



# Mapping REDCap Data into SDTM: A Case Study of Healthy Volunteer Research Data

Presented by Susan Mutter, Director, Statistical Programming, PROMETRIKA, LLC



#### **Meet the Speaker**

Susan Mutter

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Organization: PROMETRIKA, LLC

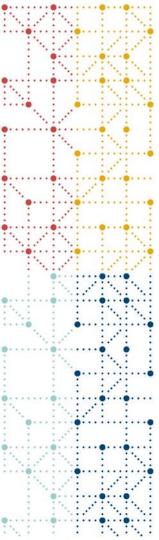
Susan has more than 25 years of diverse experience in clinical database design and management, and statistical programming. She has shared her extensive knowledge of CDISC and SDTM at conferences and training programs in the US, Russia, Europe and Asia. Earlier in her career, Susan participated as a research associate and data analyst for several projects sponsored by the US Military and NASA. She has co-authored several journal articles on nutrition in military field situations. Susan received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychobiology from Mount Holyoke College and is a member of the CDISC Advisory Council Task Force.

#### **Disclaimer and Disclosures**

• The views and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of CDISC.

The author has no real or apparent conflicts of interest to report.





#### Agenda

- 1. Introduction
- 2. What is REDCap and how is it related to CDISC?
- 3. Details on the Case Study
- 4. Mapping the Data
- 5. Conclusions



Introduction



#### Introduction

- Have you heard of REDCap?
- Have you used the REDCap interface?
- Have you worked with data from REDCap?







What is REDCap and how is it related to CDISC?



#### What is REDCap and how is it related to CDISC?

#### Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap)

- Developed at Vanderbilt University (Nashville, Tennessee, USA)
- A free, user-friendly web-based interface which requires no background knowledge or technical experience to use
- Made available for use exclusively to non-profit institutions

#### As of April 2025, the REDCap Consortium consists of:

- 7760 institutions
- 160 countries
- 2.3 million projects
- 3.7 million users
- 45,300 citations
- Potential for a huge pool of data that pharma could tap into (e.g. Natural History)



#### What is REDCap and how is it related to CDISC? - 2

Googling for "REDCap to CDISC SDTM", etc. doesn't generate a lot of hits

- Challenges of Academia Using CDISC Standards\*
  - Regardless of the human study research topic, many data points are easily standardized
  - Data points that are difficult to standardize are also the items where SDTM mapping is difficult and therefore advanced CDISC education is needed
  - Money and time budgets are needed for training
  - Many institutions have short term contracts (<5 years), so most personnel will be leaving/graduating, right when they become experts



<sup>\*</sup>A use-case analysis of Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium/Study Data Tabulation Model in academia in an investigator-initiated clinical trial Nagoya J. Med. Sci. 84. 120–132, 2022

#### What is REDCap and how is it related to CDISC? - 3

- CDISC Real World Data Connect project recommendations\*
  - Make CDISC standards easier to use in settings outside clinical research for regulatory submission
  - Take steps to support academic and public health researchers in the use of data coming from observational studies and registries
    - CDISC Translated metadata from 34 CDASH Foundational eCRFs and 20 CDASH Crohn's Disease eCRFs into REDCap eCRF metadata\*\*
      - Searching for "CDASH", "CDISC", etc. in REDCap yields nothing
      - Possible to find the forms by searching for "REDCap" in the CDISC website and following several links to REDCap

JMIR Med Inform 2022;10(1):e30363

J Soc Clin Data Manag. 2022; 2(3): . doi:10.47912/jscdm.172



<sup>\*</sup>Use of Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium (CDISC) Standards for Real-world Data: Expert Perspectives From a Qualitative Delphi Survey

<sup>\*\*</sup>Making Clinical Data Acquisition Standards Harmonization (CDASH) Electronic Case Report Forms Available on the REDCap Shared Data Instrument Library



**Details of the Case Study** 



#### **Details of the Case Study**

"Does an agent positively affect human physical performance during exercise under induced hypoxia?"

