DATA MANAGEMENT

What you should know and why you should care

CREST Seminar November 10, 2015

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Things that can go wrong with data

- Crucial data elements may be missing
- Data may be incorrect due to errors in:
 - Data collection
 - Data entry
- Data may be not have common identifier
 - Cannot be merged
 - May be merged incorrectly
- Data may not be saved or backed up
- Data files may be lost or corrupted

Real World Examples

 A few illustrations of common data problems from the popular news sources philly oom
Forbes: Bad dat

The Inquirer DAILY NEWS

August 3, 2012

Forbes: Bad data hurt Haverford in _ college rankings

"Forbes' annual list is out, and Haverford plummeted from No. 7 to No. 27 - for no obvious reason. A College spokesman explained that the error was based on single figure:

A zero was incorrectly entered in database instead of 108 for the graduation rate of white women who enrolled in 2004.

...But no revision is planned, since the magazine and the online list has already been published."

Data Entry Error

PharmaTimes

May 6, 2012

Vertex stock slides over cystic fibrosis data mistake

"Shares in Vertex Pharmaceuticals have taken a hit after the company had to take the rather embarrassing step of correcting previously-announced interim mid-stage results of a combination cystic fibrosis treatment.

...the result of a misinterpretation [of the denominator of the treatment grant between the firm and its outside statistical ve Data Mismanaged

Oops: Excel Error Calls Into Question...

SPECTRUM

Posted 22 Apr 2013

- □ A book by Harvard Researchers entitled 'This time it's different" contained "...serious errors that inaccurately represent the relationship between public debt and GDP growth among 20 advanced economies in the post-war period."
- The Authors admitted they forgot to include five rows in an Excel file resulting in exclusion of data from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, and Denmark—a "coding error" which they said was "a significant lapse on our part."

excluded key data

The New York Times July 7, 2011

How Bright Promise in Cancer Testing Fell Apart

- Duke Cancer Center's gene-based tests proved worthless, research behind them was discredited
- Statisticians from MD Anderson discovered errors such as columns moved over in a spread-sheet;
 Duke team "shrugged them off" as "clerical errors."
- Four papers were retracted
- Duke shut down three cancer trials
- □ Center leaders resigned or were removed
- □ People died and their relatives sued Duke



Goal: Convert Data into Electronic Format as Quickly as Possible





Data Management 101:

- No single "right" way to collect or manage data
- Consider:
 - Environment/location
 - Resources
 - Regulations
- □ Be sure to *plan* prior to study start
- □ Do what works for the study at hand

Where to start?

Data management plan

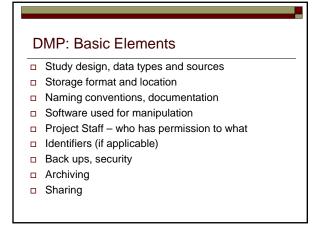
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

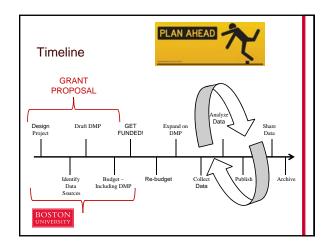
A data management plan or DMP is a formal document that outlines how you will handle your data both during your research, and after the project is completed. If The goal of a data management plan is to consider the many aspects of data management, metadata generation, data preservation, and analysis before the project begins; this ensures that data are well-managed in the present, and prepared for preservation in the future.

DMP Purpose: To help you manage and share your data; meet funder requirements. General elements include:

- · Project or study description
- · Documentation, organization, storage
- Access and sharing
- Archiving







Beginning: Identify Key Data Elements

- Review hypotheses
- □ What are primary, secondary outcomes?
- □ What covariates and confounders must be collected?
- What are the data sources?
 - Questionnaires
 - Labs, imaging
 - Medical record review
 - other external sources (e.g., lab results, medical records, death certificates)

Other Data Elements

- Regulatory data:
 - IRB requirements
 - Safety (DSMB)
 - FDA (e.g., 21 CFR, part 11)
 - Other?
- □ Tracking/Study management data:
 - Tracking participants
 - Data elements by time-points
- Harmonization
 - NIH
 - Other

