

# **An Introduction to FDA MyStudies: An Open-Source, Digital Platform to Gather Real World Data for Clinical Trials and Research Studies**

May 9, 2019

# Welcome



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The US FDA, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute, LabKey Software,  
Boston Technology Corporation

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# **AN INTRODUCTION TO FDA MYSTUDIES: AN OPEN-SOURCE, DIGITAL PLATFORM TO GATHER REAL WORLD DATA FOR CLINICAL TRIALS AND RESEARCH STUDIES**

# Speakers



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**FDA**



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Pilgrim Health Care Institute**



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**LabKey Software**

# Agenda

Topic	Presenter	Time
Welcome and administrative announcements	SBIA	10:00 – 10:05
Introduction to the FDA MyStudies Mobile App System	David Martin	10:05 – 10:15
A live demonstration of the FDA MyStudies Mobile App System: Patient and Researcher experiences	Zachary Wyner	10:15 – 11:30
Break	-	11:30 – 11:40
Responses to submitted questions	MyStudies Team	11:40 – 12:00
Break	-	12:00 – 12:30
Technical Overview: Mobile Application, Web Configuration Portal	Shyam Deval, Ranjani Rao	12:30 – 1:10
Response Server Technical Overview	Adam Rauch	1:10 – 1:30
Break	-	1:30 – 1:45
Responses to submitted questions	MyStudies Team	1:45 – 2:10
Deploying the MyStudies System in a Compliant Manner	Stuart MacDonald	2:10 – 2:30
Responses to submitted questions	MyStudies Team	2:30 – 2:50
MyStudies closing thoughts and resources	MyStudies Team	2:50 – 2:55



David Martin

# **INTRODUCTION TO THE FDA MYSTUDIES MOBILE APP SYSTEM**

# Disclosure and Disclaimer

- David Martin received funding from the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund to develop the FDA MyStudies Mobile App
- No conflicts of interest to disclose
- The views expressed are those of the author and should not be construed as FDA's views or policies
- The mention of commercial products, their sources, or their use in connection with material reported herein is not to be construed as either an actual or implied endorsement of such products by the Department of Health and Human Services

01

# WHY CONSIDER MOBILE NOW?



# Clinical Trials and Research Studies



## Evolution of RWD Collection from Patients

## Smartphone use among U.S. adults is increasing<sup>1</sup>



77%

now own Smartphones  
(35% in 2011)

Fewer (73%) own a  
laptop or desktop

## Growth of “smartphone only” internet use<sup>2</sup>



20%

of US adults do not  
rely on traditional  
home internet service  
for access

## Variation in “smartphone only” internet use<sup>3</sup>

Reliance on smartphones for online access is especially common among younger adults (<50), non-whites and lower-income Americans.

# Clinical Trials and Research Studies



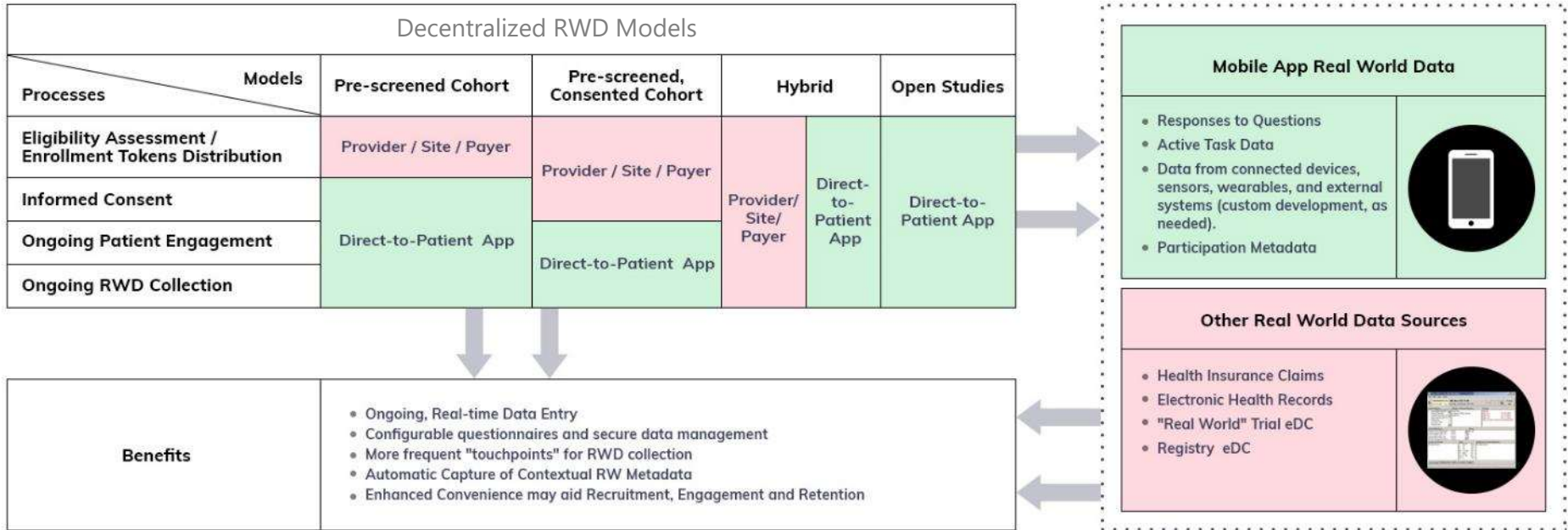
**It's time to leverage the power of mobile technologies to aid research**

# Real World Data and Evidence

- **Real-World Data (RWD)** are data relating to patient health status and/or the delivery of health care routinely collected from a variety of sources.
- RWD includes data derived from electronic health records (EHRs), claims and billing data, data from product and disease registries, **patient-generated data** including in home-use settings, and data gathered from other sources that can inform on health status, such as **mobile devices**
- **Real-World Evidence (RWE)** is the clinical evidence regarding the usage and potential benefits or risks of a medical product derived from analysis of RWD.



