

# REDCAP INTRODUCTION CLASS (101)



# ITHS Partnership

- Speeding science to clinical practice for the benefit of patients and communities.
- Promotes translation of scientific discovery by:
  - ❑ Fostering innovative research
  - ❑ Cultivating multi-disciplinary partnerships
  - ❑ Training the next generation of researchers
- More information: [www.iths.org](http://www.iths.org)

Laboratory

Clinic

Community



Institute of Translational Health Sciences  
ACCELERATING RESEARCH. IMPROVING HEALTH.

# Agenda & Project Workflow

## Overview



*About  
REDCap*

## Getting Access



*Project  
creation &  
navigation*

## Design/Test



*Designing  
instruments and  
variables*

## Production



*Moving the  
project to  
production*

## Data Collection



*Creating  
records*

## User Rights

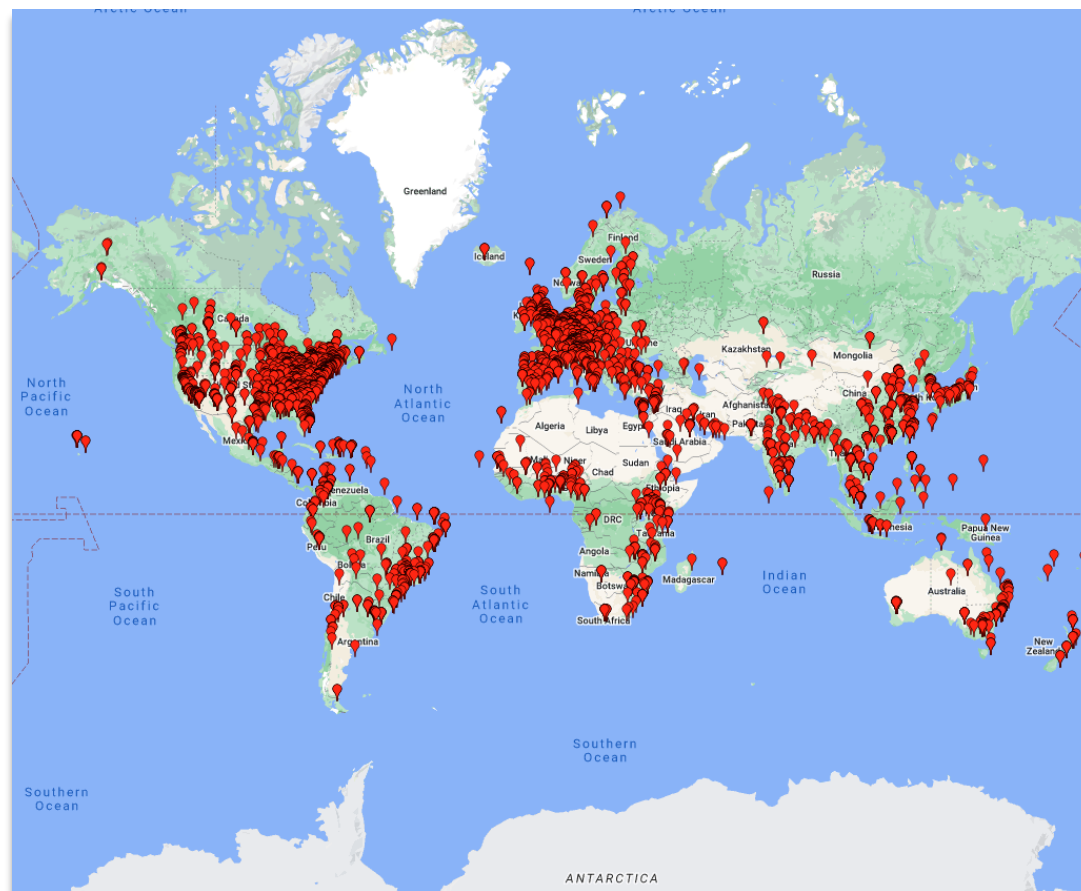


*Adding users to  
your project*

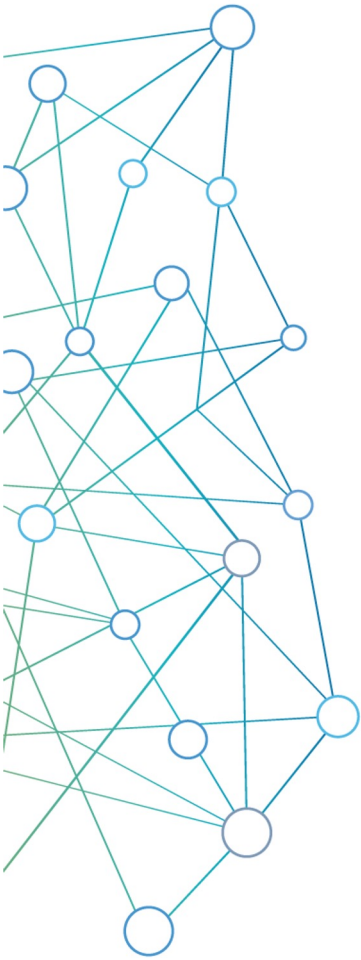
# What is REDCap?

- Electronic Data Capture (EDC)
- Web-based
- Built for research
- HIPAA compliant
- User-friendly
- ITHS REDCap
  - Free to use
  - Highly secure
  - Backed up daily

**6000+ installations  
worldwide**



# Security Concerns



## Web service setup

- *Managed by the UW*
  - *Encrypted on secure servers (256 bit)*