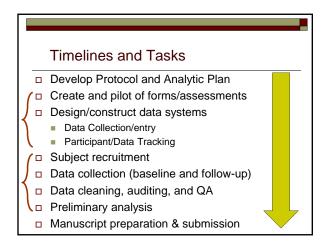
Visit Protocol: Data by Time-point

- □ Determine visit Schedule and data collected at each visit
 - Questionnaires
 - Labs



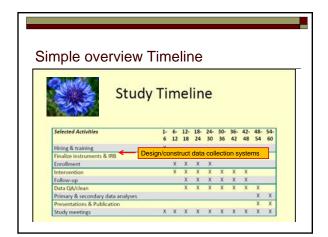
- Consider data not be connected to visits
- Adverse events, serious adverse events
 - Hospitalization
 - Death
- Medical records

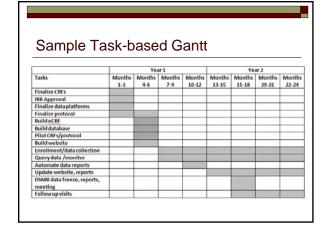
Sample data/visit grid									
Campio a	Screening	Beeine	West	Week	West	West	West	West	Followup wat
	Period	200000			п	16	36	34	usek 28
THU UUT	3-2 wars between days JR to 1	Day 1	Day 28	Day 14	Day 84	Day 112	Day 148	Day 148	One month off
Medical history & demographics/ mean Hgb, transfusion frequency prior or									
Physical examination (PE) (3)		100		100	100				
Pregnancy Test (Females) (9)	- 1			- 8	8	8.	- 8		8
Inclusion/ exclusion criteria evaluation	- 1								
informed conpent / assent									
Eandomization									_
Targeted physical exam (8)							- 1	A	
Vital signs with pulse calmetry (O ₂ sat) (9)	- 3.	1	- 1	. X	- X.	- 1		- 1	X
CBC and Orfferential (In)	,A		4	. X	A			A.	. K
Esticulacyte count (9)	1		1.	- 8	8		8		8.
Chemistry panel with LDH, Bill (9)	- 1			- 1			1.0	- J.E.	200
Hemotosis assays/LDH, haptoglobin (f)		1.		- X	У.		- 1	. X.	. K.
NT-proBNF (4)								X	1.
EPO, Ferritin (2)		1			1.			1.	
memograpin F (HaF) (3)									
Sardos (harnel Hudes / Certral lat-) 1)									
6 Minute wark distance (2)									
Dyspines scale, NY AMA score (3)		- I.			. 1			T.	
QQL (FACIT ferigue scale, ASCQME) (2)		3.							
Atherse events, Fain-Scale (8)				1,8					
Concomitant meds (T)				- 1	- 1				
EO+0 (2)									_
Telephone call (weekly) (34)		-		-		-		-	+
Financy Compliance & Med reconciliation (7)				- 1				- 3	
[7]						_		_	-
									_
Red cell survival (subset) (3-3)									
Interval History Jonals, hospitalization, or				0.4	.4.				× .

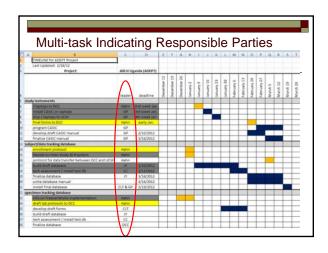


Create a Visual Timeline

- □ It doesn't have to be fancy
- More detail is better but something simple is better than nothing
- □ Plan to review and revise it often



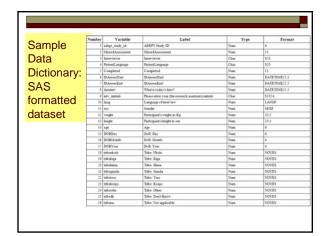


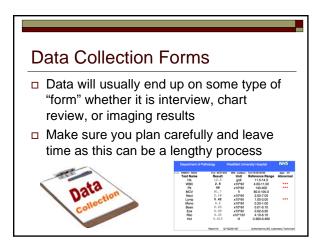


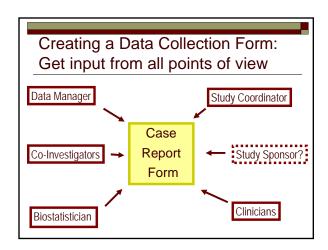
Tools Of The Trade Analytic plan Detailed protocol Well designed data collection forms Tracking system Data capture/entry system Plan for data query (checking/cleaning) Manuals Data dictionaries