# Decentralized RWD Models – 4 Examples



02

# INTRODUCTION TO MYSTUDIES

# FDA MyStudies



- **Mobile App**
  - Standard frameworks - ResearchKit (iOS), ResearchStack (Android)
- **Web-based Configuration Portal (WCP)**
  - Enables support of multiple types of medical product effectiveness and safety studies with minimal software development
- **Secure Storage Environment**
  - Generates secure tokens
  - Separates registration information and responses
  - Partitioned for multisite, decentralized, or distributed models



# Key System Attributes

- **Scalable:** Capability to simultaneously support multiple studies for a research organization
- **Modular:** Various modular components of the platform can be integrated with external/3rd party system of choice to create a tailored solution for your organization.
- **Secure:** Partitions all data and provides robust access controls
- **Compliant:** Can be deployed to comply with HIPAA, FISMA, and 21 CFR Part 11
- **Customizable:** All study content as seen in the app can be authored and updated via the WCP web application rather than through new software development per study or app
- **Tested:** FDA and PCORI sponsored clinical research demonstration projects
- **Open-source** and ready for research organizations to re-brand, publish, and use!





03

# REGULATORY CONTEXT

# Endpoints in FDA Registrational trials 2007-2015



Type of Endpoint	% of NDA	Examples of Endpoints Measured
Chemistry data	11	HBA1c, pregnancy test, GFR
Hematology	6	Severe neutropenia Apheresis yield > 5 million CD34+ cells/kg
Pathology	2	Increase/decrease of parabasal cells; biopsy proven acute rejection, clearing of anterior chamber cells
Microbiology	6	Sustained <u>virological</u> response, plasma viral load, conversion to negative sputum
Imaging +/- (survival, clinical signs)	17	Bone mineral density; vertebral fractures, spleen volume, progression free survival
Physiological/ functional measurement	9	6 minute walk, normal sinus rhythm, FEV1, sleep studies
Clinical event /clinical sign	19	Death, hospitalization, MACE, MS relapse, Lice free head
CRO/PRO	30	Toronto western spasmodic torticollis rating scale, Hamilton depression rating scale, Rheumatology scale ankylosing spondylitis scale, psoriasis severity index, seizures, sleep, prostate symptom score

### Clinician-reported outcome (ClinRO)

A measurement based on a report that comes from a trained health-care professional after observation of a patient's health condition

### Patient-reported outcome (PRO)

A measurement based on a report that comes **directly from the patient** about the status of the patient's health condition without interpretation of the patient's response by a clinician or anyone else

### Observer-reported outcome (ObsRO)

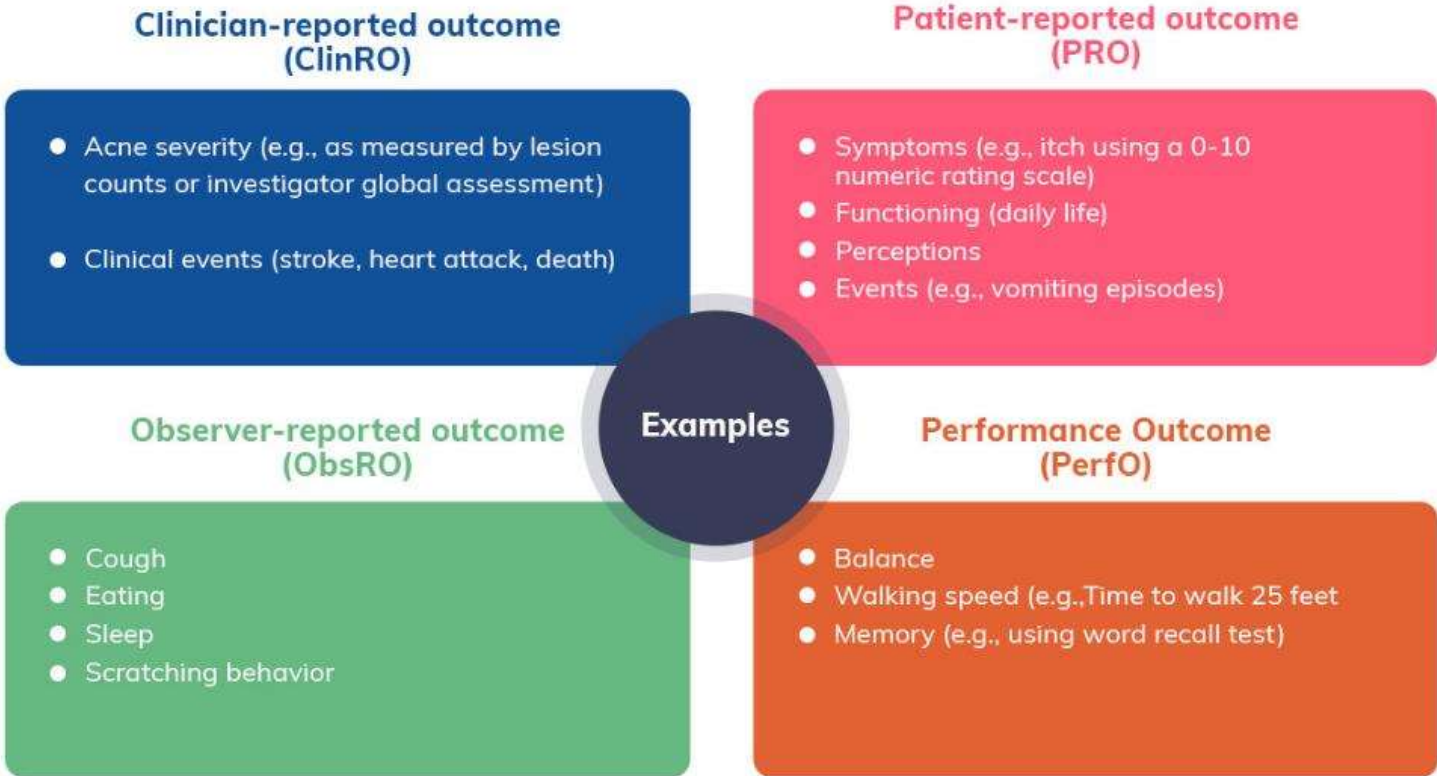
A measurement based on a report of **observable signs, events or behaviors** related to a patient's health condition by someone other than the patient or a health care professional