  - *UW HIPAA compliant*
- 

## Three-tiered access

- *System login*
  - *Project access*
  - *User restrictions*
- 

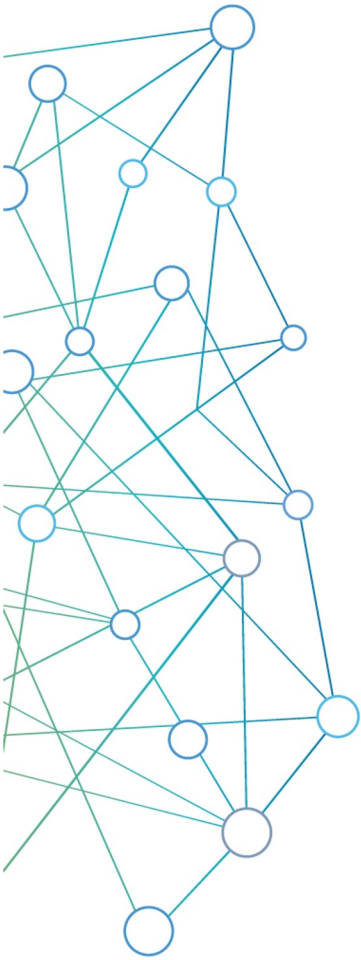
## Audit trails

- *Logging feature*
- 

## De-identified data export

- *Identify variables as Personal Health Information (PHI)*
- *Export module with de-identifying option*

# Accessing REDCap



## University of Washington NetID's

*Use your UW NetID to login at:*

**<https://redcap.iths.org>**

*to create an account*

---

## Other University ID's

*Select universities can log in with their IDs on REDCap*

---

## Partner Institutions

*Fred Hutch, SCCA, Seattle Children's, PATH, and other WWAMI regional institutions can request IDs*

---

## Others

*Use ITHS REDCap for free if affiliated with one of our partner institutions and have a sponsor fill out the **ITHS new outside user request form***

# Navigating REDCap

[Home](#)

[My Projects](#)


[Request New Projects](#)

[Help & FAQ](#)

[Training Resources](#)

[My Profile](#)



 Home [My Projects](#) [+ New Project](#) [Help & FAQ](#) [Training Videos](#)

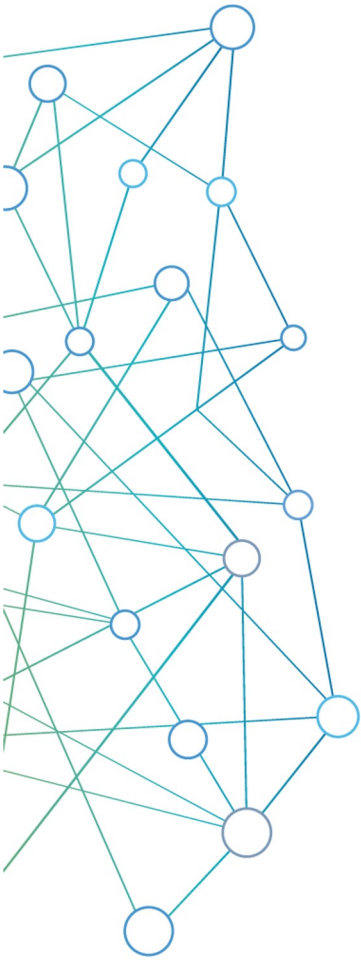
Listed below are the REDCap projects to which you currently have access. Click the project title to open the project. [Read more](#)

