

**Transcript of:** Traditional Project

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**REDCap version featured:** 5.6.0 (standard branch)

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*Audio is in normal text below. Timestamps are in bold to assist in finding specific topics.*

**(0:00)**

The traditional or classic project meets the needs of a wide-range of data collection strategies. This is the simplest type of project, yet it can collect hundreds or even thousands of data points.

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Using multiple data collection instruments is common. All data entry happens within the project, while users are logged in. For this reason, the instruments may also be called data entry forms.

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New records are created through the Add/Edit Records link. This page and the Dashboard are used to open existing records.

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An alternate way to access existing records is by adding record-specific events to the calendar. This approach is particularly useful when doing patient research. Visits on the calendar are often easier to find than scrolling through a large Dashboard.

One last note regarding traditional projects – this project type can be used for longitudinal data collection. Such studies capture the same variables repeatedly for each record. Here, a patient is seen over several months. The same lab values are collected each month.

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Because the same data is collected repeatedly over a defined period of time, this is an example of a longitudinal study. Here, each form has its own unique name and is a separate webpage. Therefore, the questions on each

form do not have to be exactly the same. This structure is far more flexible than using REDCap's longitudinal module. That module is explored in a separate video.

**(1:56)**

Another way to collect repeated data in the classic format is to change how you think of a record. Here, each record corresponds to a patient. Instead, each record could correspond to a visit or other repeated event. The same instrument can be completed repeatedly. Here, a series of three instruments is used several times.

**(2:28)**

Key fields are the same each time a patient visits. Always entering the same identifier will allow me to link responses over time. In this way, I can collect the data traditionally yet analyze it longitudinally.

**(2:45)**

The type of project and structure used can vary greatly depending on how you need to view and analyze data. REDCap's flexibility allows you to iteratively test multiple approaches and decide what works best for your needs even before data collection begins.