### Clinical outcome assessments (COAs)\*

### Performance Outcome (PerfO)

A measurement based on a **standardized task(s)** performed by a patient that is administered and evaluated by an appropriately trained individual or is independently completed

\*Digital health technology (e.g., mobile and wearables) can also be used to collect clinical outcomes.



Digital health technology (e.g., mobile and wearables) can also be used to collect clinical outcomes.

# How does FDA review COAs?

- FDA evaluates an instrument in the context of its intended use (clinical trial design, patient population, desired labeling claim)
- In other words, there is no such thing as instrument validation for all purposes
- FDA PRO Guidance (2009)\* describes good measurement principles applicable to all COA types

[\\*http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM193282.pdf](http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM193282.pdf)

# Configuring questionnaires



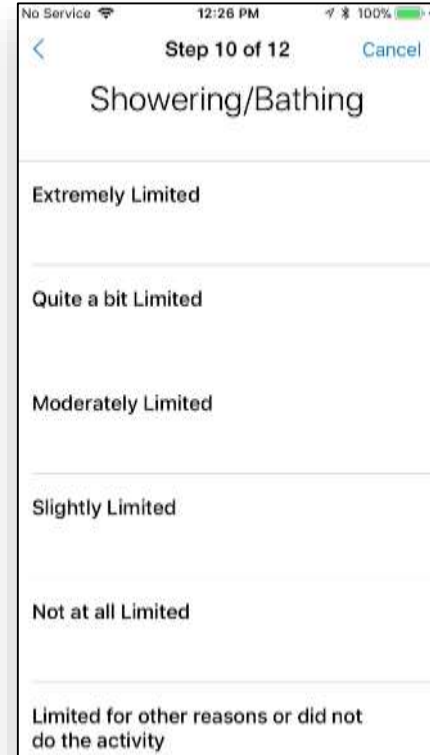
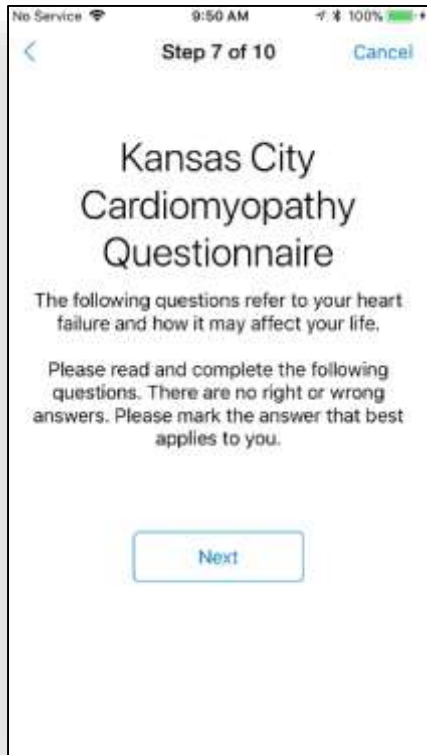
## *Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire (KCCQ-12)*

The following questions refer to your **heart failure** and how it may affect your life. Please read and complete the following questions. There are no right or wrong answers. Please mark the answer that best applies to you.

1. **Heart failure** affects different people in different ways. Some feel shortness of breath while others feel fatigue. Please indicate how much you are limited by **heart failure** (shortness of breath or fatigue) in your ability to do the following activities over the past 2 weeks.

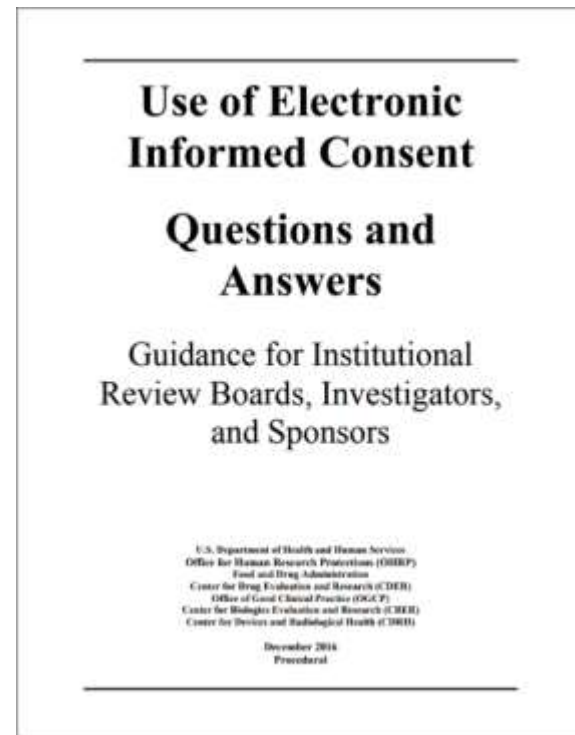
Activity	Extremely Limited	Quite a bit Limited	Moderately Limited	Slightly Limited	Not at all Limited	Limited for other reasons or did not do the activity
a. Showering/bathing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# Translation to Mobile



