

# Surveys

## CCTS Biostatistics Core

March 2023

### Overview

In REDCap, a survey is a version of a data collection instrument that can be accessed through a public or private URL. It can be completed by a study participant without logging into REDCap. All surveys can also be accessed in form view by logged-in study staff.

### How to Use Surveys in REDCap

#### One survey

A project can contain a single data collection instrument, enabled as a survey. Each response corresponds to a single record in your project.

Use cases:

- Opinion poll
- Event registration

#### Multiple chained surveys

Create multiple surveys and allow each participant to respond to some or all of them. Each respondent can complete each survey once, and all responses by a single individual will be connected to one record.

Respondents can be led through surveys automatically in one sitting (Survey Queue) or invited to take follow-up surveys by email. Surveys in the sequence can be conditionally skipped based on earlier responses.

Use cases:

- Potential recruits complete a screening questionnaire. Eligible participants then complete a health survey.
- All participants complete an intake survey. Based on their reported age, they are then guided to either an adult or a child version of an assessment.

#### Longitudinal data collection

One individual can repeat instruments or whole events multiple times. All submissions of all surveys by an individual will be connected to one record.

Use cases:

- Study participants complete the same survey at baseline and 6 months later (defined events)
- Patients complete a health questionnaire at every appointment (open-ended repeating instrument)

## Enabling Surveys in REDCap

Surveys are not enabled by default in REDCap projects. You must first enable surveys on the Project Setup page.

**UIC** CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

University of Illinois at Chicago  
Center for Clinical and Translational Science


**Example Survey Project** PID 12898

---

[Project Home](#)
[Project Setup](#)
[Other Functionality](#)
[Project Revision History](#)
[Edit project settings](#)

✔ **Your new REDCap project has been created and is ready to be accessed.**  
You may now begin exploring your project and the many features available to you. Below are some instructions to help you get started.

**Project status:** 🔧 Development Completed steps **0** of **7**



Not started

[I'm done!](#)

**Main project settings**

Use surveys in this project? [?](#)

[VIDEO: How to create and manage a survey](#)

Use longitudinal data collection with defined events? [?](#)

Use the MyCap participant-facing mobile app? [Learn more about MyCap](#)

Modify project title, purpose, etc.

For each instrument you want to share as a survey, click the **Enable** button on the Online Designer.

[Project Home](#)
[Project Setup](#)
[Online Designer](#)
[Data Dictionary](#)
[Codebook](#)

---

[VIDEO: How to use this page](#)
[Create snapshot of instruments](#)
Last snapshot: never [?](#)

The Online Designer will allow you to make project modifications to fields and data collection instruments very easily using only your web browser.  
NOTE: While in development status, all field changes will take effect immediately in real time.

**Data Collection Instruments**

[+ Create](#) a new instrument from scratch

[Import](#) a new instrument from the official REDCap Instrument Library

[Upload](#) instrument ZIP file from another project/user or [external libraries](#)

Form options:

[Form Display Logic](#)

Survey options:

[Survey Queue](#) [Auto Invitation options](#) [Survey Login](#)

[Survey Notifications](#)

Instrument name	Fields	View PDF	Enabled as survey	Instrument actions	Survey related options
Form 1	1		<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Enable</div>	Choose action <a href="#">▼</a>	

## Survey Settings

On the Survey Settings page, you can modify the appearance and behavior of your survey.

### Basic Survey Options

- Edit the survey title and introductory text

**Basic Survey Options:**

**Survey Title**   
Title to be displayed to participants at the top of the survey page

**Survey Instructions**  
(Displayed at top of survey after title)

Paragraph

[How to use Piping here](#)

### Survey Design Options

- Customize fonts, colors, and logos

**Survey Design Options:** [Copy design to other surveys](#)

**Width of survey on page**  
Set a custom width as a percentage of the webpage that the survey will take up.   
Note: The percentage page width settings are fully dependent on the participant's screen size. This setting will not be applied when viewing the survey on mobile devices.

**Logo**  
(Optional: display an image above the survey title)  
 Add new logo:  
 No file chosen  
(Images wider than 600 pixels will be downsized to fit page.)  
 Hide survey title on survey page when display logo

**Use enhanced radio buttons and checkboxes?**  
Includes Yes/No and True/False fields  [Show example](#)

**Size of survey text**

**Font of survey text**

**Survey theme**

### Survey Customizations

- Control numbering and pagination
- Customize Submit buttons
- Decide whether to show respondents a summary after submission

**Survey Customizations:**

**☰ Question Numbering**  
 For custom numbering, each question's number will be blank by default until manually added via the Online Designer or Data Dictionary.  
 Custom numbered ▾  
 Question numbers will not display correctly if using auto numbering if some questions have branching logic employed. Question auto numbering has been automatically disabled because some of your survey questions use branching logic.

**📄 Pagination**  
 One page or multiple pages? Section headers, which begin new sections on the instrument, will serve as the page break in a multi-page survey, in which each page will begin with a section header.  
 Single page ▾  
 Display page numbers at top of survey page  
 Hide the 'Previous Page' button (i.e., Back button) on the survey page (prevents respondents from going back to previous pages)

**📄 Allow participants to download a PDF of their responses at end of survey?**  
 Display a button for the participant to download PDF file of their responses for the survey they just completed.  
 No ▾  
 This option will not be available if the Survey Auto-continue or Survey Queue auto-start option is enabled. Also, if a field utilizes the @HIDDEN action tag, it will not be displayed in the PDF.

**📄 Save a PDF of completed survey response to a File Upload field**  
 A PDF copy of the survey response will be immediately stored in the field selected on the right whenever a participant completes this survey.  
 Current event ▾ Disabled ▾  
 Store the translated version of the PDF (if using Multi-language Management)  
 Choose a File Upload field from the drop-down above to enable this feature. Tip: If desired, the field may exist on the survey instrument that is triggering it, in which the field can be hidden on the survey page using the action tag @HIDDEN-SURVEY. [Learn more](#)

### Survey Access

- Set response limits or expiration dates
- Decide whether respondents can change their responses

**Survey Access:**

**🚫 Response Limit (optional)**  
 (Maximum number of responses to collect. Prevents respondents from starting the survey after a set number of responses have been collected.) [?](#)  
 (e.g., 150) If left blank, the response limit will not be enforced.  
 Will include **partial and completed responses** ▾  
 Custom text to display to respondent on survey when limit is reached:  
 Paragraph ▾ — **B** *I* U [Link](#) `</>`   
  
  
 Thank you for your interest; however, the survey is closed because the maximum number of responses has been reached.

### Survey Termination Options

- Draft confirmation emails
- Enable the eConsent framework

**Survey Termination Options:**

**Auto-continue to the next survey?** Automatically start the next survey instrument after finishing this survey [?](#)

(Optional) Conditional logic for Survey Auto-Continue:

Auto-continue to the next survey ONLY if the conditional logic below is *TRUE* or if the textbox has been left blank.

e.g., [enrollment\_arm\_1][age] > 30 [How to use this](#)

— OTHERWISE —

**Redirect to a URL**  
(Redirect to a webpage when survey is completed)

Provide a full URL, e.g. <http://www.example.com/mypage.html>, [survey-url:other\_survey]

[How to use Piping here](#)

— OR —

**Survey Completion Text**  
(Displayed after survey is completed as 'thank you' text or as acknowledgement text)

Paragraph	▼	—	<b>B</b>	<i>I</i>	<u>U</u>	<a href="#">🔗</a>	<code>&lt;/&gt;</code>							
↶		↷												
<b>Thank you for taking the survey.</b>														
Have a nice day!														