- Phase 1 healthy volunteer study
- Out of 96 total screened, 19 treated subjects were followed over 6 weeks
- Performed at a major clinic in the USA
- Potential applications for pilots, mountaineers, military, etc.

Site Investigator downloaded "free software" and proceeded to build a study

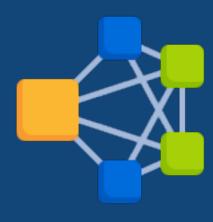
- The software was REDCap
- The investigator tried
- Data was ugly

PROMETRIKA enlisted to map the data into SDTM after the study finished





**Mapping the Data** 



### Mapping the Data: Methods/Tools for Mapping

- R package: REDcap2SDTM
  - Requires embedding domain name, variable name, and test code in the REDCap field annotation in the form
    - Not feasible for this study
- Import forms into other systems that can "export" into SDTM
  - Some data appeared to have been pulled directly from EHR, so no form
  - No budget to re-enter the data
  - Still would require post processing
- Manual mapping
  - Roll up sleeves and dive in



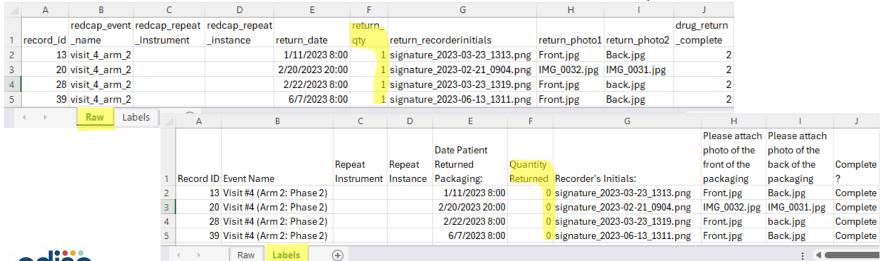
#### Mapping the Data: Exported Data File Structure

- Excel Spreadsheets
  - 2 tabs
    - Raw (raw values)
    - Labels (decoded values) preferred
    - Variable names are different in each tab
    - Check both tabs for values

- Form level spreadsheets
  - Similar to datasets exported from other EDC systems
  - Lesson Learned: ignore these
    - Missing some data points from related form

15

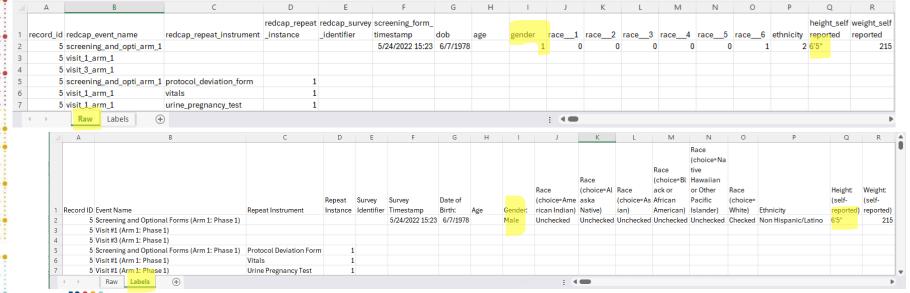
Not all forms were represented



#ClearDataClearImpact

#### **Mapping the Data: Exported Data File Structure - 2**

- Excel Spreadsheets (cont.)
  - "ALL" spreadsheet contains all the data (640 columns x 519 rows for this study)
    - · Lesson Learned: Use this file
      - Contains form data and pulls from EHR
      - Contains survey completion dates