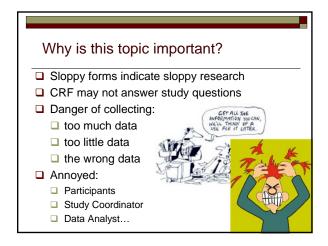


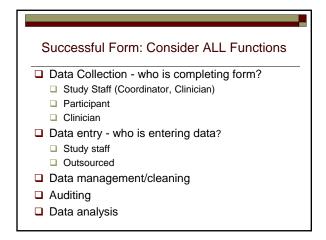














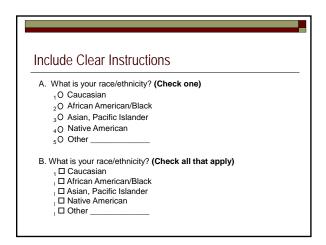
What makes a good form?

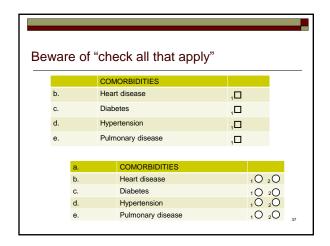
- User-friendly, uncluttered, well organized
- Provides clear instructions for completion
- Terminology familiar to person filling out
- Reading level matches study participants/evaluators
- Unambiguous questions
- Questions only asked/data collected in one place and only one place
- Easy to refer back and clean data

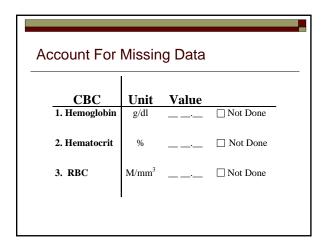
Pilot Your Forms Prior to Data Collection

- □ Test in target population (e.g., age, literacy)
 - Are items left blank?
 - Reword/drop question
 - Are "skip" patterns followed correctly?
 - > Train clinic personnel/revise or simplify forms
 - Are open-ended questions generating common responses?
 - > Categorize/code
- Make corrections prior to start of study
- Do not start data collection until forms are final

Avoid Open-ended & Include Response Measure What is your date of birth? Date of Birth? __/__/_ MM DD YYYY How much do you weigh? How much do you weigh? (pounds) How tall are you? How tall are you? (feet)/(inches) Record subject's temperature Record subject's oral temperature (f)











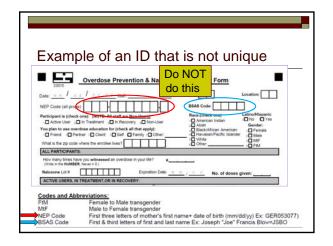
ID Assignment

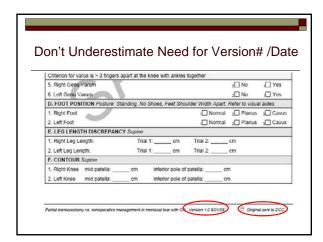
Must be UNIQUE for each subject

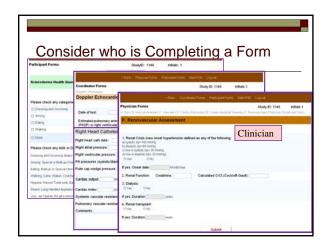
Should appear on every form (preferably page)
Links paper form with specific record in database
Multiple forms, "merge key" in database
May be a simple number 1001

