# Empowering the Participant Voice

#### Introduction

#### WHY?

- A critical piece of translation that often remains unexamined is the actual research participation experience. How do participants characterize that experience? Do they feel adequately prepared? Do they feel pressured? Do they feel respected? Do they feel like partners? What went well? What could have been done better?
- Enabling participants from diverse populations to speak directly to the Clinical Research Enterprise about their experiences helps build trust.
- The resulting data provide an evidence-base for hypothesis-generation and testing to drive the development of research processes that are more participant-centered and more effective.

#### HOW?

#### A validated tool for participant feedback:

- Research Participant Perception Survey (RPPS) is participant-centered, free, validated in thousands of participants, and takes 2-3 minutes to complete.
- Common institutional challenges to fielding RPPS include missing infrastructure, standards, guidance, expertise and benchmarks to facilitate success.

#### The Innovation:

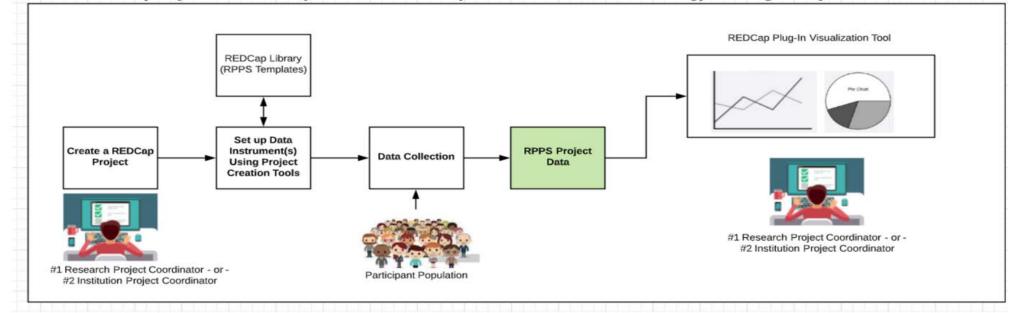
• **Empowering the Participant Voice (EPV)** is a six-CTSA collaboration to **DEVELOP** RPPS/REDCap infrastructure and tools that streamline RPPS fielding and enable local and national benchmarking, **DEMONSTRATE** ease of use and impact through Use Cases, and **DISSEMINATE** to the Consortium & REDCap community.

Here we report the successful development of the EPV RPPS/REDCap infrastructure, and early results from Use Cases at the collaborating sites.

#### Approach

**Guiding Principles** • Engage diverse stakeholders iteratively to inform the value proposition • Develop common standards to preserve validity, ability to compile /compare data • Respect local autonomy; site implementation reflects institutional priorities • Technology: Optimize ease-of-use; plugins, streamline, integrate

#### Figure 1. Study level + Institution level (Enterprise) Survey Projects



## **Empowering the Participant Voice (EPV): Participant Feedback to** Improve the Clinical Research Enterprise

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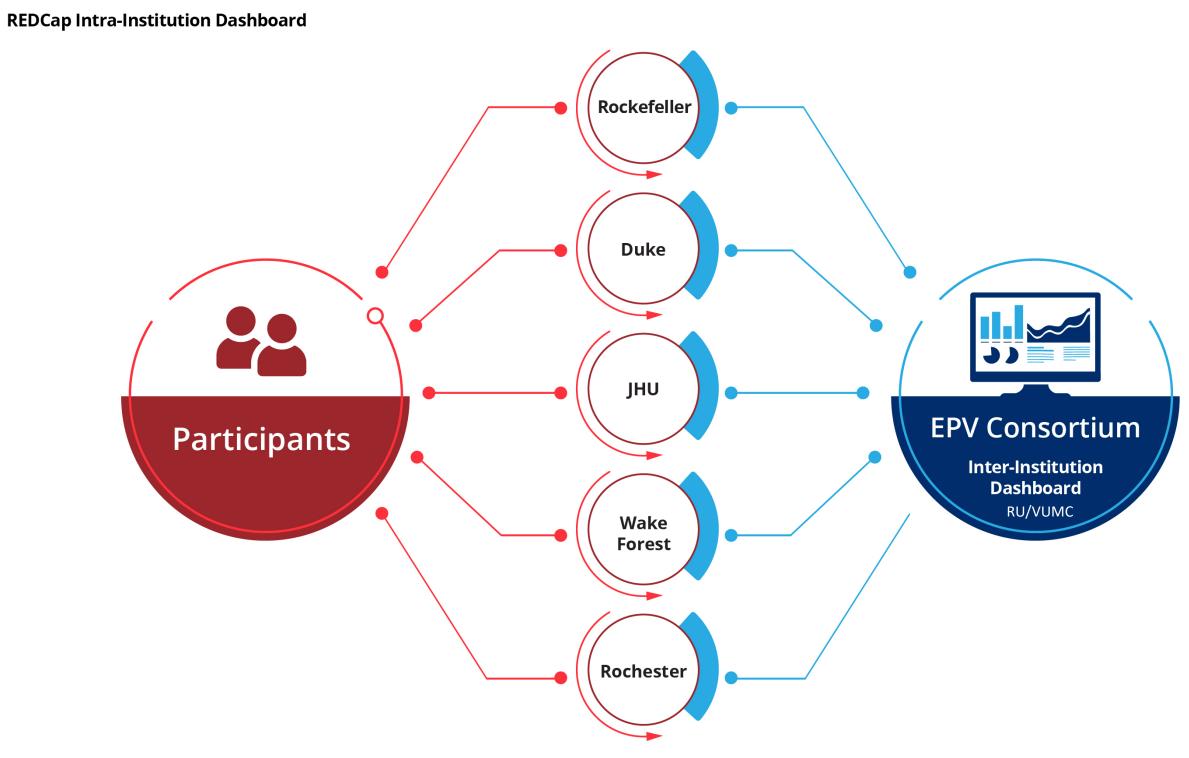
**Duke** Clinical & Translational Science Institute