#### Mapping the Data: SAS Data File Structure

- Challenging to reconcile Excel columns and SAS variables
  - Long variable names don't convert well
  - Hard to correlate variables with form questions
    - Solution: create Excel version of SAS Proc Contents and annotate

							i	
25			n Creation Order					
26	# Variable	Туре	Len Format	Informat	Label	Comment	s	
241						DOMAIN	TESTCD	TEST
242	215 ORDER_OF_EXERCISE_TRIALS_	Char	14 \$14.00	\$14.00	Order of Exercise Trials:	SUPPLB		
243	<b>216</b> VAR216	Num	8 BEST.		Power Output @ RER = 1.0 (W):	SUPPLB		
244	<b>217</b> VAR217	Num	8 BEST.		Baseline 2,3-DPG:	LB	DPG	2,3-Diphosphoglycerate
245	218 BASELINE_ATP_	Num	8 BEST.		Baseline ATP:	LB	ATP	Adenosine Triphosphate
246	<b>219</b> VAR219	Num	8 BEST.		Normoxic Cycling #1 (non-pedaling):	LB	DPG	2,3-Diphosphoglycerate
247	220 VAR220	Num	8 BEST.		Normoxic Cycling #2 (Stage 1):	LB	DPG	2,3-Diphosphoglycerate
248	<b>221</b> VAR221	Num	8 BEST.		Normoxic Cycling #3 (RER 1.0):	LB	DPG	2,3-Diphosphoglycerate
249	<b>222</b> VAR222	Num	8 BEST.		Normoxic Cycling #4 (Max):	LB	DPG	2,3-Diphosphoglycerate
250	223 VAR223	Num	8 BEST.		Hypoxic Cycling #1 (non-pedaling):	LB	DPG	2,3-Diphosphoglycerate
251	<b>224</b> VAR224	Num	8 BEST.		Hypoxic Cycling #2 (Stage 1):	LB	DPG	2,3-Diphosphoglycerate
252	<b>225</b> VAR225	Num	8 BEST.		Hypoxic Cycling #3 (RER 1.0):	LB	DPG	2,3-Diphosphoglycerate
253	<b>226</b> VAR226	Num	8 BEST.		Hypoxic Cycling #4 (Max):	LB	DPG	2,3-Diphosphoglycerate
254	<b>227</b> VAR227	Num	8 BEST.		Normoxic Cycling #1 (non-pedaling):_1	LB	ATP	Adenosine Triphosphate
255	228 VAR228	Num	8 BEST.		Normoxic Cycling #2 (Stage 1):_1	LB	ATP	Adenosine Triphosphate
256	229 VAR229	Num	8 BEST.		Normoxic Cycling #3 (RER 1.0):_1	LB	ATP	Adenosine Triphosphate
257	230 VAR230	Num	8 BEST.		Normoxic Cycling #4 (Max):_1	LB	ATP	Adenosine Triphosphate
258	231 VAR231	Num	8 BEST.		Hypoxic Cycling #1 (non-pedaling):_1	LB	ATP	Adenosine Triphosphate
259	232 VAR232	Num	8 BEST.		Hypoxic Cycling #2 (Stage 1):_1	LB	ATP	Adenosine Triphosphate
260	233 VAR233	Num	8 BEST.		Hypoxic Cycling #3 (RER 1.0):_1	LB	ATP	Adenosine Triphosphate
261	234 VAR234	Num	8 BEST.		Hypoxic Cycling #4 (Max):_1	LB	ATP	Adenosine Triphosphate
262	235 COMPLETE13	Char	10 \$10.00	\$10.00	Complete?_13			



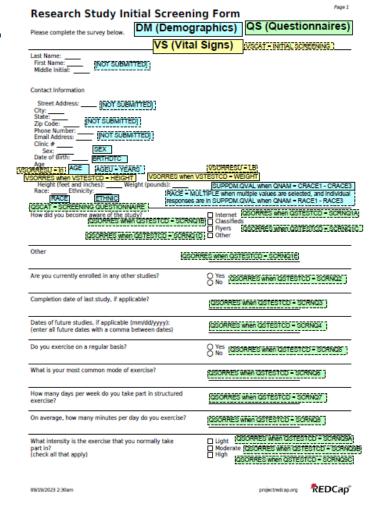
## **Mapping the Data: SAS Data File Structure - 2**