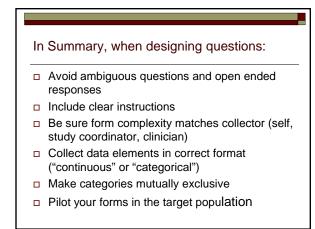
May be multi-part: 102101

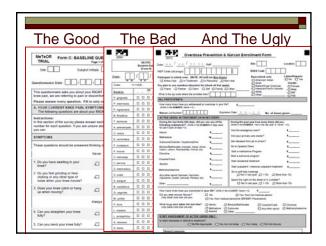
1 = Site
02 = Language
101= ID

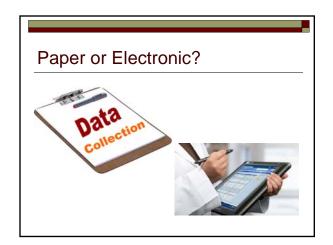












Paper Forms / Manual Entry

Advantages

The old "standard"
Shorter start-up time (Word/PDF)
Relatively easy to train staff
Hardcopy document to refer back to
Can be done anywhere

Disadvantages
Costs: data entry, storage and shipping
Longer time from collection to database
Errors in data collection (missing, out of range, skips)

Electronic Data Capture

Advantages

- Cleaner data at entry (required fields, skips, ranges)
- Can use data in real time (or close to it)
- No extra data entry costs
- Data can inform next visit even for short follow up

Disadvantages

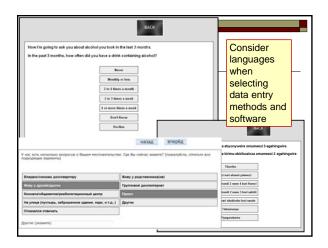
- Programming time and costs
- Increased hardware and software costs
- Infrastructure concerns (software versions, internet connection, back-up equipment)
- Data security

A Word About "Canned" Software

Many "canned" sofware packages available

- □ No single best choice
- Cost can vary widely
- Database structures vary
- Do your homework to make sure what you get will work for your project





What to use ...?

- □ To determine what software is best suited for your project see:
 - What is available to you?
 - What is the cost (can you afford it)?
 - What has the features you need (e.g., language)

i3

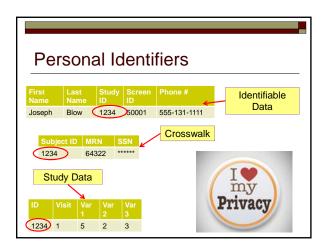
Once data are collected...

- ☐ Get your data into a useful format
- □ No "right" format use what works for you
 - SQL database
 - SAS datasets
 - SPSS
 - Excel (be careful!)



Crosswalk for Personal Identifiers

- □ Do not store any identifier unless you have a good reason for it
- Do not store identifiers in same files with study data. Identifiers should be kept separate!
- □ Create "crosswalk" files of identifiers and store them someplace secure.



HIPAA Identifiers

- 1. Names
- 2. Addresses other than state, and first three digits of the zip code
- 3. All elements of date other than year, and all specific ages over 89 years
- 4. Telephone numbers
- 5. fax numbers
- 6. Email addresses
- 7. Social Security numbers
- 8. Medical Record numbers
- 9. Health plan beneficiary numbers

HIPAA Identifiers (cont)

- 10. Account numbers
- 11. Certificate/license numbers
- 12. Vehicle identifiers and serial numbers
- 13. Device identifiers and serial numbers
- 14. Web universal resource locators (URLs; web site addresses)
- 15. Internet protocol (IP) addresses
- 16. Biometric identifiers, including finger and voice prints
- 17. Full face photographic images and any comparable images
- Any other unique identifying number, characteristic, or code

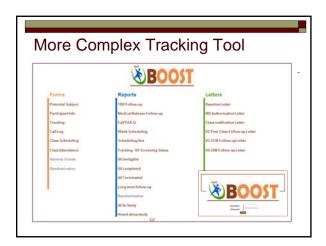


Tracking the Participants

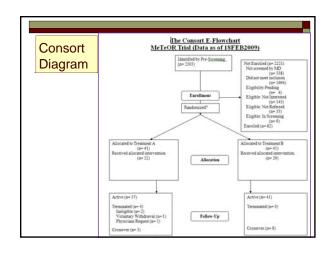
You need a system to track participants

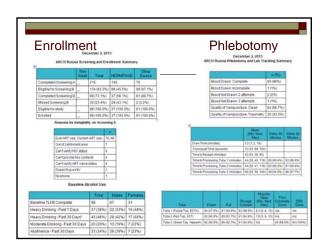
- □ Tracking for Study Management:
 - Screened, Eligible, Enrolled
 - Monitor and report progress
- □ Tracking tools for study staff:
 - Schedule/reminders follow up visits
 - Collection of all data points at each visit
- Small study may use Outlook or Excel; large study may need a tracking system

