfH Policy on Browsers and Devices

Contents

Purpose and Scope of this Document

e-Learning for Healthcare is a Health Education programme that develops and delivers e-learning content to the healthcare workforce in the UK. The e-LfH Hub is our system for delivering content for free to our users. This document describes the browsers and devices that you can use to access our e-learning content via the e-LfH Hub.

Content from other organisations

The majority of the e-learning on the e-LfH Hub is created by the e-LfH team but we also take content from other sources. We have no control over this content and it may have different minimum requirements to our own e-learning content.

Other platforms

We make our e-learning content available on the National Learning Management System (NLMS) and other platforms, but that is not the focus of this document. For information on how to access the NLMS, please visit http://www.esrsupport.co.uk/nlms/.

Tested Browsers

Since its inception, e-LfH has developed over 7,000 e-learning sessions over the last ten years. It is not practical to test and update every session whenever a new browser version is released. As a

result, we do not publish a list of supported browsers that we guarantee will work with every piece of content on the e-LfH Hub. Instead, we publish a list of the browsers that we use for our own testing whenever we release something new.

We recognise that our users access our content with a variety of browsers and devices. In hospital environments, they will often have quite old equipment and be limited to older browsers. In contrast, when users are accessing from home, they will typically have newer hardware and will use more up-to-date browsers. We try to cater for this range of browsers and devices in the list of browsers that we use for our testing.

List of Tested Browsers

Device	Operating System	Browser	Version
PC	Windows 7 and higher	Firefox	Latest
PC	Windows 7 and higher	Chrome	Latest
PC	Windows XP and higher	Internet Explorer	8
PC	Windows 7 and higher	Internet Explorer	9
PC	Windows 7 and higher	Internet Explorer	10
PC	Windows 7 and higher	Internet Explorer	11
MAC	OS X 10.9 (Mavericks)	Safari	Latest
MAC	OS X 10.9 (Mavericks)	Chrome	Latest
iPad	iOS 8	Safari	Latest
iPhone	iOS 8	Safari	Latest
Android Tablet and Smartphone	Android and 4.4.x	Chrome	Latest

This list is also available on the e-LfH Support Site at http://support.e-lfh.org.uk/technical-information/browsers/what-do-i-need-in-order-to-access-the-e-lfh-e-learning-resources/.

Whenever we release a new component or update an existing one, we will test it in all the browsers in this list. However, as previously stated, this does not apply retrospectively to existing content.

Internet Explorer 7
Please note that as of 1 January 2015, we will no longer do any testing on Internet Explorer 7 and we will not regard this as a supported browser. This is in line with Skills for Health and the NLMS. In particular, the e-LfH Hub will not work in Internet Explorer 7.

Mobile Devices

In recent years there has been a dramatic rise in use of mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets. The Office of National Statistics state that in 2010, 24% of adults access the internet with a mobile device but the figure rose to 58% in 2014. e-LfH has recognised this shift in behaviour and the e-LfH Hub and e-LfH's e-learning content has been developed to work on mobile devices.

However, there is a huge range of smartphones, mobile browsers and operating systems out there and we don't have the resources to test all of them. We test on Android and Apple mobile devices using the most current browser version available at the time but we cannot guarantee that our content will work on every mobile device and browser combination.

Tablets
The e-LfH Hub and most e-LfH content will work well on tablet devices, such as iPads or Samsung Galaxy Tabs. We have optimised knowledge sessions to work with touchscreen devices.

Smartphones
It is technically possible to access the e-LfH Hub and e-learning content using a Smartphone as long as the browser can be configured as specified in this document. However, given the highly interactive nature of e-LfH's learning content and the detail in some medical imaging, we do not recommend using Smartphones to access the content as the learning experience is sub-optimal. Even on smartphones with relatively large screens, there may be excess scrolling and trying to select the correct radio button or view the fine detail in a medical image can be difficult.

Other Considerations

When using one of the browsers in the recommended list above, there are certain configuration settings that you will need to enable.

JavaScript
All e-LfH content makes extensive use of JavaScript and this should be enabled in your browser. JavaScript is a longstanding, trusted internet technology and, as such, is enabled by default in most browsers.

A Technical Checker is available on our Support site (http://support.e-lfh.org.uk/technicalinformation/technical-checker/) which will tell you if JavaScript is enabled in your browser.

Cookies
Cookies are small text files that are stored on a user's device. e-LfH does use cookies in a limited fashion to improve your experience using the e-LfH Hub and e-learning content. The exact way we use cookies is described in our Terms and Conditions. We recommend that you allow

Abode Flash Player
When e-LfH started developing its learning content, Adobe Flash was widely used across the Internet. However, support for Adobe Flash from the major technology companies, such as Apple and Google, is being withdrawn and it is now generally regarded as an outgoing technology.

As a result, we have updated all our knowledge sessions so that we are not reliant on Flash. Where possible, we have removed Flash altogether. However, where a session contains video or a bespoke animation, we have published two versions of the asset and your browser will select the best version to display:

1. An HTML5 version that will work on newer devices that do not support Flash
2. A Flash version for use on older browsers that do not support HTML5 (e.g. Internet Explorer 8)

Please note that all Scenario sessions in our ACUMEN and Medical Examiners programmes and 2011 Case Studies in our Fetal Monitoring (eFM) programme are entirely built in Flash and will not display at all on devices that do not support Flash.

Appendix A – Browser Statistics for October 2014

We use Google Analytics to capture anonymous information about what technology learners use to access the e-LfH site. These figures are taken from the e-LfH Learning Portal.

We are publishing these browser statistics in the interests of transparency and to help learners to understand the factors that shape this policy. We review these statistics periodically and will republish this policy when our supported browser list changes as a result of shifts by the learner community in browser usage.

Browser	Operating System	Browser Sessions	% of Total	% change since March 2014
Microsoft Internet Explorer 8.0	Windows	20,227	21.93%	+ 3.05%
Chrome	Windows	18,434	19.99%	+ 3.18%
Safari	Mac OS	9,696	10.51%	+ 1.03%
Microsoft Internet Explorer 11.0	Windows	9,625	10.44%	+ 1.28%
Safari	iOS	6,779	7.35%	- 0.34%
Microsoft Internet Explorer 7.0	Windows	6,723	7.29%	- 4.43%
Firefox	Windows	5,770	6.26%	- 0.82%
Chrome	Mac OS	4,248	4.61%	+ 1.9%
Microsoft Internet Explorer 9.0	Windows	3,530	3.83%	- 0.3%
IE with Chrome Frame	Windows	2,591	2.81%	+ 0.19%
Chrome	Android	1,150	1.25%	- 1.44

Appendix B – Browser Statistics for March 2014

Browser Version	Operating System	Browser Sessions	% of Total
Microsoft Internet Explorer 8.0	Windows	16,403	18.88%
Google Chrome	Windows	14,602	16.81%
Microsoft Internet Explorer 7.0	Windows	10,186	11.72%
Safari	Mac	8,236	9.48%
Microsoft Internet Explorer 11.0	Windows	7,955	9.16%
Safari	iOS	6,683	7.69%
Mozilla Firefox	Windows	6,153	7.08%
Microsoft Internet Explorer 9.0	Windows	3,590	4.13%
Microsoft Internet Explorer 10.0	Windows	2,736	3.15%
Mozilla Firefox	Mac	2,409	2.77%
Google Chrome	Mac	2,354	2.71%
IE with Chrome Frame	Windows	2,277	2.62%
Google Chrome	Android	1,251	1.44%