

Dear REDCap user,

We wanted to let you know about some exciting new features we will add to REDCap soon. On Friday, January 12, 2018, we will upgrade REDCap from Version 7.6.3 to Version 8.1.0. The upgrade will NOT require any downtime.

This new version of REDCap now includes 3 new features. Details for each are listed below. We hope you enjoy them. As always, thanks for using and supporting REDCap!

Visit REDCap at <https://redcap.lsuhscc.edu>

#### **New action tag: @MAXCHOICE**

Causes one or more specified choices to be disabled (i.e., displayed but not usable) for a checkbox, radio button, or drop-down field after a specified amount of records have been saved with that choice. For example, @MAXCHOICE(0=50,1=75,2=50) would imply that once 50 records have selected the '0' coded choice, that choice will become disabled for any record viewed afterward that does not have that choice saved, such as when the form/survey is opened for a new record, and thus 75 records for choice '1', 50 for choice '2', etc.

The format must be the action tag name followed by the choice designations inside parentheses, in which each will follow the format of ChoiceCode=MaxCount with each choice separated by commas. Note: For longitudinal projects, when counting the number of choices saved for records, it will treat all events as separate, meaning that in the example above, choice '0' can have a max number of 50 selections in EACH event in the project.

Note: This action tag not only gets employed when a form or survey is loaded but also when a form or survey is submitted in order to prevent users/respondents from going over the max amount specified. If a user submits a form/survey, at which point the maximum has been reached due to simultaneous users entering data just before them, it will not save that field's value (but will save all the other fields on the form/survey), and it will reload the form/survey and tell the user to make another selection for the field.

#### **New action tag: @MAXCHECKED**

Allows a checkbox field to have a maximum number of checkboxes that can be checked. If other checkbox options are clicked after the maximum has been reached, those choices will not be able to be checked. The format must be @MAXCHECKED=#, in which # is a positive integer. For example, @MAXCHECKED=3 will allow a maximum of 3 checkbox choices to be checked. NOTE: This action tag can only be utilized by Checkbox fields, and it does not get enforced during data imports.

**New feature: New option to allow respondents to return to a partially completed or fully completed survey response without needing a return code.** When enabling "Save & Return Later" for a survey on the Survey Settings page, it will still default to requiring a return code in order for a respondent to continue the survey where they left off. But a user may opt to allow respondents to return to and continue their survey with only the survey link (i.e., without needing a return code in addition to the link) to view and modify their previous responses on that survey. Note: A warning exists in bold text in the informational popup for this feature that states the following: "If you are collecting identifying information (e.g., PII, PHI), for privacy reasons it is HIGHLY recommended that you leave the option unchecked so as to enforce a return code."

#### **New feature: External Modules (v8.0.0)**

External Modules are individual packages of software that can be downloaded and installed by a REDCap administrator. Modules can extend REDCap's current functionality, and can also provide customizations and enhancements for REDCap's existing behavior and appearance at the system level or project level. Modules can utilize REDCap hooks and also can have REDCap plugin pages as part of them.

A new page in the Control Center allows administrators to navigate to the REDCap Repo (Repository of External Modules) and download any module listed in the REDCap Repo. Only administrators may enable modules, either at the system level or project level, although the permissions regarding who can configure a module (after it has been enabled for a project) is something that can be set at the module level by an administrator on the Control Center's Module Manager page. Each module has its own set of configuration options, which are all defined by the creator of the module.

If you or your users experience any issues with a given module, you are encouraged to notify the author of the module rather than posting a Bug Report on the REDCap Community site.

We hope you enjoy these new features!

Sincerely,  
The REDCap Team