# Informed Consent

- Can be obtained from patient remotely
- Method needed to ensure the person signing the consent is the person in the study
- May use audio visual presentation
- Must have a process to address patient's questions
- Must provide a suitable record to patient
- FDA needs to be able to inspect it





# 21 CFR Part 11 and Mobile Technology

Use of Electronic Records and  
Electronic Signatures in  
Clinical Investigations Under  
21 CFR Part 11 –  
Questions and Answers  
  
Guidance for Industry

**DRAFT GUIDANCE**

This guidance document is being distributed for comment purposes only.

Comments and suggestions regarding this draft document should be submitted within 60 days of publication in the *Federal Register* of the notice announcing the availability of the draft guidance. Submit electronic comments to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit written comments to the Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. All comments should be identified with the docket number listed in the notice of availability that publishes in the *Federal Register*.

For questions regarding this draft document, contact (CDER) Cheryl Grandinetti or Leonard Seeks at 301-796-2500; (CDER) Office of Communication, Outreach and Development, 800-835-4709 or 240-402-8010; or (CDRH) Program Operations Staff or Irlan Khan at 301-796-5640.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)  
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)  
Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH)

June 2017  
Precedural

- Goals: Ensure authenticity, integrity, and confidentiality
- Refers to portable electronic technology used in clinical investigations that allows for off-site and remote data capture from study participants
  - Includes mobile platforms, mobile applications, wearable biosensors and other remote and ingestible sensors, and other portable and implantable electronic devices
- The recommendations apply to technology that is provided by the sponsor or owned by the study participant



04

# **ACCESSING THE SYSTEM**

# FDA MyStudies: Now Open-Source



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
FDA U.S. FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION

Home > Drugs > Science & Research (Drugs)

## Science & Research (Drugs)

- Regulatory Science at CDER
- Research Tools and Resources
- Scientific Public Health: Partnership and Consensus
- CDER Science
- Regulatory Science in Action
- Values and Evidence in Regulatory Science at CDER
- Work With Us
- Science & Research (Drugs) Content Map

### FDA's MyStudies Application (App)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is posting computer code and a technical roadmap that will allow researchers and developers to customize and use the FDA's newly created MyStudies app. The FDA MyStudies App is designed to facilitate the input of real world data directly by patients which can be linked to electronic health data supporting traditional clinical trials, pragmatic trials, observational studies and registries. It was developed by the FDA and private sector partners, but open source code and technical documentation are being released to the public, so the app and patient data storage system can be reconfigured by organizations conducting clinical research. The app bore the FDA brand while its functionality was tested in a pilot study, but it can now be rebranded by researchers and developers who would like to customize and rebrand the app.

The FDA MyStudies App has several important features, including:

- The data storage environment is secure and supports auditing necessary for compliance with 21 CFR Part 11 and the Federal Information Security Management Act, so it can be used for state under Investigational New Drug oversight.
- The app is configurable for different therapeutic areas, and health outcomes, which reduces software development hurdles for non-FDA users.
- The data storage environment is partitioned to support multi-site trials or "distributed database" studies.
- The code for MyStudies will be open source so software developers can improve upon its capabilities.

Open source code is being released for two versions of the app. One is built on Apple's ResearchKit (iOS) framework, and the other is built on the open source ResearchTask framework, which runs on Google's Android. (The original FDA-branded app is not currently in app stores because it was removed after being tested in a pilot study.)

- <https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/FDAInBrief/ucm625228.htm>
- <https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/ScienceResearch/ucm624785.htm>
- <https://github.com/PopMedNet-Team/FDA-My-Studies-Mobile-Application-System>

# GitHub Repository



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PopMedNet-Team / FDA-My-Studies-Mobile-Application-System Watch 18 Stars 50 Forks 12

Code Issues Pull requests Projects Insights

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This repository contains all the necessary code and documentation for running the FDA My Studies mobile application, web configuration portal, and storage environment.

27 commits 1 branch 0 releases 1 contributor

Search master View full history Find file Create or download

PopMedNet-Team Update org-e-fpe-w-c-common-component	Latest commit 1/4/19 14 days ago
FDA_HFH_StudyDesignerWS master	Mobile App code and instructions 23 days ago
FDA_HFH_UseRegWS-master	Update README.md 23 days ago
Lab Key Documentation	Documentation 23 days ago
fdi_resources master	Mobile App code and instructions 23 days ago
FdaStudyDesigner master	Update org-e-fpe-w-c-common-component 15 days ago
fdi_frontend-master	Update README.md 23 days ago
fdi_ios-master	Update README.md 23 days ago
mobileAppStudy/ hosting17.1	Mobile App code and instructions 23 days ago
FDA My Studies System_Business Requirements ...	Add files via upload 23 days ago
FDA_Antibio_AppSetup.pdf	Add files via upload 23 days ago
FDA_WCP_UR_AppSetup.pdf	Add files via upload 23 days ago
FDA_KS_AppSetup.pdf	Add files via upload 23 days ago
README.md	Update README.md 23 days ago
mobileAppStudy-master	Mobile App code and instructions 23 days ago



