

Should I use a longitudinal design or repeating events?

I am building my project and plan to collect data at multiple time points.

If you have fixed timepoints (e.g. follow-up visits) with repeating instruments, you should structure your data collection around these scheduled events and designate forms for each event.

To create events with repeating forms, use the **Longitudinal Project Design**. For more information, refer to *FAQ: Longitudinal Events*.

Data Collection Instrument	Baseline	Visit 1 (2)	Visit 2 (3)	Visit 3 (4)	Fina Visi (5)
Demographics	1				
Baseline Data	~				
Monthly Data		~	~	1	
Completion Data					~

If you have unscheduled events whose frequency is irregular (e.g. adverse events), you should use **Repeating Instruments (Forms) or Events**.

With REDCap, you can repeat a data collection instrument or an entire event of instruments an unlimited number of times without having to specify the amount needed. The repeating instruments/events feature can be enabled and set up by clicking the Enable button in Optional Modules on the Project Setup page.

Visit the **REDCap Training Video Library** to learn more.



FAQ: Longitudinal vs Repeat Events (v1.0, 11/15/20)				
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