

Flight Tracker Consortium Meeting

August 7, 2024



www.edgeforscholars.org

[X @EdgeForScholars](https://twitter.com/EdgeForScholars)

https://redcap.link/flight_tracker

Meeting Agenda



What's New?

Scholar Portal: Find a Collaborator
Quicker Data Access
New Minimum REDCap Version
T→K→R Conversion

Current Version:
v6.12.0

Deep Dive: Unpacking Cohorts

What's Next?

Mentorship in Training Programs
Letter to the NIH about APIs
Other Summer 2024 Projects



What's New?

Find a Collaborator



- **Situation:** New graduate students arrive on campus and are looking for labs to work in. How do they know where to turn?
- **Situation:** A researcher wants to collaborate about an idea but lacks expertise in a niche field. How do they know where to go?
- **Flight Tracker's Scholar Portal: Your Network menu**
- Find a list of Flight Tracker scholars who have published a paper using a given MeSH term
- At Vanderbilt, artificial intelligence also can be used to search abstracts for topics



Accessing the Scholar Portal




- The Scholar Portal interfaces with scholars
→ You must share link with your scholars
- Choose one of two ways:
 - Go to the Flight Tracker Home page [leftmost button on menu]

Flight Tracker Central

v6.11.3 (latest version)

Watch Your Scholars Fly - [Flight Tracker Community Support](#)

from  [Edge for Scholars](#)

[Click to Share the Scholar Portal Link with Your Scholars](#)



- Send an email from the Scholars menu → Configure an Email; click “Insert Scholar Portal Link” button

Testing the Scholar Portal



- Do you want to see what your scholar might see?
- Go to Scholars menu → Scholar Profiles
- Choose the scholar you want on the left
- Then click the “Spoof This Scholar” link
- [They must have a user-id on the Identifiers form]
- You see what they’d see...

A screenshot of a web interface. At the top, a green box contains the text 'View Profile for Next Record', 'Grant Wrangler', and 'Publication Wrangler'. Below this is a section with a light blue background. It has a label 'Record:' followed by a dropdown menu showing '16: Julie A Bastarache' with a downward arrow. Below that is a label 'Last/Full Name:' followed by an empty text input field.

Julie Bastarache

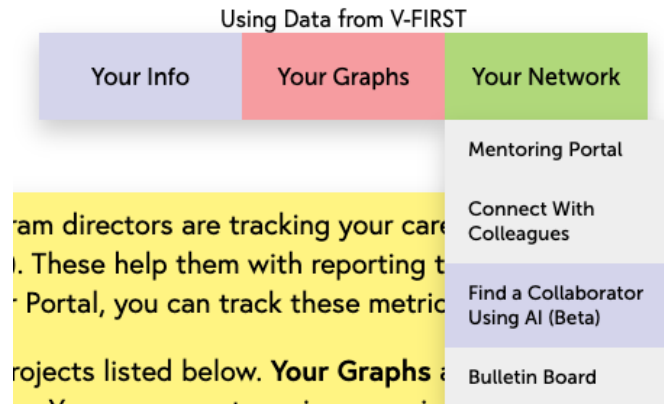
[Spoof This Scholar in the Scholar Portal for This Project Only](#) ←

Spoofing or mimicking a scholar allows you to see what they might see or to troubleshoot issues as they arise.

Accessing Find a Collaborator



- In a Flight Tracker project: Your Network menu



- Available even when not in a Flight Tracker project

Welcome! You are not currently tracked by Flight Tracker on this REDCap server. Sorry! You can [find a collaborator](#) or [check out the Institutional Bulletin Board](#).

Using Find a Collaborator



Find a Collaborator Using Artificial Intelligence

Search

What topic(s) do you want to search for? Doing so will search all 53 Flight Trackers on this server and may take some time. It will search everyone's publications using [MeSH Terms](#) and using analysis by Artificial Intelligence.

