

# LTS Major Release v9.1.x

## New Features

- **New feature: Alerts & Notifications**

- The Alerts & Notifications feature allows you to construct alerts and send customized email notifications. These notifications may be sent to one or more recipients and can be triggered or scheduled when a form/survey is saved and/or based on conditional logic whenever data is saved or imported. When adding/editing an alert, you will need to 1) set how the alert gets triggered, 2) define when the notification should be sent (including how many times), and 3) specify the recipient, sender, message text, and other settings for the notification. For the message, you may utilize customized options such as rich text, the piping of field variables (including Smart Variables), and uploading multiple file attachments. While similar in many respects to Automated Survey Invitations, Alerts & Notifications allow for greater complexity and have more capabilities. For example, alerts apply to both data entry forms and surveys, and they also allow for more options regarding who can be the recipient of a notification (project users, survey participants, etc.).
- Converting existing Email Alerts into Alerts & Notifications – If your REDCap installation currently has the Email Alerts external module installed and is being used in projects, there will be an option (a green button) at the top left of the Email Alerts configuration page to convert all the Email Alerts in a given project into Alerts & Notifications. This is an opt-in setting, and must be done for each project one at a time. It will present a dialog popup with information so that the user understands that there are some differences between EA and A&N, but overall, everything will be able to be converted, although the alerts might look slightly different afterward as A&N's. Once the Email Alerts are converted, the Email Alerts module will be automatically disabled for the project, and the user will be redirected to the A&N page. Note: The conversion instructions notes that if (for whatever reason) the A&N's are not behaving like the user anticipated, they can easily revert back to using Email Alerts again by 1) deactivating all the A&N's that were created from the conversion, and 2) have an administrator re-enable the Email Alerts module.

- **New feature: Rich text editor for field labels and section headers**

- For any field on an instrument in the Online Designer, users may optionally utilize the rich text editor for styling field labels or section headers with many text-formatting options. The rich text editor allows users to change the color of text (including background color), create tables, add text of varying sizes, bullet lists, and more. For any field labels that were originally created without the rich text editor, users may optionally enable the rich text editor for any field by clicking the 'Use the Rich Text Editor' checkbox. It may also be disabled afterward at any time just the same. Rich text is enabled by default for any new fields being created via the Online Designer.
- Note: The PDF export of surveys/instruments will *\*not\** reflect all the styling of the rich text editor, so keep in mind that line breaks and paragraphs should be represented well in PDFs, but other text-formatting options, such as large text, bullet points, and colors are not able to be translated into the PDF export of the instrument. This is a current limitation in REDCap.

- **New feature: The "REDCaptcha" external module was integrated into REDCap**
  - This feature allows users to utilize the Google reCAPTCHA functionality to help protect public surveys from abuse from “bots”, which are automated software programs that might enter trash data into surveys. Users will be able to choose to enable the Google reCAPTCHA functionality on the Public Survey page in their project, after which the public survey will display the reCAPTCHA checkbox and “I’m not a robot” text on a survey page prior to allowing the participant to view the public survey. This feature is not employed on any private survey links because those are unique to a record and thus would never be made publicly available like a public survey link would.
  - Note: A survey participant will never have to pass the reCAPTCHA test more than once per day on a given device/computer.
- **New feature: The "Sticky Matrix Header" external module was integrated into REDCap.**
  - This feature will cause matrix headers to float and stick to the top of a page on either a survey or data entry form so that the matrix headers are always visible, which is helpful for matrices with many rows. If this external module was already enabled on the REDCap installation, it will automatically be disabled during the upgrade process to prevent any possible conflicts.
- **New feature: The "Codebook Concertina" external module was integrated into REDCap.**
  - This feature will display Expand and Collapse buttons for each instrument listed on the Codebook page in a project. If this external module was already enabled on the REDCap installation, it will automatically be disabled during the upgrade process to prevent any possible conflicts.