**My Projects** [Organize](#) [Collapse All](#)

Filter projects by title

Project Title	PID	Records	Fields	Instruments	Type	Status
<a href="#">+ REDCap Class (1)</a>						
<a href="#">+ Office Hours (1)</a>						
<a href="#">+ Consultations (8)</a>						
<a href="#">+ Closed Consultations (20)</a>						
<a href="#">+ REDCap Admin (10)</a>						
<a href="#">+ External Modules (4)</a>						
<a href="#">+ Class Demos (1)</a>						
<a href="#">+ Demonstrations (15)</a>						
<a href="#">+ CoVPN (42)</a>						

# Project Requests / Approvals



## Project requests

*Done within one business day*


---

## Needed information

- *Project title*
  - *Purpose*
    - *If Research provide:*
      - *Principal investigator*
      - *IRB*
      - *Type of research*
- 

## Blank slate, XML files & Templates

**Project creation option:**

- ☒ Empty project (blank slate)
  - ☐ Upload a REDCap project XML file (CDISC ODM format) 
  - ☐ Use a template (choose one below)
-



# Project Navigation

## Menu Navigation

## Data collection

## Applications

## Help & Information

## Project Home

## Project Setup

## Other Functionality



REDCap®

Logged in as:  
Log out

My Project  
REDCap Messenger  
Contact REDCap administrator

View project as user: -- select a user --

Project Home and Design

Project Home · Project Setup  
Designer · Dictionary · Codebook

Project status: Development

Data Collection

Survey Distribution Tools  
- Get a public survey link or build a participant list for inviting respondents

Scheduling  
- Generate schedules for the calendar using your defined events

Record Status Dashboard  
- View data collection status of all records

Add / Edit Records  
- Create new records or edit/view existing ones

Applications

Project Dashboards  
Alerts & Notifications  
Multi-Language Management  
Calendar  
Data Exports, Reports, and Stats  
Data Import Tool  
Data Comparison Tool  
Logging and Email Logging  
Field Comment Log  
File Repository  
User Rights and DAGs  
Customize & Manage Locking  
Data Quality  
API and API Playground  
REDCap Mobile App  
Free REDCap Classes  
ITHS REDCap (User) FAQ  
ITHS REDCap Tip of the Month  
REDCap Support Request

ITHS

Institute of Translational Health Sciences  
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University of Washington Seattle  
Institute of Translational Health Science (ITHS)

Demo Project

PID 690

Project Home

Project Setup

Other Functionality

Project Revision History

Edit project settings

Project status:

Development

Completed steps 0 of 8

Not started

Main project settings

Disable Use surveys in this project? VIDEO: How to create and manage a survey

Disable Use longitudinal data collection with defined events?

I'm done!

Modify project title, purpose, etc.

Not started

Design your data collection instruments & enable your surveys

Add or edit fields on your data collection instruments (survey and forms). This may be done by either using the Online Designer (online method) or by uploading a Data Dictionary (offline method). You may then enable your instruments to be used as surveys in the Online Designer. Quick links: Download PDF of all instruments OR Download the current Data Dictionary

Go to Online Designer or Data Dictionary Explore the REDCap Instrument Library

Have you checked the Check For Identifiers page to ensure all identifier fields have been tagged?

Learn how to use Smart Variables Piping Action Tags Field Embedding Special Functions

In progress

Define your events and designate instruments for them

Create events for re-using data collection instruments and/or set up scheduling.