Zac Wyner

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[Zachary\\_wyner@harvardpilgrim.org](mailto:Zachary_wyner@harvardpilgrim.org)

# A DEMONSTRATION OF THE FDA MYSTUDIES MOBILE APP SYSTEM: PATIENT AND RESEARCHER EXPERIENCES

# Disclosure and Disclaimer

- No conflicts of interest to disclose
- The views expressed are those of the authors and should not be construed as FDA's views or policies
- The mention of commercial products, their sources, or their use in connection with material reported herein is not to be construed as either an actual or implied endorsement of such products by the Department of Health and Human Services

# Web Configuration Portal (WCP)



**Physical Activity**  
Active

STUDIES NOTIFICATIONS USERS ZAC WYNER

← EDIT QUESTIONNAIRE Cancel Save Done

Content Schedule

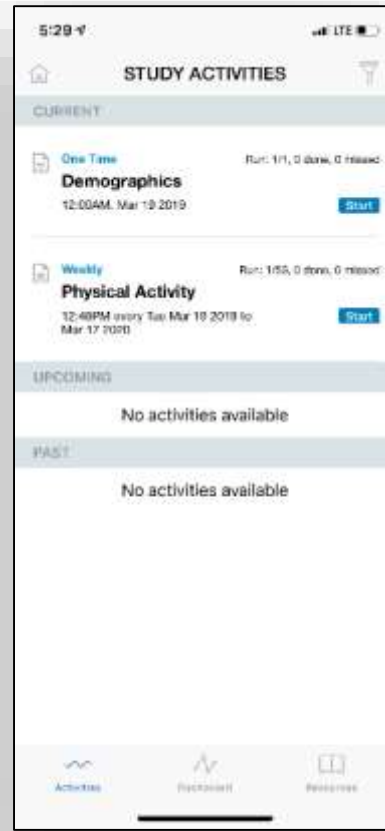
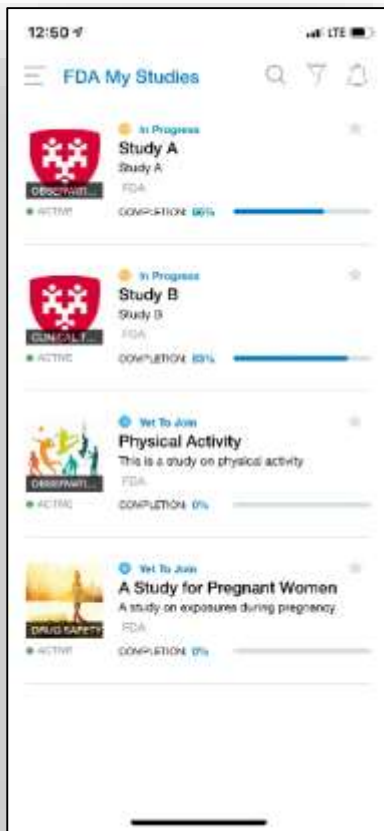
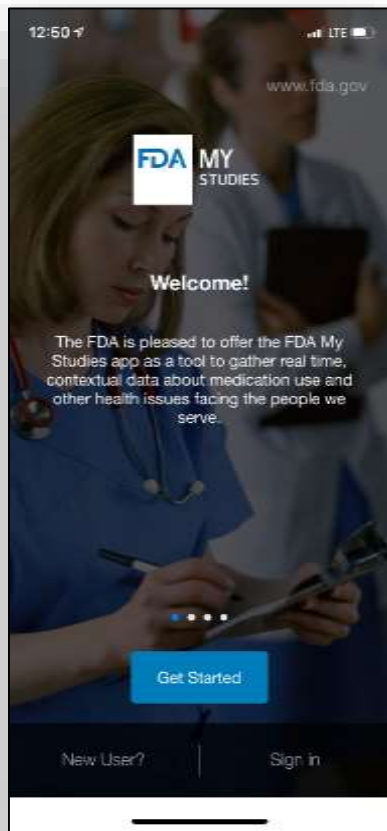
Activity Short Title or Key (1 to 50 characters)\*  
physicalactivity