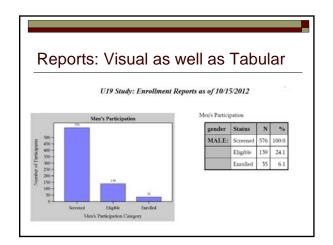


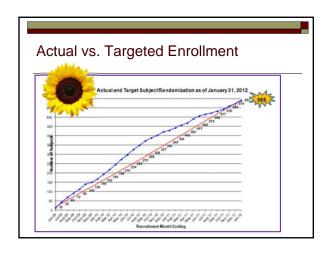


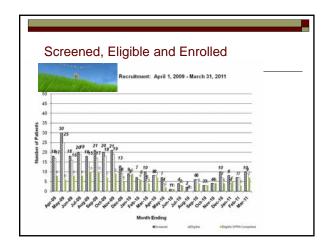


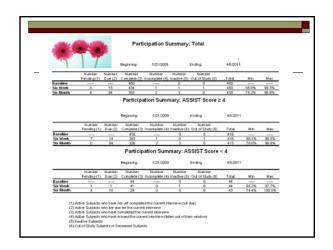


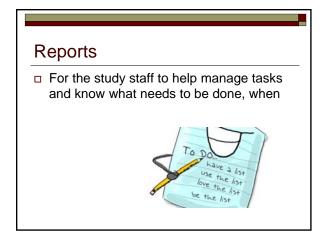


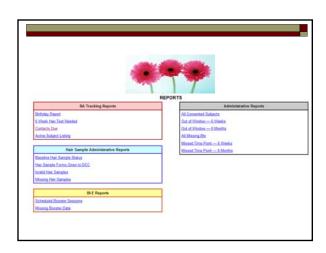


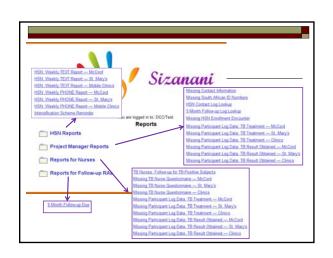
















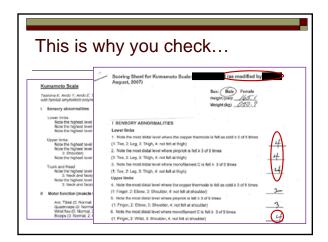
- Identify what data have been collected
 - For each Subject at each Visit:
 - Questionnaires
 - Imaging, labs results
 - Other external data
- Missing data: can you still get it?
- □ Data entry: 1st entry/ 2nd entry/ reconciled
- Data cleaning/ QA / auditing
- "Clean" frozen datasets

Look at the Data Early and Often

- □ You cannot fix a problem if you don't know it exists
- ☐ Get data into electronic format ASAP so it can be more easily reviewed
- Monitor every data point for the first few participants
- □ Ongoing: audit percentage of forms
- □ Pay extra attention to key variables

Do simple checks

- □ Frequency (count) and distribution (range) of each and every variable
- □ Do crosstabs of variables where appropriate
- What is missing?
- What is out of range?
- □ What contradicts (e.g., pregnant males)
- Are there systemic problems?