Go to Define My Events or Designate Instruments for My Events

Optional

Enable optional modules and customizations

Enable Repeatable instruments and events

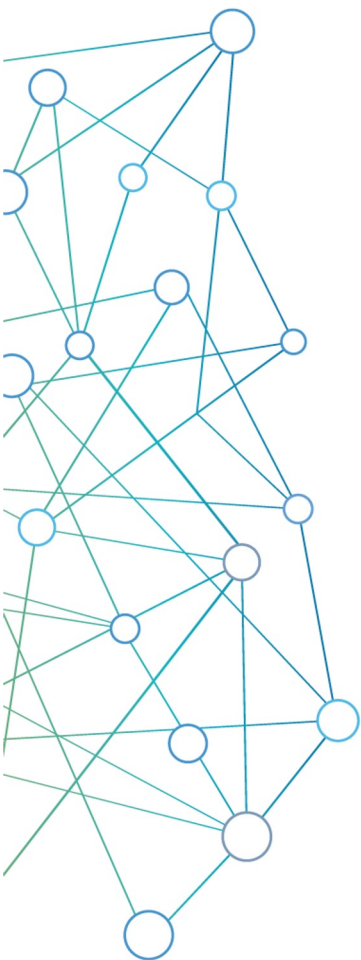
Disable Auto-numbering for records

Disable Scheduling module (longitudinal only)

Enable Randomization module

I'm done!

# Designing Forms & Surveys



## Online designer

- *Wizard type instrument design*
  - *Very forgiving*
  - *Great way to learn – experiment!*
- 

## REDCap shared library

- *Quickest way to load an instrument*
  - *Curated by Vanderbilt University*
- 

## Zip files

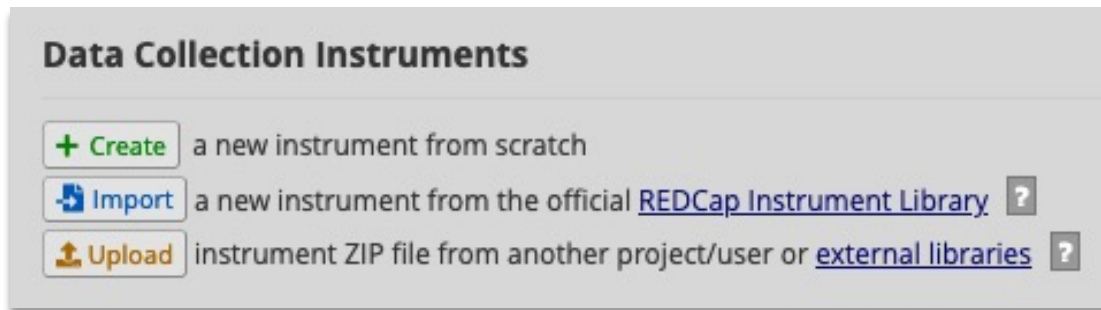
- *Import individual instruments from other projects*
  - *Great for sharing commonly used instruments*
- 

## Data dictionary tab

- *Advanced feature that defines an entire project*
- *Excel file that you customize outside of REDCap*

# Options for Creating Instruments

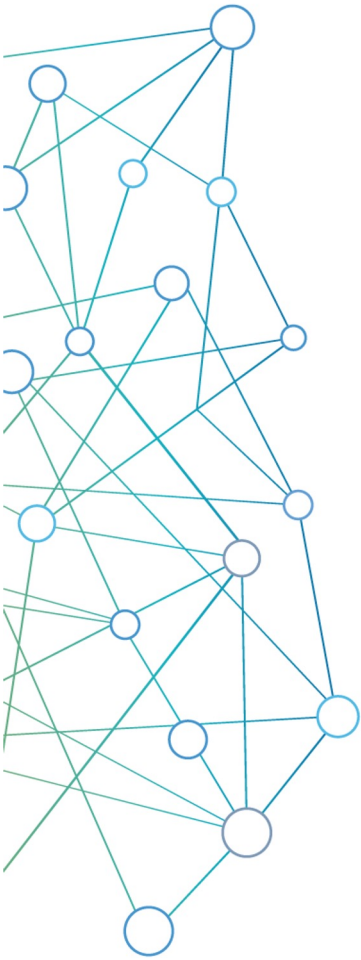
- Create a new blank instrument and start from scratch.
- Select a pre-built instrument from the shared REDCap Instrument Library.
- Upload a Zip file downloaded from another project or external library.



- 
- Or use the Data Dictionary to add or modify instruments.