#### Infrastructure and Implementation

## Figure 2. Flow of information for Aggregation (for national benchmarking)



### Table 1 Use Cases at Collaborating Sites: Early Implementation

Site	Sampling model	Sample	Timing during study participation	Special feature	Initial Response Rate	First change to implementation
A	Study-level, multiple studies	Census/study, as added	Post-consent, End of study	Spanish language pilot, Pilot motivation questions	26%	Add/remove motivation questions did not affect response rate, Outreach
В	Enterprise** (institution- wide)	Random sample 6-monthly	Post-consent, Random	Return results to community via existing webpage	21%	Testing impact of outgoing message
С	Enterprise	Census monthly	Post-consent	Small changes with each batch	22%	Test financial incentives, timing of invitation; paper surveys for digital divide; Optima Mark Recognition app for upload
D	Enterprise	Census monthly	Post-consent, Ongoing, End of Study	8-year experience with RPPS, assess change	25%	Outreach: POC flyers, study team, global ads
E	Enterprise	Census 6-monthly	Post-consent, End of study	Fielding through Epic Portal	21%	Outreach: POC flyers, study team promotion
				Support		

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Results Figure 3. At-a-Glance Dashboard - Visual Analytics External Module for Total and Filtered analysis of Survey Outcomes Empowering the Participant Voice Toggle view Participant perce 🗸 Age Question type Participant perce 🗸 Education Select a date range. Participant perception Response/Completion Rates Filters for scoring Top Box Score Select a d commend joining a research study to your family and Would you r No filter About the participants Did the Informed consent form prepare you for what to expect d Education Ethnicity Gender Race Did the information and discussions you had before participating in prepare you for your experience in the study? (1) About the research study: Demands of study Disease/disorder to enrol Did the research team members listen carefully to you? 🕕 🛄 Informed Consent setting Study Type About the survey fielding: Did the research team members treat you with courtesy and respec Sampling approach members treat you with courtesy a During your discussion about the study, did you feel pressure from to join the study? 🚺 🛄 Embedded info Did the research staff do everything possible to provide assistance Fly-over difference you might have? 🕦 🛄 explanations When you were not at the research site did you know how to reach if you had a question? 🕕 🛄 **Other views** n you were not at the research site and you needed to read earch team, were you able to reach him/her as soon as you war **Response options** Did you feel you were a valued partner in the research process? 🕄 Other views If you considered leaving the study, did you feel pressure from the stay? 🕕 🛄 Graph scores over time Did the research staff respect your cultural background (e.g. langua group)? 🚹 🛄 Did you have enough physical privacy while you were in the study? Please use the scale below to rate your overall experience in where 0 is the worst possible experience, and 10 is the best poss

Conclusion - Closing a translational gap: Direct feedback from representative populations about their experiences in research is essential to understand and improve barriers to broad participation in research. We created streamlined RPPS/REDCap infrastructure that provides a platform for collecting participant feedback at scale, local evaluation, and national benchmarking.

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