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Decument? Microsoft Word

De [& Yow | Joset | Figure | Look | Type a control for hob | X |

De [& Yow | Joset | Figure | Look | Type a control for hob | X |

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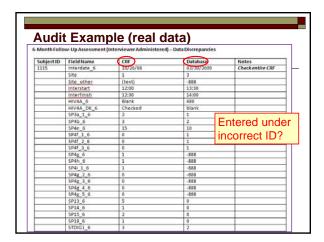
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The a control
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Perform Systematic Data Audits

- Data forms and source documents are compared with database on X % of forms
- □ Set an "acceptable" error rate. For example:
 - 0.1% for key variables
 - 0.5% overall
- If audit yields a larger error rate, you must check and correct the database





Pay Extra Attention To Key Data

Be sure to pay particular attention to key data points where applicable.

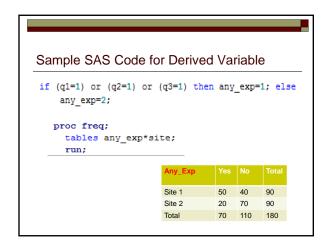
- Query all entries of critical variables (e.g., primary outcome)
- □ Extra attention to problematic variables (e.g., time-line-follow-back)
- □ Query all Serious Adverse Events ?

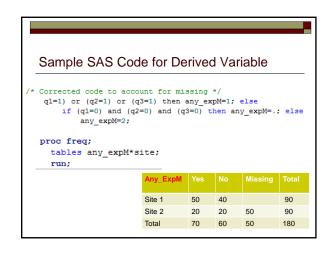
Derived Variables

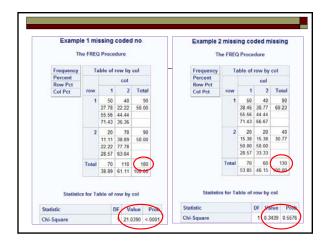
Many analyses require creation of a derived variable from multiple data points

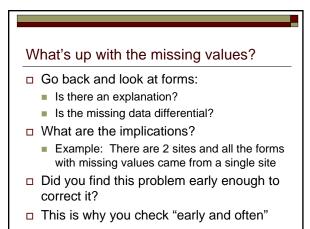
- Be especially careful in creating derived variables
- □ Include all relevant data elements
- Don't forget to account for missing data
- Be sure to look at frequencies and crosstabs of derived variables prior to including in models

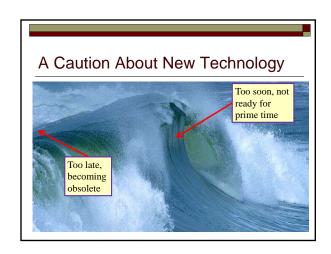
Creating a Derived Variable Q1. Does child smoke Q2. Do household members smoke? Q3. Do caretakers smoke? Q3. Do caretakers smoke? New Var: Smoke_Exp Q1. Unprotected sex primary partner? Q2. Unprotected sex with casual partner? Q3. Share needles? New Variable: HIV_Exp













Benefits of smartphones

- □ Electronic data capture
- □ Secure if you use to connect to website with encryption
- SMS (text messaging) in addition to linking to web-form
- Easy to carry
- □ Everyone wants one
- □ "Sexy" so funders like the idea

Smartphone challenges

- □ Can be Expensive (hardware, data plans)
- □ Cannot encryption text messages
- □ One question per screen
- □ Small screens make view some question types difficult (e.g., grids)
- Navigating around questionnaire (going back) is challenging
- □ Battery life is short
- Attractive to thieves and easily stolen

Data Security - General

- □ Keep paper records should be kept in locked cabinets and/or offices
- □ Store identifiers like names and addresses separate from clinical data
- Keep particularly sensitive data apart from other identifiers (e.g., SSN) – in a separate file by ID
- □ Do not collect sensitive data unless you really need it

☐ Set to automatically timeout if inactive☐ Encrypt laptops, flash-drives and other

 Encrypt laptops, flash-drives and other storage devices when possible

Data Security - Hardware

Password protect all computers

 Do not put identifiable data on portable media (e.g., CDs, flash-drives) unless password protected, preferably encrypted



Take Home Message

- Your team should include someone who understands data issues
- Budget for data management
- □ Planning ahead results in fewer revisions
- Check your data early and often
- □ If you do things correctly from the beginning:
 - It is less work
 - It is less expensive
 - You are more likely to discover the truth at the end

Questions?