# Online Designer



## Instruments

- *Create, Import, Upload*
  - *Rename, Copy, Delete, Download instrument ZIP*
  - *No limit on the number of forms in a project*
- 

## Variables

- *Each instrument must have at least one variable*
  - *Variables can be edited, moved, or deleted within a project*
- 

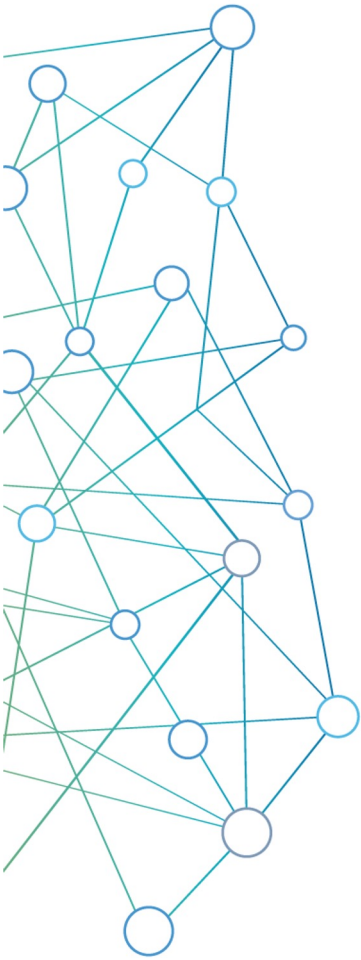
## Variable limits

- *No real “technical” limit*
  - *Best practices: No more than 1000 variables per form*
- 

## Surveys versus Forms

- *Each instrument starts as a Form, can be turned into a survey*
- *Any survey can still be filled out as a form*

# Variable Creation



## Necessary field attributes

- *Variable name*
- *Field type*
- *Field label*

---

## Optional attributes

*Required, Identifier, Custom alignment,  
Field note, Field annotation, Action tags*

---

## Conditional attributes

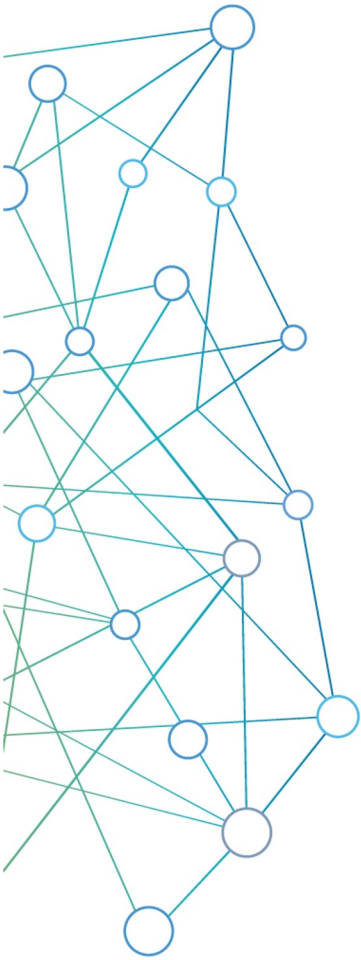
*Validation, Minimum, Maximum,  
Ontology lookup*

---

## Matrix fields

*Collection of variables for display*

# Creating Fields for your Variables



## Unstructured field types

- *Free text*
  - *Comment boxes*
  - *Dates, numbers, etcetera*
- 

## Structured field types

- *Limited set of answers*
  - *Pre-defined*
- 

## Special & calculation field types

- *Uploading files*
  - *Doing calculations with entered data*
- 

## Display field types

- *Plain text, HTML, video, audio, pictures, files*

# Creating Fields and Field Types

- Click on Add Field to add a new field.
- Select the type of field from Field Type drop-down.
- Fill out required field attributes.
- Add optional field attributes such as validation.

Add Field

**Edit Field**

You may add a new project field to this data collection instrument by completing the fields below and clicking the Save button at the bottom. When you add a new field, it will be added to the form on this page. For an overview of the different field types available, you may view the [Field Types video \(4 min\)](#).