AI-Generated Topics to Search for (separated by semicolons):

} Vanderbilt only

MeSH Term:

} Autocompletes from list of 32,000+ MeSH terms; automatically updates terms from NCBI [NLM/NIH]

MeSH Term:

Results

Score 67252: **Leora Horn** has 118 publications that match this topic. [They can be accessed via PubMed.](#)

Matched terms: "carcinoma, non-small-cell lung"

Email on file: leora.horn@vumc.org.

Score 22288: **Lisa Young** has 82 publications that match this topic. [They can be accessed via PubMed.](#)

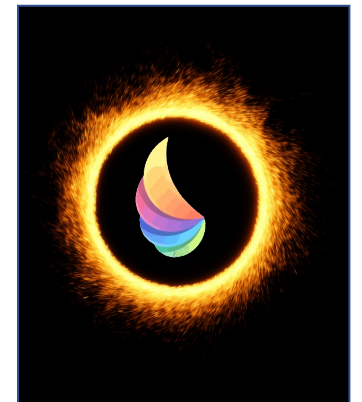
Matched terms: "lung"

Email on file: youngl5@email.chop.edu.

Find a Collaborator Recap



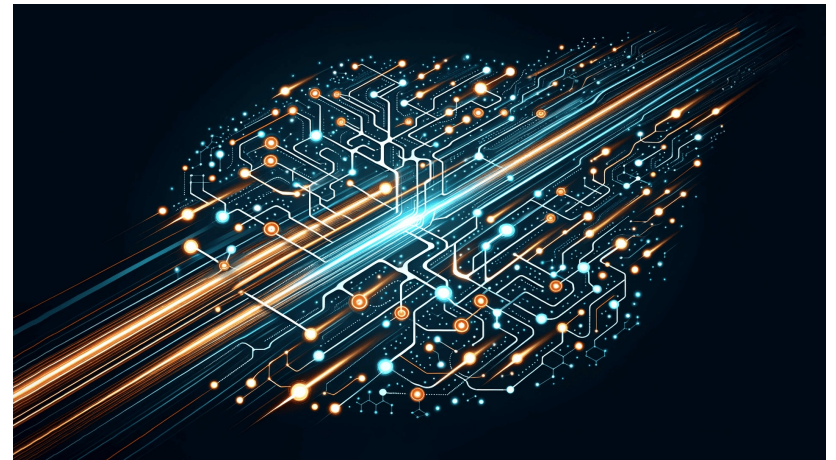
- In Scholar Portal in **v6.12.0**
- Searches through all Flight Tracker scholars for a MeSH term in one of their publications
- Vanderbilt only: Searches through AI-generated keywords from the publication's abstract
- Searching can take some time depending on the number of scholars in Flight Tracker
- Great for finding collaborators & connections at large research institutions



Quicker Data Access



- Flight Tracker uses a lot of data
- As REDCap's complexity has grown, its internal data-fetching routines have slowed somewhat
- In the next version **v6.13.0**, Flight Tracker uses self-built routines to speed up data fetches
- Benchmarking indicates that fetches previously taking 20 seconds now take 10-15 seconds
- Though not dramatic, the speedup should make things slightly quicker



New Minimum REDCap Version



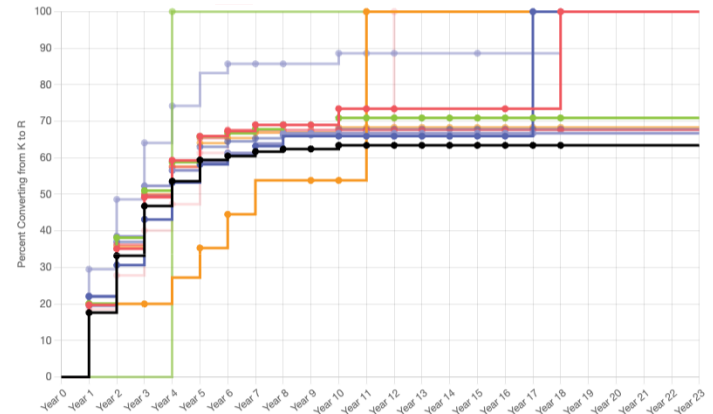
- In Flight Tracker **v6.11.3**, the minimum REDCap version has been increased to **v13.1.0**
- Only one Flight Tracker project is using REDCap **v11.3.x**
 - Only this user will be left behind on Flight Tracker **v6.11.2**
 - Your REDCap admin will need to upgrade REDCap to be able to download new Flight Tracker versions
- Updating minimum versions increases software security and protects your scholars' data