25	-		Variables i	n Creation	Order					
26	#	Variable	Туре	Len	Format	Informat	Label	Comment	S	
288	-		<b>-</b>	~	-		_	DOMAI -	TESTCD -	TEST
289	261	_21O2REST_FOREARM_BLOOD_FLOW	Num	8	BEST.		21% O2- Rest Forearm Blood Flow	CV	BLDFLRT	Blood Flow Rate
290	262	_15O2REST_FOREARM_BLOOD_FLOW	Num	8	BEST.		15% O2- Rest Forearm Blood Flow	CV	BLDFLRT	Blood Flow Rate
291	263	_10O2REST_FOREARM_BLOOD_FLOW	Num	8	BEST.		10% O2- Rest Forearm Blood Flow	CV	BLDFLRT	Blood Flow Rate
292	264	VAR264	Num	8	BEST.		21% O2- 10%MVC Forearm Blood Flow	CV	BLDFLRT	Blood Flow Rate
293	265	VAR265	Num	8	BEST.		15% O2- 10%MVC Forearm Blood Flow	CV	BLDFLRT	Blood Flow Rate
294	266	VAR266	Num	8	BEST.		10% O2- 10%MVC Forearm Blood Flow	CV	BLDFLRT	Blood Flow Rate
295	267	VAR267	Num	8	BEST.		21% O2- 20%MVC Forearm Blood Flow	CV	BLDFLRT	Blood Flow Rate
296	268	VAR268	Num	8	BEST.		15% O2- 20%MVC Forearm Blood Flow	CV	BLDFLRT	Blood Flow Rate
297	269	VAR269	Num	8	BEST.		10% O2- 20%MVC Forearm Blood Flow	CV	BLDFLRT	Blood Flow Rate
298	270	_21O2REST_BRACHIAL_ARTERY_DI	Num	8	BEST.		21% O2- Rest Brachial Artery Diameter	CV	DIAMETER	Diameter
299	271	_15O2REST_BRACHIAL_ARTERY_DI	Num	8	BEST.		15% O2- Rest Brachial Artery Diameter	CV	DIAMETER	Diameter
300	272	_10O2REST_BRACHIAL_ARTERY_DI	Num	8	BEST.		10% O2- Rest Brachial Artery Diameter	CV	DIAMETER	Diameter
301	273	VAR273	Num	8	BEST.		21% O2- 10%MVC Brachial Artery Diameter	CV	DIAMETER	Diameter
302	274	VAR274	Num	8	BEST.		15% O2- 10%MVC Brachial Artery Diameter	CV	DIAMETER	Diameter
303	275	VAR275	Num	8	BEST.		10% O2- 10%MVC Brachial Artery Diameter	CV	DIAMETER	Diameter
304	276	VAR276	Num	8	BEST.		21% O2- 20%MVC Brachial Artery Diameter	CV	DIAMETER	Diameter
305	277	VAR277	Num	8	BEST.		15% O2- 20%MVC Brachial Artery Diameter	CV	DIAMETER	Diameter
306	278	VAR278	Num	8	BEST.		10% O2- 20%MVC Brachial Artery Diameter	CV	DIAMETER	Diameter
307	279	_21O2REST_HEART_RATE	Num	8	BEST.		21% O2- Rest Heart Rate	VS	HR	Heart Rate
308	280	_15O2REST_HEART_RATE	Num	8	BEST.		15% O2- Rest Heart Rate	VS	HR	Heart Rate
309	281	_10O2REST_HEART_RATE	Num	8	BEST.		10% O2- Rest Heart Rate	VS	HR	Heart Rate
310	282	VAR282	Num	8	BEST.		21% O2- 10%MVC Heart Rate	VS	HR	Heart Rate
311	283	VAR283	Num	8	BEST.		15% O2- 10%MVC Heart Rate	VS	HR	Heart Rate