**Field Type:** ---- Select a Type of Field ----  
☒ Text Box (Short Text, Number, Date/Time, ...)  
☐ Notes Box (Paragraph Text)  
☐ Calculated Field  
☐ Multiple Choice - Drop-down List (Single Answer)  
☐ Multiple Choice - Radio Buttons (Single Answer)  
☐ Checkboxes (Multiple Answers)  
☐ Yes - No  
☐ True - False  
☐ Signature (draw signature with mouse or finger)  
☐ File Upload (for users to upload files)  
☐ Slider / Visual Analog Scale  
☐ Descriptive Text (with optional Image/Video/Audio/File Attachment)  
☐ Begin New Section (with optional text)  
☐ Dynamic Query (SQL)

**Question Note**  
Displayed only or  
  
**Field Label**  
  
Result

**Action Tag**  
  
Learn about [@ Action Tags](#) or [using Field Annotation](#)

**Variable Name** (utilized in logic, calcs, and exports)  
  
ONLY letters, numbers, and underscores  
☐ Enable auto naming of variable based upon its Field Label?

How to use [Smart Variables](#) [Piping](#) [Field Embedding](#)

**Validation?** (optional) ---- None ----  
-- OR --

**Required?\*** ☒ No ☐ Yes  
\* Prompt if field is blank

**Identifier?** ☒ No ☐ Yes  
Does the field contain identifying information (e.g., name, SSN, address)?

**Custom Alignment**   
Align the position of the field on the page

**Field Note** (optional)   
Small reminder text displayed underneath field

**Save** **Cancel**



# Unstructured Field Types

## Unstructured

## Structured

## Special

## Calculations

## Display

## Matrix



## Text box

- Free text
- Validation
  - Dates, numbers, emails, phone numbers etcetera
  - Minimum & maximum
- Bio-medical ontologies (Look-up tables)
  - Over 400 different ontologies available
  - Examples: ICD-9, ICD-10, Medications

## Notes box

- Great for bigger pieces of text
  - Clinical notes
  - Comments on surveys
  - Descriptions



# Structured Field Types

Unstructured

---

**Structured**

---

Special

---

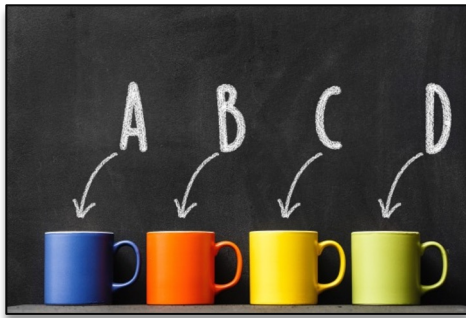
Calculations

---

Display

---

Matrix



## Single answer

- Drop down
- Radio button
- Slider
  - Default scale 0 to 100 but adjustable
- Pre-set choices:
  - Yes/No
  - True/False

## Multiple answer

- Checkboxes
  - Stored differently than single answer
  - Has different branching logic syntax

# Special Field Types

Unstructured

---

Structured

---

**Special**

---

Calculations

---

Display

---

Matrix



## Signature

- Allows people to “sign” a document
- Captures a small png file
- Preferable to the “check if agree” method
- Works on both computers and touch enabled devices

## File upload

- Any file type is allowed
- REDCap just acts as storage for the file
- 100 MB limit per upload
- Useful for uploading:
  - Photos
  - Consent documents
  - Other scanned documentation

# Calculated Field Type

Unstructured

---

Structured

---

Special

---

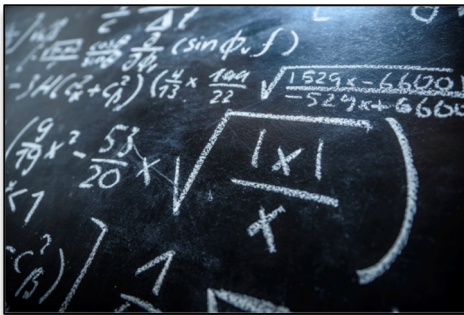
**Calculations**

---

Display

---

Matrix



## Calculations

- Must have a number as the result
- Limited to variables in one record
- Similar syntax as branching logic
- Special functions are added
  - Datediff()
  - Sum()
  - Mean()
  - Full list ([see Special Functions](#))
- Used for:
  - Scoring tools
  - Simple calculations (like BMI)
- Test out calculations in a test record before finalizing

# Display Field Types

Unstructured

---

Structured

---

Special

---

Calculations

---

**Display**

---

Matrix



## Descriptive text field

- Text – Has rich text editor, HTML can be used
- Add Video/Audio files
  - Hosted outside of REDCap (YouTube, Vimeo)
  - Inline or Inside popup
- Picture display
- Files (100 MB size limit)