Title (1 to 300 characters)\*  
Physical Activity

Add Instruction Step Add Question Step Add Form Step 0  Apply Branching

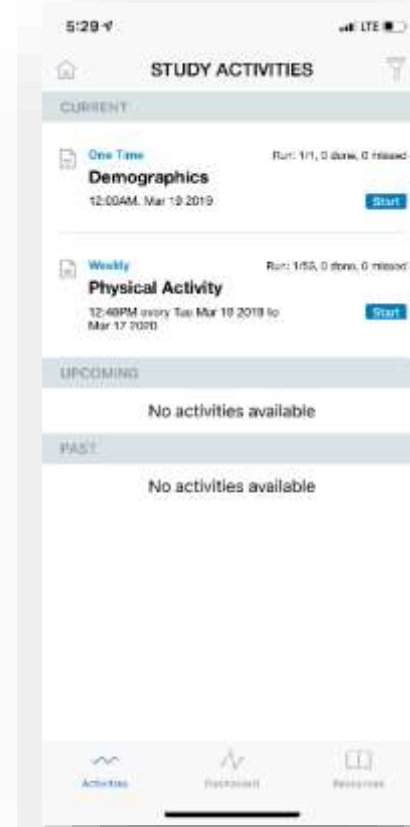
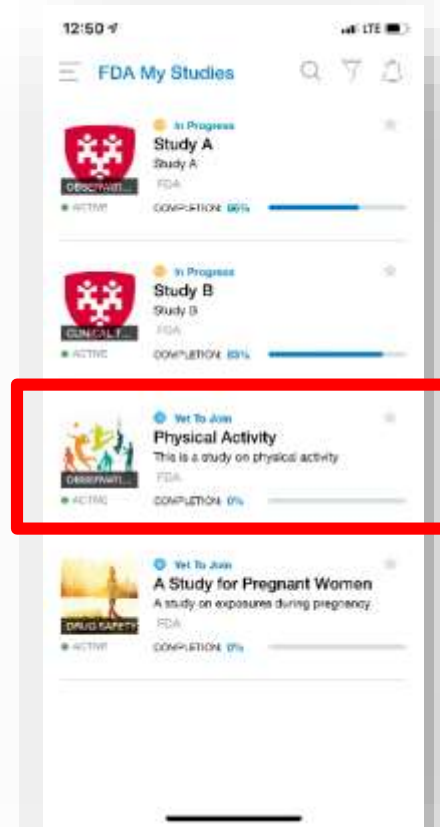
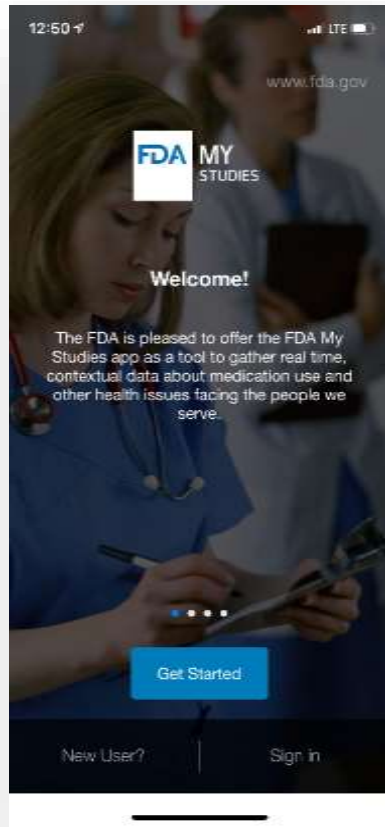
- 1 Physical Activity ...
- 2 What is your favorite physical activity? ...
- 3 Intensity Level ...
- 4 How much low intensity activity did you get in the p...  
How much moderate intensity activity do you get in ...  
How much high intensity activity did you get in the ...
- 5 How much total activity did you engage in last wee... ...

# Mobile App





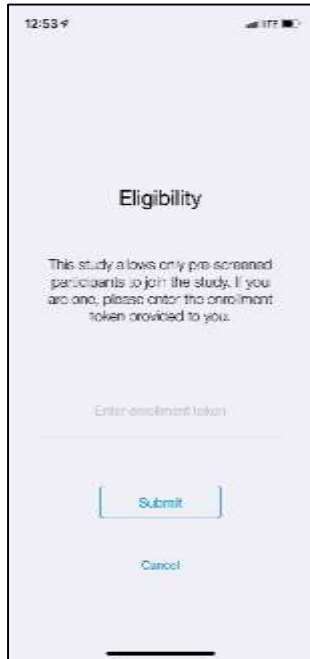
# Mobile App



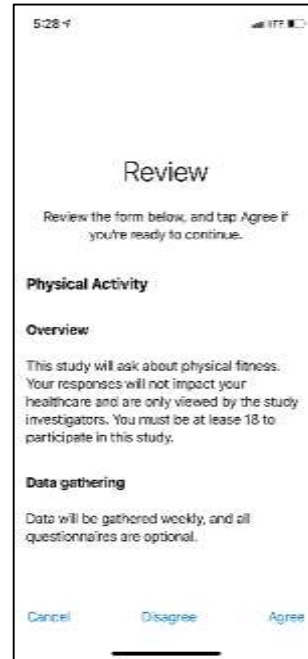
# Enrollment and Consent



Optional Eligibility Test



Optional Comprehension Test



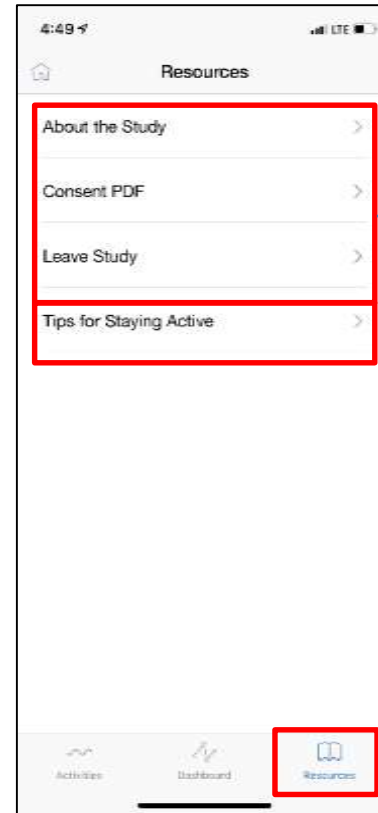
# Patient Engagement



DASHBOARD



RESOURCES



Default

Custom

# Storage Environment – Response Server



LabKey Server 19.1.0 has been released and is ready for deployment. We recommend that you upgrade to the new version. Download it now.