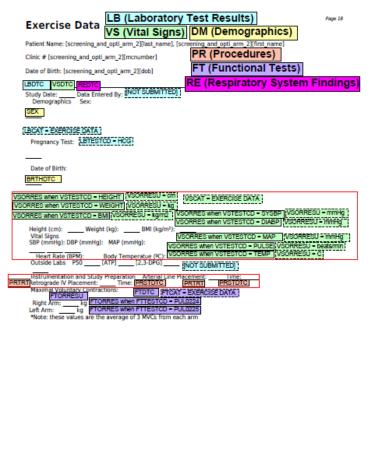
#### Mapping the Data: The aCRF

- Extremely dense 33 page CRF
- No CDASH type forms used
- Annotation challenges
  - Not much room for annotations
  - One page mapped to 7 domains
- Categorizing the data
  - Unexpected/Unusual domains
    - AG CO administered to induce Hypoxia
    - CV Blood Flow Rate, Cardiac Output, Diameter, Peak Envelope and Power Output
    - FA Headache: frequency and types
    - FT Left and right elbow range of motion tests
    - MB Hepatitis, HIV and COVID
    - PR Catheter and IV placement and blood donation
    - RE Oxygen consumption
    - SC Dominant hand





M (Concomitant Medications)	H (Medical History)
R (Procedures) SU (Substance U	Se) QS (Questionnaires)
Comments:	SUPPMH.QVAL when QNAM = MHSLPDX
(Subject Characteristics)	Yes PROCCUR when PRTRT = SURGICAL
Any medical or surgical history?	PROCCUR when PRTRT = SURGICAL HISTORY
Comments:	SUPPPR.QVAL when QNAM = PRSRGDC
Any history of regular headaches?  (Findings About)	Yes No MHOCCUR when MHTERM = HEADACHE
Approximately how often do you get headaches?  FAOBJ = HEADACHE FAORRES when FATESTCD = FR	C Less than 1 per month C 2 to 4 per month More than 6 per month
How would you describe your usual headache (check all that apply)?	Throbbing   FAORRES when FATESTCD = DULL
Any history of back pain?	MHOCCUR when MHTERM = BACK PAIN
Comments:	SUPPMH.QVAL when QNAM = MHBPNDX
Current smoking or tobacco use? SUPRESP	SUOCCUR when SUTERM = TOBACCO
Previous smoking or tobacco use?   SUCAT = PREVIOUS USE	Yes SUOCCUR when SUTERM = TOBACCO
How many years?	SUDUR
When did you quit smoking/using tobacco products? (year)	SUENDTC
Is your current weight stable?	○ Yes QSORRES when QSTESTCD = SCRNQ10
¿CMCAT - RESEARCH STUDY INITIAL SCREENING Do you take any medications (including prescriptions, vitamins, dietary supplements, inhalers, or over-the-counter medications)?	Yes [NOY SUBMITTED]
Please list any current medications/supplements that you are taking:	SUPPCM.QVAL when QNAM = MEDSUPP
What is your dominant hand?	Right     SCORRES when SCTESTCD = HANDDON
QSCAT = SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE   Are you currently taking birth control?	○ Yes
,	O No QSORRES when QSTESTCD = SCRNQ11







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projectredcap.org





15% O2 Rest

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projectredcap.org



REDCap\*

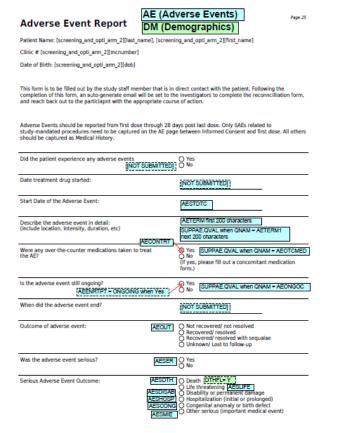
#ClearDataClearImpact

- Mapping to Controlled Terminology (CT) challenges
  - Parsing out CM term, dose, unit, route, frequency and indication from comment style free text
  - Determining decodes of values required looking at both the Raw and Label tabs
- Data issues and challenges
  - Identifying the visit for a row sometimes had to be based on the data points that were present
  - Data was locked and final, so no corrections possible
    - A fair amount of existing data issues
    - Very helpful to only have to spec for the data that was present
    - Height data was sometimes converted to a partial date when exporting into Excel
      - Documented conversion correction in csdrg.pdf