## Begin new section

- Used to separate blocks of variables
- Can be used in surveys to create separate pages
- Can add text to header

# Matrix Fields

Unstructured

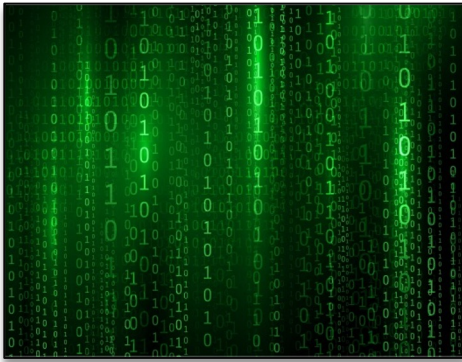
Structured

Special

Calculations

Display

Matrix



## Matrix

- Groups a set of related variables together
  - Radio buttons
    - Ranking – one choice per column
  - Checkboxes
- Columns are the options
  - All the options must be the same
- Rows are the questions/variables
- Branching logic is allowed on individual questions

Which is best?				
(One selection allowed per column)	best	second best	no way	
Cats	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	reset
Dogs	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	reset
No pets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	reset

# Branching Logic



## The art of hiding fields

- Setup true/false logic statements
- Uses project variables
- True shows the field, false hides it

## Project limited

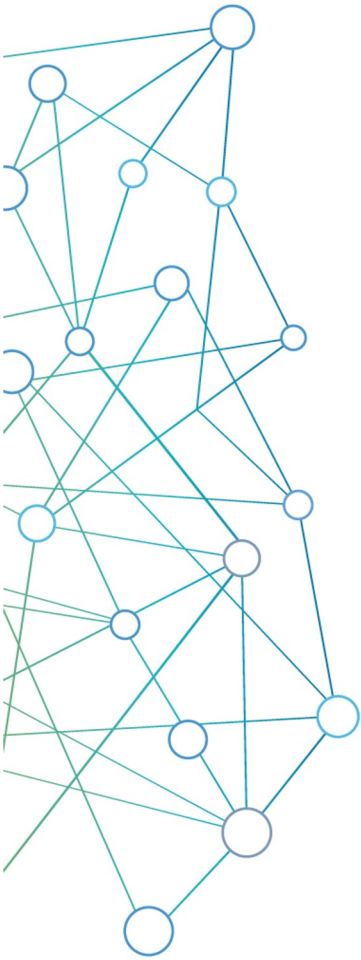
*Use values in other forms or events, but not other projects*

## Drag and drop method

- Select variables and logic from a dropdown menu
- No knowledge of syntax or programming needed

## Syntax method

*Allows for much more complex logic, but is difficult to set up correctly*



# Moving to Production

Move project to production

## Project Status Management



 Mark project as Completed

If you are finished with a project and wish to make it completely inaccessible, you may mark the project as 'Completed'. Doing so will take it offline and remove it from everyone's project list, after which it can only be seen again by clicking the *Show Completed Projects* link at the bottom of the *My Projects* page. [Read more](#)

# Approval Process

- Most of the time, you will not have contact with the REDCap administrator.
- However, there are some specific situations where there are data integrity measures that require administrator involvement.

---

## Project creation /Copy project

- *Approved quickly and almost always approved to keep REDCap running smoothly.*
- *Exceptions might be out of WWAMI requests, copying large amounts of data.*

## Change approval

- *Approved within one business day.*
- *Goals is to prevent inadvertent data loss.*
- *You have final say!*



# Basic Data Collection



+ Add new record



## Add / Edit Records

*Options located in the data collection menu.  
Entering a new record ID will create a new record.  
Entering an existing record ID will allow you to edit.*

---

## Data Search

*Allows the user to search based on one of the variables, provided they are unique enough to identify records.*

---

## Unique record ID's

*Each REDCap record will have a unique ID. The ID is always stored in the very first variable of your very first instrument.*





























