

Qualtrics to UIC REDCap

CCTS Biostatistics Core

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This document is a practical guide to moving survey data from Qualtrics or another system to REDCap. Described functionality applies to REDCap version 10.6.3.

REDCap Survey Features Compared to Qualtrics

REDCap has advantages over Qualtrics for granular control of HIPAA compliance, data export capabilities, longitudinal and repeated survey support and project controls. The listed unique features of each system may not reflect all current updates of Qualtrics.

Qualtrics features not available in REDCap

- Export to .tsv
- Flexibility to graphically customize survey forms, web browser format (e.g., page at a time), and mobile device format (e.g., one question at a time)
- Nice library of pre-built surveys, blocks, and questions
- Additional survey flow features not available in REDCap: Question Randomizer, Web Service, authenticator, embedded data, table of contents
- Additional survey question types: Side by Side, Constant Sum, Hot Spot, Drill down, Gap Analysis, Timing, Pick Group Rank, Heat Map, Graphic Slider, record browser information (some of these additional field types may be supported by some REDCap external modules)
- Additional survey applications: Survey Scoring

REDCap features not available in Qualtrics

- Export to SAS, STATA, R, SPSS, .csv
- Data quality rules
- Longitudinal or repeated measures
- Audit trails in logins
- Automated Survey Invitation and email alert options
- Ability to use a survey as both a survey and a case report form
- eConsent frameworks in Survey Settings

More Information

[UCSF developed this presentation comparing Qualtrics and REDCap for data collection.](#)

How to Move Survey Data to REDCap

Two approaches to survey data migration are described here:

1. General REDCap database creation and data import (recommended)
2. Use of an external module with additional modifications

General process to create a REDCap project and import data from other data collection tools

Currently there is no external module or plugin that allows perfect data transfer between Qualtrics and REDCap. However, users can follow the general REDCap database creation process to import Qualtrics survey data.

Create a Project Create a new project in REDCap and enable surveys in Project Setup.

The screenshot shows the 'Create a new REDCap Project' form. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'My Projects', 'New Project' (highlighted with a red box), 'Help & FAQ', 'Training Videos', 'Send-it', 'Messenger', and 'Control Center'. The main form area has the following sections:

- Project title:** A text input field with a placeholder 'Title to be displayed on project webpage'.
- Purpose of this project:** A dropdown menu with 'Select One'.
- Assign project to a Project Folder?** A checkbox.
- Project notes (optional):** A text area with a placeholder 'Comments describing the project use or purpose that are displayed on the My Projects page'.
- Start project from scratch or begin with a template?** A group of radio buttons:
 - Create an empty project (blank state)
 - Upload a REDCap project XML file (CDISC ODM format)
 - Use a template (choose one below)
- Choose a project template:** A table with columns 'which template', 'Template title (sorted by title)', and 'Template description'.

which template	Template title (sorted by title)	Template description
<input type="radio"/>	Basic Demography	Contains a single data collection instrument to capture basic demographic information.
<input type="radio"/>	Biological Consent Template with Additional Elements and IRBA (RCP 11.10)	Provided by UIC CCTS (04/20)
<input type="radio"/>	Classic Database	Contains six data entry forms, including forms for demography and baseline data, three monthly data forms, and concludes with a completion data form.
<input type="radio"/>	Field Embedding Example Project	Contains a single data collection instrument to demonstrate the Field Embedding feature.

At the bottom of the form are 'Create Project' and 'Cancel' buttons.

Figure 1: Create a new project.

The screenshot shows the 'Project Setup' page. The navigation bar includes 'Project Home', 'Project Setup' (active), 'Other Functionality', 'Project Revision History', and 'Edit project settings'. The page status is 'Project status: Development' and 'Completed steps 0 of 9'. The 'Main project settings' section is highlighted with a red box and contains the following options:

- Use surveys in this project? [?]
- Use longitudinal data collection with defined events? [?]

There is also a 'VIDEO: How to create and manage a survey' link. Below this section is a 'Design your data collection instruments & enable your surveys' section, which is currently 'Not started'.

Figure 2: Enable surveys in Project Setup.

Add forms and fields using the Online Designer or Data Dictionary. When there is more than one survey form within a project, each form needs to be enabled as a survey in the Online Designer. Define options for each survey form in Survey Settings.

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: Text Box (Short Text, Number, Date/Time, ...)

Question Number: [Blank]

Field Label: [Blank]

Action Tag: [Blank]

Variable Name: telephone_1

Validation: Phone (North America)

Required?* No

Identifier?* No

Field Note (optional): Include Area Code

Figure 3: Edit survey fields.