Reported	Reported	Reported	Converted		
Height in EDC	Height in Excel	Height in SAS	Height in SAS		
5-9	9-May	45421	5' 9"		



- Data issues and challenges (cont.)
  - AE information collected in two different forms that needed to be merged together
    - Adverse Event Report
      - Date treatment drug started: incomplete
      - End date: all blank
    - Adverse Event Reconciliation
      - Diagnosis contained Preferred Term
      - Predominant Symptom: redundant
      - Resolution: only resolved or ongoing
      - Please specify: all blank

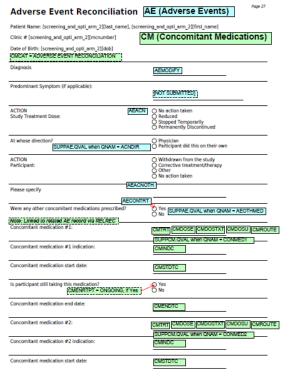


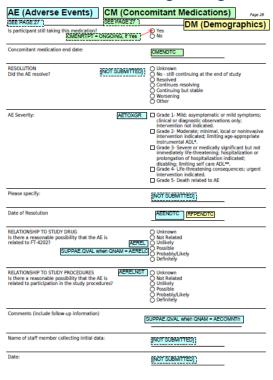


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AE information collected in two different forms that needed to be merged together (cont.)







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- Additional data added later
  - Missing lab data was provided in a separate Excel spreadsheet
- Usual clinical trial data that was missing
  - Informed Consent Date not captured in REDCap for all subjects
    - Documented in csdrg.pdf
  - Actual date/time of first dose
    - Derived from date of last dose (which was assigned from a lab date)
  - Failed Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria (IE not created)
    - Detailed "Screening Questionnaire" instead
  - Most units and methods were not included in the data
    - Assigned from text in the form, variable label or protocol



- Usual clinical trial data that was missing (cont.)
  - Sex and Age for some subjects
  - · Lab ranges were imbedded in a lengthy Word document
    - Added as an appendix to csdrg.pdf
  - Dates for when some events happened were not collected
    - The ALL file contained survey completion dates that could be leveraged, in some cases
      - PROMIS Questionnaire was filled out at the site by the subject (confirmed with the site)
  - Only the Preferred Term medical coding term for AEs and CMs was provided in the data
    - Versions of dictionaries used to code were not available
    - Request to "programmatically merge" the missing information from the dictionaries was not feasible
    - Used an external coding tool to completely code the terms



- Use of "look up" tabs to assist in programming
  - CMTERM from three different forms

medsupplementslist	group_	term_	dose_	units_	route_	freq_	indic_
Birth control	MED1	Birth control					
Claritin D	MED2	Claritin D					
Clobetasol propionate (topical steroid)	MED3	Clobetasol propionate (topical steroid)			TOPICAL		
Daily multi-vitamin	MED4	Multi-vitamin				QD	
Daily multi-vitamins, phexofenadine							
(seasonal alergies)	MED5	Multi-vitamin				QD	
Daily multi-vitamins, phexofenadine							
(seasonal alergies)	MED5	Phexofenadine					SEASONAL ALLERGIES

birthcontrol_type	term_	dose_	units_
Aviane 0.1mg/0.02mg	Aviane	0.1/0.02	mg
Estrogen progesterone pill	Estrogen progesterone		PILL
	Ethinylestradiol and Gestodene		
Ethinylestradiol + Gestodene (Gynera)	(Gynera)		

concomitant_medication1_	term_	dose_	units_	route_
	human papillomavirus type 16, L1 capsid			
human papillomavirus type 16, L1 capsid protein	protein (residues 2-471) vaccine / human			
(residues 2-471) vaccine / human papillomavirus type	papillomavirus type 18, L1 capsid protein			
18, L1 capsid protein (residues 2-472) vaccine	(residues 2-472) vaccine Injectable			
Injectable Product	Product			
ibuprofen 200 MG Oral Tablet [Advil]	Advil	200	mg	Oral