---

## Deleting test records









*Done by moving to production, erasing all data, or deleting individual records*

# Record Status Dashboard

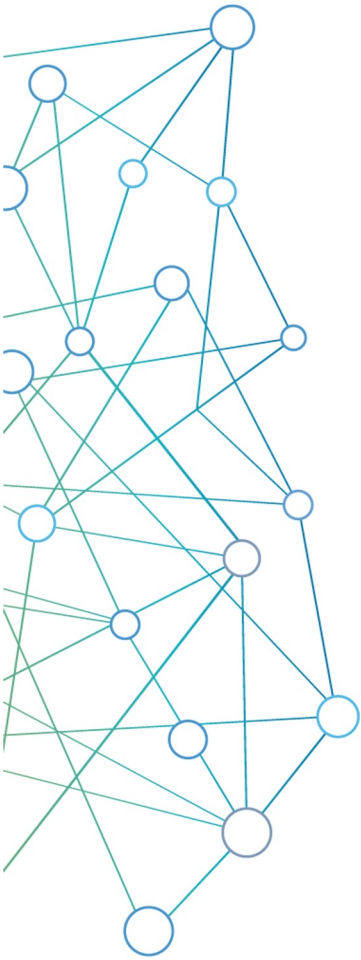
- View all your records in the Record Status Dashboard
- Legend shows current record status

Study ID	Baselined						
	Baseline	demo	Visit date	Medications	Field Type Demo	Nih Stroke Scale	Adverse Event
<u>1</u> Parker, Peter							 +
<u>2</u> Octavius, Otto							 +
<u>3</u> Morales, Miles							 +
<u>4</u> Stacey, Gwen							

## Legend for status icons:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  Incomplete             |  Incomplete (no data saved) ? |
|  Unverified            |  Partial Survey Response     |
|  Complete              |  Completed Survey Response   |
|  Many statuses (mixed) |  Many statuses (all same)    |

# User Rights



## Adding users to your project

*Anyone that has a user account on the ITHS REDCap server can be added to your project as a user with a custom set of rights.*

---

## Form rights

*Hide forms completely, View-only mode or full access*

---

## Application rights

*Give users only access to applications they need*

---








## User roles

*Useful for when you need to add a lot of users with the same rights quickly*

# Basic Data Export

- You can export your entire data set in a few seconds
- Multiple formats available
- You can also create and save custom reports that create subsets of your data.
- These subsets are exportable in the same way as the entire data set.

**Choose export format**

<input type="radio"/>		CSV / Microsoft Excel (raw data)
<input type="radio"/>		CSV / Microsoft Excel (labels)
<input type="radio"/>		SPSS Statistical Software
<input type="radio"/>		SAS Statistical Software
<input type="radio"/>		R Statistical Software
<input type="radio"/>		Stata Statistical Software
<input type="radio"/>		CDISC ODM (XML)

# Getting Help

 [Contact REDCap administrator](#)

- REDCap has built in help on the Project Setup page and when building forms through Online Designer
- Click on the Contact REDCap administrator link at the top or bottom of the left menu to send a question
- Find more classes on the ITHS web page
- Information on our weekly office hours is located at the top of the My Projects page.




Not  
started

I'm done!

## Design your data collection instruments & enable your surveys






Add or edit fields on your data collection instruments (survey and forms). This may be done by either using the Online Designer (online method) or by uploading a Data Dictionary (offline method). You may then enable your instruments to be used as surveys in the Online Designer. Quick links: [Download PDF of all instruments](#) OR [Download the current Data Dictionary](#)

Go to  Online Designer

or  Data Dictionary

Explore the  REDCap Instrument Library

Have you checked the [Check For Identifiers](#) page to ensure all identifier fields have been tagged?

Learn how to use  Smart Variables  Piping  Action Tags  Field Embedding  Special Functions

Thank You!

Questions?



Institute of **Translational** Health Sciences  
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# CONNECT WITH ITHS

[www.iths.org](http://www.iths.org)



@ITHS\_UW



/ithsuw



/InstituteofTranslationalHealthSciences



Institute of **Translational** Health Sciences  
ACCELERATING RESEARCH. IMPROVING HEALTH.

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Join a unique catalyst that accelerates discoveries to practice.

## Access

*Members gain access the different research services, resources, and tools offered by ITHS, including the ITHS Research Navigator.*

---

## Education and Training

*Members can access a variety of workforce development and mentoring programs and apply for formal training programs.*

---

## Funding

*Members can apply for local and national pilot grants and other funding opportunities. ITHS also offers letters of support for grant submissions.*

---

## Collaboration

*Members can connect with collaborators across the CTSA consortium.*