Project Home | **Project Setup** | **Online Designer** | **Data Dictionary** | **Codebook**

Data Collection Instruments

Instrument name	Fields	View PDF	Enabled as survey	Instrument actions	Survey-related options
Demographics	27			Choose action	Survey settings Automated Invitations
Baseline Data	19			Choose action	Survey settings Automated Invitations
letter1	0			Choose action	Survey settings Automated Invitations
Month 1 Data	19			Choose action	Survey settings Automated Invitations
Recruitment Materials Order Form Draft	20			Choose action	Survey settings Automated Invitations
Month 2 Data	19		Enable	Choose action	
Month 3 Data	27		Enable	Choose action	
Completion Date	5		Enable	Choose action	
piping test	2		Enable	Choose action	

Figure 4: Edit survey settings.

Once forms have been created, test them in the Add/Edit Records module. Look for errors with branching logic and calculated fields. Thoroughly test all forms and make modifications before adding real data.

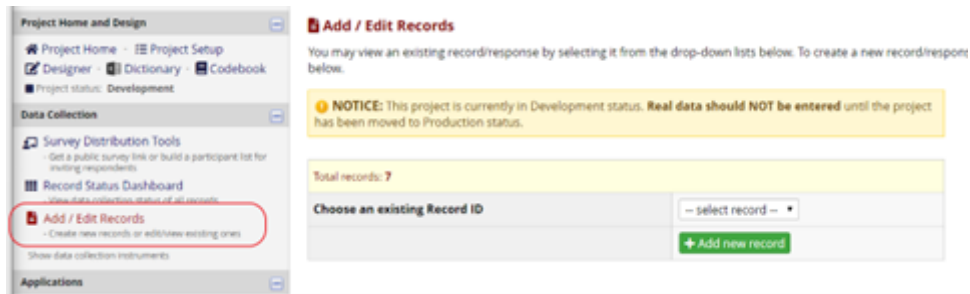


Figure 5: Add test data.

After testing the project and before importing real survey data, make sure to move the project into production mode in Project Setup. Test data can be deleted as part of the move to production mode. In production mode, forms and data will be better protected from unexpected loss due to project modification.

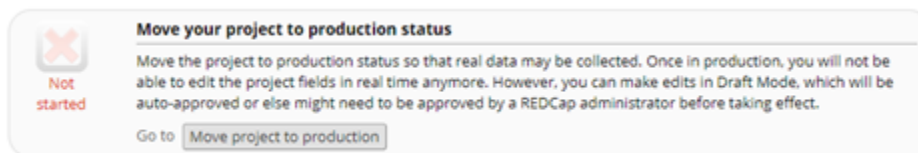


Figure 6: Move to production status.

Import Data Import your existing data using the Data Import Tool or API. The Data Import Tool provides a .csv template to ensure that imported data will be compatible with the REDCap project. The API, suitable for any frequent or managed data transferring plans, allows you to import or export data using a programming language such as PHP, Perl, Python, or R without logging in to the REDCap project. To access the API, a user needs to request a token through the API module. [Learn more about the REDCap API.](#)

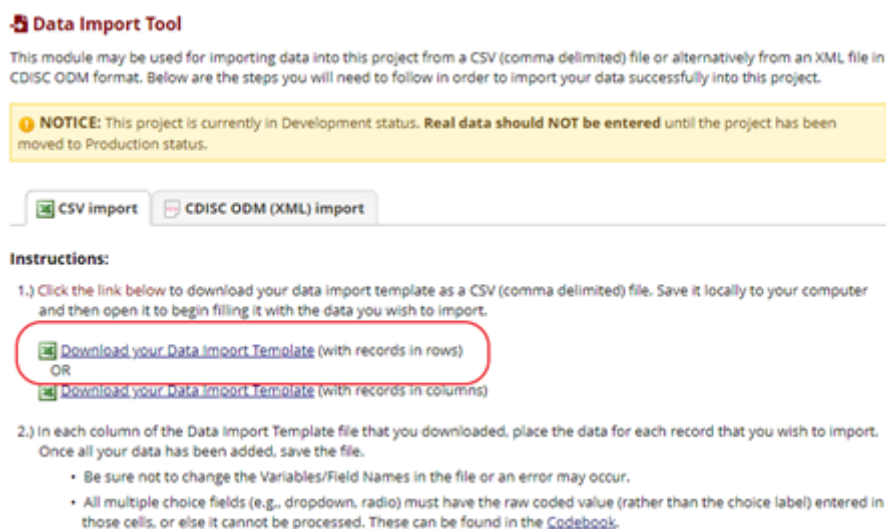


Figure 7: Data Import Tool and Import Template

External Module/Plugin

The University of Minnesota REDCap team created [this shared plugin to convert a Qualtrics form to a REDCap data dictionary](#). This plugin will not convert all database information, including branching logic, validation options, and added images.

External modules introduced by other institutions may provide some functionality for transferring a database to REDCap, but they may not fully cover all needs and use-cases. The use of any plugin will depend on the user's knowledge and skills. Users are responsible for implementing modules appropriately. [Contact the CCTS REDCap administrative support team](#) for system-level assistance, including enabling any external modules. Users cannot add a module directly to the REDCap server without admin support.