### Phys Activity Site 1 Responses

**Study Setup**

The StudyId associated with this folder is DEMO01001.

**Study ID**

**Enrollment Token Batches**

Batch Id	Tokens Generated	Created	Created By	Tokens In Use
21		1/2019/05/20 07:46	edward.soper	1

**Lists**

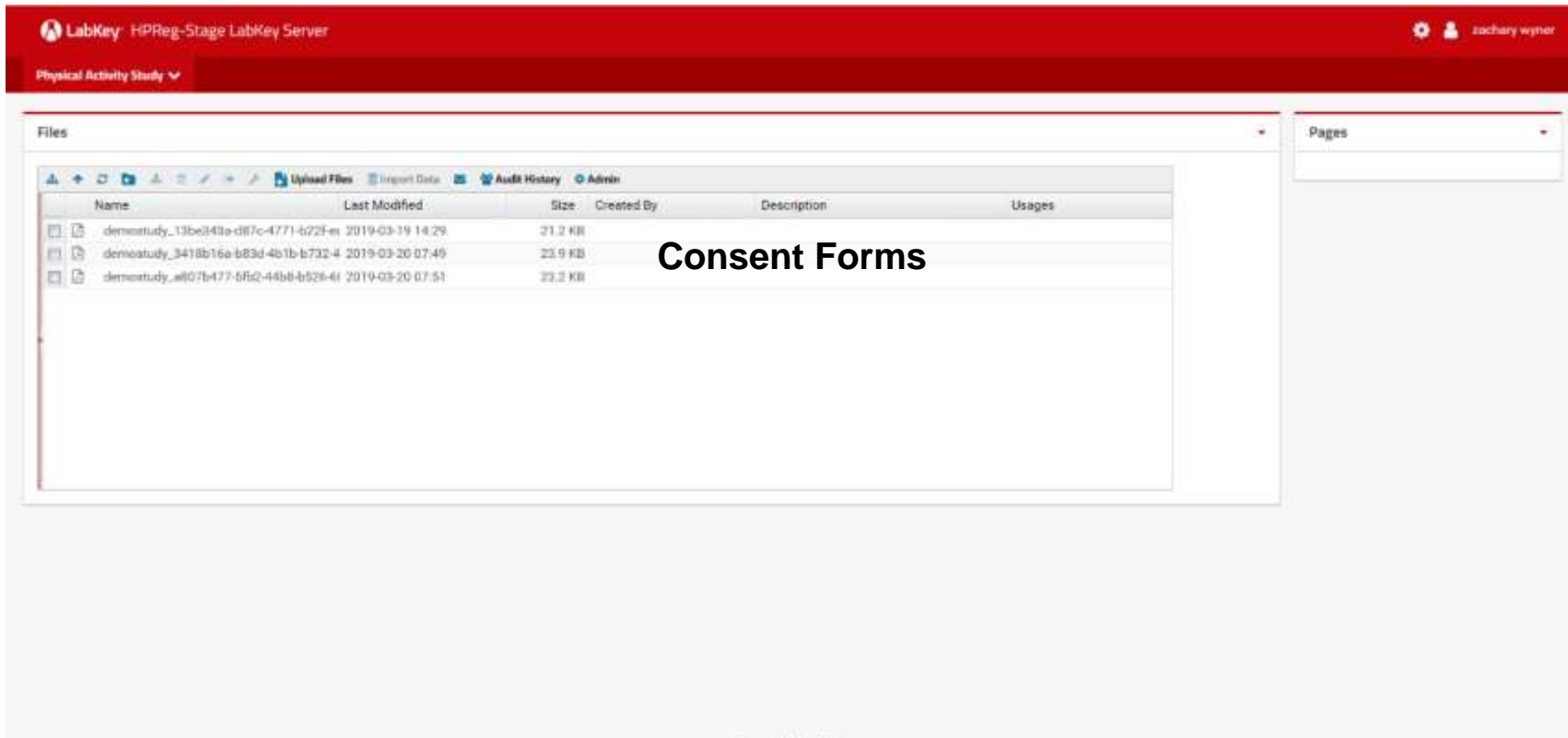
- Demographics
- Demographicschappin
- Demographics1000
- Demographics10000

**Response**

Response ID	Data	Participant ID	App Token	Survey Version	Activity Id	Processed	Processed By	Error Message	Folder	Created	Created By	Status
01	<pre>{   "surveyTime": "2019-05-20T20:13:02.985-0400",   "resultCode": "questionnaire",   "startTime": "2019-05-20T19:11:42.985-0400",   "results": [     {       "surveyTime": "2019-05-20T20:13:02.985-0400"     }   ] }</pre>	47-7117282a746a322f16211a4b556a1115		Demographics	2019-05-20 07:52				Phys Activity Site 1 Responses	2019-05-20 07:52		PROCESSED