T→K→R Conversion



- In the next version **v6.13.0**, Flight Tracker will support analysis of **T→K** & **T→R** conversions in:
 - The Conversion Calculator
 - The Kaplan-Meier Success Curve
- It'll handle difficult scenarios, like:
 - Registering scholars' T/K grants
 - Receiving F fellowship grants
- Not much data have been published on conversions from training grants, so a **research opportunity** presents itself
- [Thanks, **Arnita King of Vanderbilt**, for the suggestion!]





Deep Dive

Unpacking Cohorts

Common Questions



- What are Flight Tracker’s “cohorts?”
- What traits can be used to configure them?
- What are Person Roles, and what are Program Roles?
- How can I combine traits to answer complicated questions?
- What if I already know who I want to pick?
- What ways have people sliced-and-diced their data?
- What are “Cohort Projects,” and should I use them?



Definition



- “A group of scholars, smaller than the entire group, that displays certain characteristics”
- For Flight Tracker, Cohort = Sub-Group = Filter
- Cohorts/Filtering has its own menu
- Looks at a **segment** of the entire group



Where Are Cohorts Used?



Almost **Everywhere** in Flight Tracker:

- Visualizations
- NIH Training Tables 5 & 8
- Brag! Publication Widget
- Publication List
- Conversion Calculator
- Metrics on Dashboards
- Sending Mass Emails
- Notably, they are **NOT** used in REDCap Reports or Data Exports



Traits to Configure



- Demographics
 - Including Customizable Fields:
Person Roles & Program Roles
- Grants
- Publications
- Resources



Demographic Categories



Taken from Summary & Identifiers Forms

- Gender
- Race/Ethnicity
- Primary Department
- Current Academic Division
- Date of Birth
- Academic Degrees
- Citizenship
- URM Status
- Disability Status
- Disadvantaged Status
- Start of Training Program
- End of Training Program
- Did Not Complete Program
- Recorded Tenure Status
- Current Academic Rank
- Person Role [*see later slide]
- Program Role [*see later slide]
- Employment Status
- Email Domain

Grant Categories



- Award Type [Any]
Flight Tracker Types: [Internal K, K12/KL2, Individual K, K Equivalent, R01, R01 Equivalent, ...]
- K→R Conversion Status
- Active Award Type
Flight Tracker Types on Active Grants
- First Award Type
Flight Tracker Types
- First Award Sponsor Number
- Any Award Sponsor Number
- Activity Code [Any]
- Institute/Center Abbreviation [Any]
- Start of First Training Grant
- End of Last Training Grant
- First Any K Date
- Last Any K Date
- First R01 or Equivalent Date

Publication Categories



If a scholar has 1+ wrangled publications with the trait, then they're included in the cohort:

- Publication Category
- Number of Research Articles [iCite specifies as “Original Research” articles]
- Number of Research Articles from Date
- Scholars with Relative Citation Ratio
- Scholars with Publication Type
- Scholars with MeSH Term



Resource Categories







- Flight Tracker Resources are things to boost your scholars' success
 - *E.g.*, workshops, pilot funding, software tools
 - You create a custom list during installation and on Configure Application page
- Cohorts: [Choose from a list of resources]
- Include attendees of a workshop or users of a resource in the cohort
- Track them manually via Resources menu
- Analyzes effectiveness [Return on Investment]

Person Roles



- Person Role = **Dropdown** field in Identifiers form
- You get to choose the names of the options
- **One** value is selected
- “Other” is an option, too
- Up to **six** Person Roles [Person Role #1, Person Role #2, ...]
- Set up on **Configure Application** page in General menu
- All six can be used to create a cohort

Person Role #1 (Dropdown)	<input type="text" value=""/>	  This custom field allows for you to specify a role for your trainee within the program. This can be used to form cohorts / filters.
Person Role #2 (Dropdown)	<input type="text" value=""/>	  This custom field allows for you to specify a role for your trainee within the program. This can be used to form cohorts / filters.