- Use of "look up" tabs to assist in programming (cont.)
  - CVTEST

	Source	Target								
Filename	Variable Name	CVCAT	CVSCAT	CVTESTCD	CVTEST	CVORRESU	CVMETHOD	CVLOC	CVGRPID	
ALL_L	_21O2REST_TCD_PEAK_ENVELOPE	21% OXYGEN	REST	PENVEL	Peak Envelope	cm/s	TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND	SKULL	HANDGRIP EXERCISE	
ALL_L	VAR289	21% OXYGEN	10% MAXIMAL VOLUNTARY CONTRACTION	PENVEL	Peak Envelope	cm/s	TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND	SKULL	HANDGRIP EXERCISE	
ALL_L	VAR290	21% OXYGEN	20% MAXIMAL VOLUNTARY CONTRACTION	PENVEL	Peak Envelope	cm/s	TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND	SKULL	HANDGRIP EXERCISE	
ALL_L	_15O2REST_TCD_PEAK_ENVELOPE	15% OXYGEN	REST	PENVEL	Peak Envelope	cm/s	TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND	SKULL	HANDGRIP EXERCISE	
ALL_L	VAR292	15% OXYGEN	10% MAXIMAL VOLUNTARY CONTRACTION	PENVEL	Peak Envelope	cm/s	TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND	SKULL	HANDGRIP EXERCISE	
ALL_L	VAR293	15% OXYGEN	20% MAXIMAL VOLUNTARY CONTRACTION	PENVEL	Peak Envelope	cm/s	TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND	SKULL	HANDGRIP EXERCISE	
ALL_L	_10O2REST_TCD_PEAK_ENVELOPE	10% OXYGEN	REST	PENVEL	Peak Envelope	cm/s	TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND	SKULL	HANDGRIP EXERCISE	
ALL_L	VAR295	10% OXYGEN	10% MAXIMAL VOLUNTARY CONTRACTION	PENVEL	Peak Envelope	cm/s	TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND	SKULL	HANDGRIP EXERCISE	
ALL_L	VAR296	10% OXYGEN	20% MAXIMAL VOLUNTARY CONTRACTION	PENVEL	Peak Envelope	cm/s	TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND	SKULL	HANDGRIP EXERCISE	

- Clear, detailed specifications made the programming go relatively quickly
  - Used two SDTM SME's with advanced SAS programming skills



#### Mapping the Data: Define and SDRG

- Define creation went smoothly, thanks to the clear specifications
- Data oddities and mapping issues were noted in the csdrg.pdf

#### **3.4.11 EX** – **Exposure**

The actual dates of exposure were not collected, so the EC domain was not created, since it would be exactly the same as the EX domain. The P50OXYGN lab test was collected on the same day that the last dose of study drug was taken, so that date is used as the last study drug dose date and then 6 days is subtracted from it to derive the first study drug dose date.

#### 3.4.14 LB – Laboratory Test Results

Normal ranges were not captured in EDC but were made available within a separate document that is included here as <u>Appendix II</u>.

- Final mapping resulted in a relatively low number of Pinnacle 21 issues
  - Most were data value related
  - The mapping strategy worked!





# Conclusions



#### **Conclusions**

- Data from REDCap can successfully be mapped into SDTM manually
  - Requires deep understanding of SDTM standards and the collected data (and patience)
  - May only be possible by a limited number of organizations
- Outreach is potentially needed to ensure that REDCap users are aware of:
  - · The existence of CDASH forms and what they are
  - Standards in general to make the process easier
    - REDCap documentation could be updated to mention CDASH forms
    - Sponsors working with academic institutions could provide guidance through:
      - Standards leads
      - CDASH/SDTM SMEs
    - CDISC avenues for promoting
      - CAC member outreach
      - More press
      - More presentations at related conferences





#### **Thank You:**

For listening!

To my colleague Elena Prosekova for her expertise and good humor in helping complete this study mapping

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