Program Roles

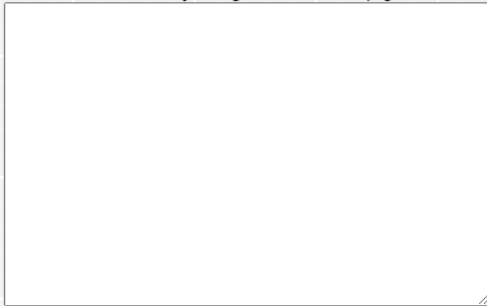


- Program Role = **Checkbox** field in Identifiers form
- Also set up on **Configure Application** page in General menu
- **Many** values can be selected
 - Each checkbox is essentially a yes-or-no question
- E.g., research centers that scholars belong to
- Also, it can be used to create cohorts

Options for **Program Roles (Checkbox)** on the **Identifiers** form. These will be made into a checkbox.

This custom field allows for you to specify a role for your trainee within the program. This can be used to form cohorts / filters.

(One per line. Optional. When filled in, it will create an extra field in your project once you update your Data Dictionary on Flight Tracker's Home page.)

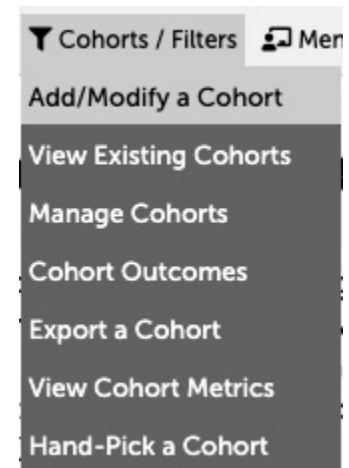


Combining Traits



- Add/Modify a Cohort page
- Mix & match traits to make interesting groups
- Boolean logic: XOR first, then AND, then OR

	Filter Type	Variable	Value	
Filter 1	Demographic	Academic Degrees	Has	MD only
				AND
Filter 2	Grant	Conversion Status	Has	Still on K; No R01-or-Equ
				OR
Filter 3	Demographic	Academic Degrees	Has	MD + PhD
				AND
Filter 4	Grant	Conversion Status	Has	Still on K; No R01-or-Equ
				OR
Filter 5	Demographic	Academic Degrees	Has	MD + other
				AND
Filter 6	Grant	Conversion Status	Has	Still on K; No R01-or-Equ
				OR
Filter 7	Demographic	Academic Degrees	Does Not Have	PhD



Hand-Picking a Cohort

- Sometimes, you just want to hand-pick a group of people
- Hand-Pick a Cohort page
- Alphabetized list of names with checkboxes



Hand-Pick a Cohort

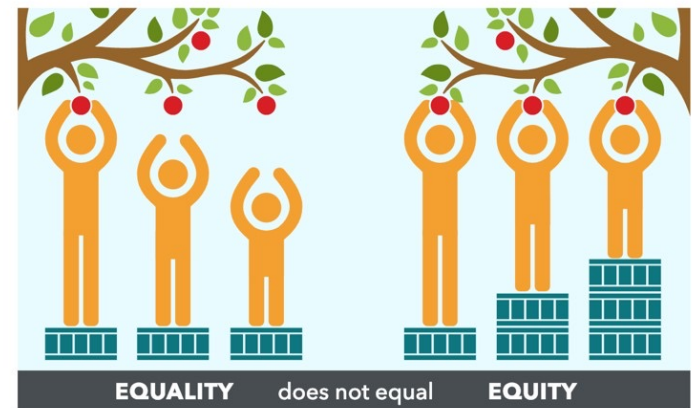
Cohort Name:

- 1: [Khaled A Abdel-Kader](#)
- 2: [Ty W Abel](#)
- 3: [Robert L Abraham](#)
- 365: [Aaron W Aday](#)
- 513: [Fatemeh Adelnia](#)
- 456: [Rajiv Agarwal](#)
- 493: [Vineet Agrawal](#)
- 335: [Aimalohi A Ahonkhai](#)
- 480: [Kimberly Albert](#)
- 4: [Melinda C Aldrich](#)
- 452: [Matthew R Alexander](#)
- 443: [Ryan Allen](#)
- 5: [Peggi M Angel](#)
- 427: [James W Antoon](#)
- 476: [Derek Archer](#)
- 6: [Amy C Arnold](#)
- 7: [Donald H Arnold](#)
- 8: [Shanna A Arnold](#)
- 539: [Juan Pablo Arroyo Ornelas](#)
- 9: [Carolyn M Audet](#)

Interesting Cohort Ideas



- Equity of Outcomes:
 - Under-represented minority status
 - Gender
 - Race/Ethnicity
 - MDs vs. PhDs
- Group Successes:
 - New batch of trainees
 - One research center
 - In a longstanding project, we segment our data by eras: after 1999, after 2010, after 2015 & after 2020



Cohort Projects



- Create a **read-only copy project** of a cohort's information
 - Updated weekly
 - **No changes are saved** in cohort project from week to week
- Centralizes data wrangling to central project
 - Alleviates need for all to learn to maintain Flight Tracker
- Read-only project can only see their cohort's data
 - Prevents snooping on others & potential rivalries
- Use cases:
 - Divisions in Department of Medicine [Pulmonary, Cardiology, Heme/Onc, etc.]
 - Sub-Grants under one large grant [U01 award]



Creating Cohort Projects



1. Create a blank REDCap “child” project; get API Token with Import/Export Rights
2. Create cohort of your desired population in “parent” project
3. In the parent Cohorts menu, go to Manage Cohorts page
4. Copy/paste child API Token next to appropriate cohort
5. Click the new button “Take Over Project”
6. Automatically updated every Monday

▼ Cohorts / Filters Me

- Add/Modify a Cohort
- View Existing Cohorts
- Manage Cohorts
- Cohort Outcomes
- Export a Cohort
- View Cohort Metrics
- Hand-Pick a Cohort

	Cohort Size	Delete	Rename	Make Cohort Project
MD only	11 Scholars		<input type="button" value="Rename"/>	<input type="button" value="Take Over Project"/>

Recap



- What are Flight Tracker’s “cohorts?”
- What traits can be used to configure them?
- What are Person Roles, and what are Program Roles?
- How can I combine traits to answer complicated questions?
- What if I already know who I want to pick?
- What ways have people sliced-and-diced their data?
- What are “Cohort Projects,” and should I use them?





What's Next?

[Hint: Lots of Collaboration]

Mentorship in Training Programs



- According to NIH guidance in NOT-OD-24-129:
Funded training programs will be expected to support effective mentorship by ensuring all program faculty complete formal mentor training and periodic refreshers.
- We're revisiting how **Mentee-Mentor Agreements** can monitor & promote “evidence-informed mentoring practices that promote the development of trainees from all backgrounds.”
- Upcoming consortium calls will discuss changes more...



Letter to NIH About APIs



- The NIH resource My Bibliography has a feature similar to Flight Tracker's Publication Wrangler to authenticate publications
- **Corey Snelson of the University of Washington** suggested using them to reduce the burden of wrangling
- Problem: My Bibliography has no API that computers use to talk together
- Therefore, **Rebecca Helton** is drafting a joint letter from Flight Tracker users to request that they make an API for My Bibliography
- **We want you & your leaders to co-sign it!**
- More info coming in September...



NIH Training Tables



- **Lucy Palmer of UT-Southwestern** is asking for collaborators to share **lessons learned** about Flight Tracker’s NIH Training Tables.
- Would anyone be willing to engage her in dialogue with their experiences? I’m willing to take software suggestions, too.
- Reminder: These tables will be adjusted in the late fall for new NIH guidance.



Summer 2024 Projects



- Exploring an **online video course**
- Writing a **journal article** about Flight Tracker
- **Software improvement:** Non-NIH Grants from Dept. of HHS [TAGGS]
- Updated **NIH Training Tables** by January 25, 2025 [NOT-OD-24-129]
- Getting more information from **ORCID**, thanks to **Alexis Ranalli & Brad Samuel of Nemours!**



Flight Tracker Community



Support Forum

"Better than Email" - Ask me for an Account in the Chat

<https://redcap.vanderbilt.edu/flightracker/>

A screenshot of the Flight Tracker Community forum interface. The top navigation bar includes the logo, a search bar, a "Create post" button, and a "Spaces" dropdown. The main content area shows a list of posts under the heading "All Posts in Flight Tracker Community". Each post includes the author's name, the time since the post was made, the topic name, and the number of comments and likes. A sidebar on the right contains the "Edge for Scholars" logo and a list of navigation links.

Welcome to Flight Tracker Community!

All Posts in Flight Tracker Community

Author	Time	Topic	Comments	Likes
jessica.chiovitte commented	1 day ago	Getting Started	5	0
Using FT for New T32 Applications	(Jump to latest comment)	new t32s		
scott.pearson commented	1 week ago	Tracking Scholars	1	0
Identical name at same institution	(Jump to latest comment)	identical names		
scott.pearson posted	1 week ago	New Features	0	0
Honors & Awards Survey		honors and awards survey		
kia.huffman commented	1 week ago	Getting Started	1	0
email not sent, make sure "Enable module on all projects by default" is NOT checked.	(Jump to latest comment)	email module setting		
scott.pearson commented	1 week ago	Wrangling Grants & Pubs	3	0
Publication results limited by the "Institutions Searched For"	(Jump to latest comment)	publication wrangler		

Edge for Scholars

- Home
- Flight Tracker Video Vault
- Mentee-Mentor Agreements
- Getting Started with Flight Tracker
- Next Consortium Meeting & Past Slides
- Newbie Session Agenda
- Edge for Scholars Blog
- Edge for Scholars at Vanderbilt
- X: @EdgeForScholars

Troubleshooting Call



Monthly Troubleshooting Call – optional

Third Wednesday at 1pm Central Time
August 21, 2024

Driven by Your Questions & Problems

All are welcome!

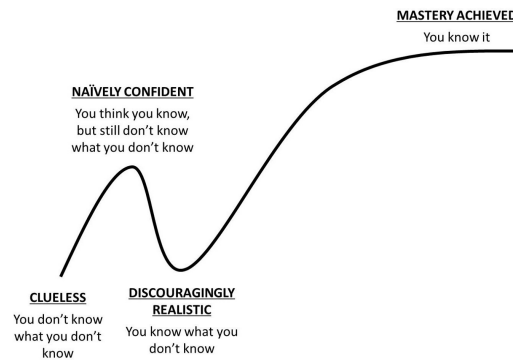
Ask to join our email list in the chat for an invitation...



Newbie Call



Just getting started with Flight Tracker?



There's a definite learning curve.
Move up more quickly by joining
August's "newbie" call.

Tuesday, August 13, at noon Central Time
(Monday, September 16, at noon Central Time)

Leave your email in the chat to receive an invitation

Getting Started Workshop



After each month's newbie call, we're hosting a separate Getting Started Workshop to get the ball rolling on implementation. Questions will center only around starting out. No advanced questions will be discussed.

Our next call will be on **Friday, August 16, at 11am CT.**

All newbie call participants will be invited.
Let me know if you want an invitation to the next one.

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https://redcap.link/flight_tracker