**Response JSON Files**

# Storage Environment – Registration Server



LabKey HPReg-Stage LabKey Server

Physical Activity Study

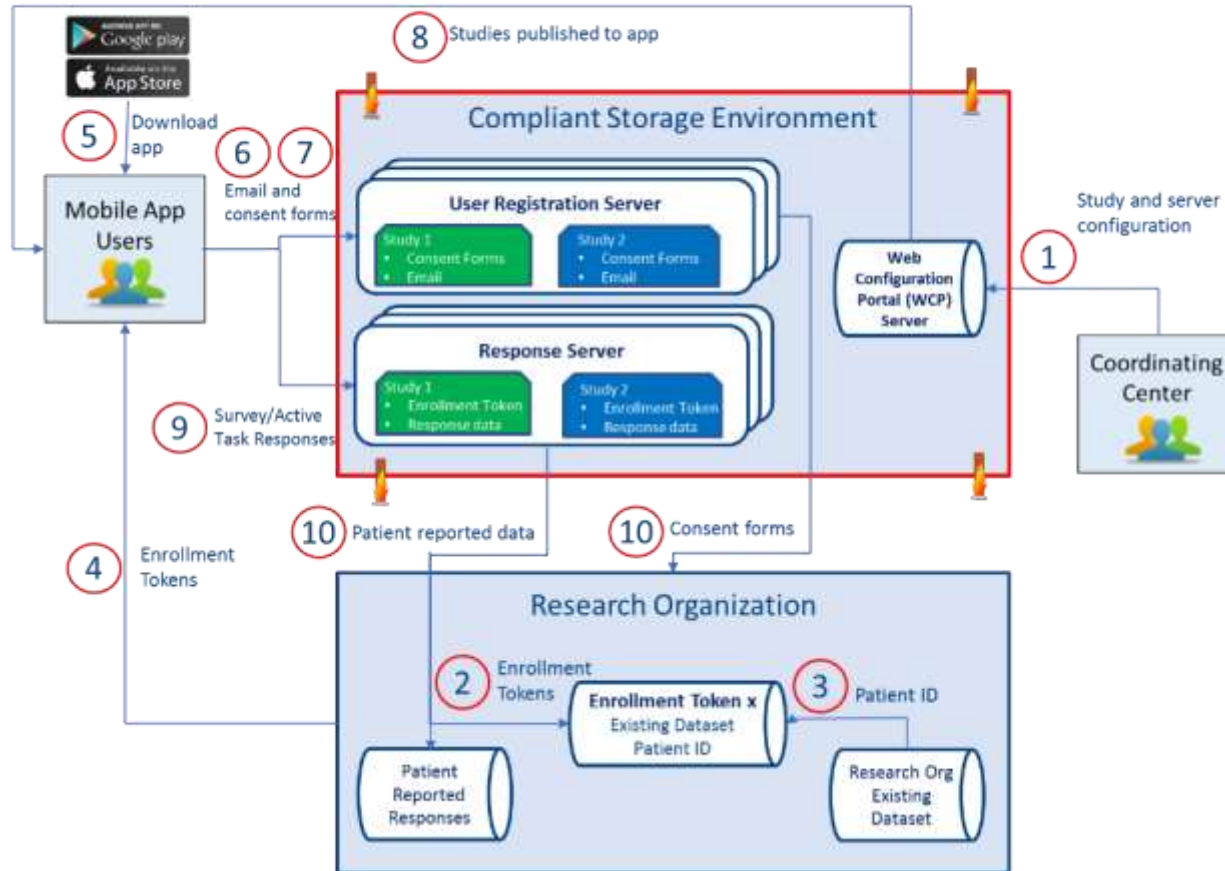
Files

Pages

Name	Last Modified	Size	Created By	Description	Usages
demonstudy_13be343e-d87c-4771-622f-m	2019-03-19 14:29	21.2 KB			
demonstudy_3418b16e-b83d-4b1b-b732-4	2019-03-20 07:40	23.9 KB			
demonstudy_a807b477-6f52-44b8-b528-6f	2019-03-20 07:51	23.2 KB			

**Consent Forms**

# Data Flow



# Live Demo

- Web Configuration Portal (WCP)
  - Creating and publishing a study
- Mobile Application
  - Registration, enrollment, and submission of responses
- Response and Registration Servers
  - Configuring a study
  - Viewing responses and registration information



# BREAK



# Q&A and Resources



Click for:

- <https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/FDAInBrief/ucm625228.htm>
  - <https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/ScienceResearch/ucm624785.htm>
  - <https://github.com/PopMedNet-Team/FDA-My-Studies-Mobile-Application-System>
  - <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/use-electronic-informed-consent-clinical-investigations-questions-and-answers>
  - <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/use-electronic-records-and-electronic-signatures-clinical-investigations-under-21-cfr-part-11>
  - <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM193282.pdf>
  - <https://www.fda.gov/science-research/science-and-research-special-topics/real-world-evidence>
- Additional questions on the webinar?

Email: [CDERSBIA@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:CDERSBIA@fda.hhs.gov)

**Open Q&A begins shortly – type in your questions now.**

Learn about other resources from CDER Small Business & Industry Assistance:

[Visit Our Website!](#)

# LUNCH BREAK

# MOBILE APPLICATION(S), WCP, USER REGISTRATION SERVER: TECHNICAL OVERVIEW



Shyam Deval



Ranjani Rao

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## **Boston Technology Corporation**

Shyamd@boston-technology.com, Ranjanir@boston-technology.com

# Mobile Application: Usability

- User interface that's intuitive, convenient and adopts an 'appy' look and feel
  - Use of 'Mobile First' design practices
  - Comprehensive UI/UX design methodology
  - Key considerations
    - Users (who, when, where and why)
    - Form factors
    - Screen loading times
    - Faster response times for user actions
    - Optimized user action flows
- Rapid proto-typing and continuous user testing during design

# Mobile Application: Usability

- Offline capability
  - Ability for participants to take study activities even when offline
  - Secure local storage of responses
  - Auto-sync of response data with server, when connected
  - Design of network calls done to ensure no data is lost due to network failures or server downtime



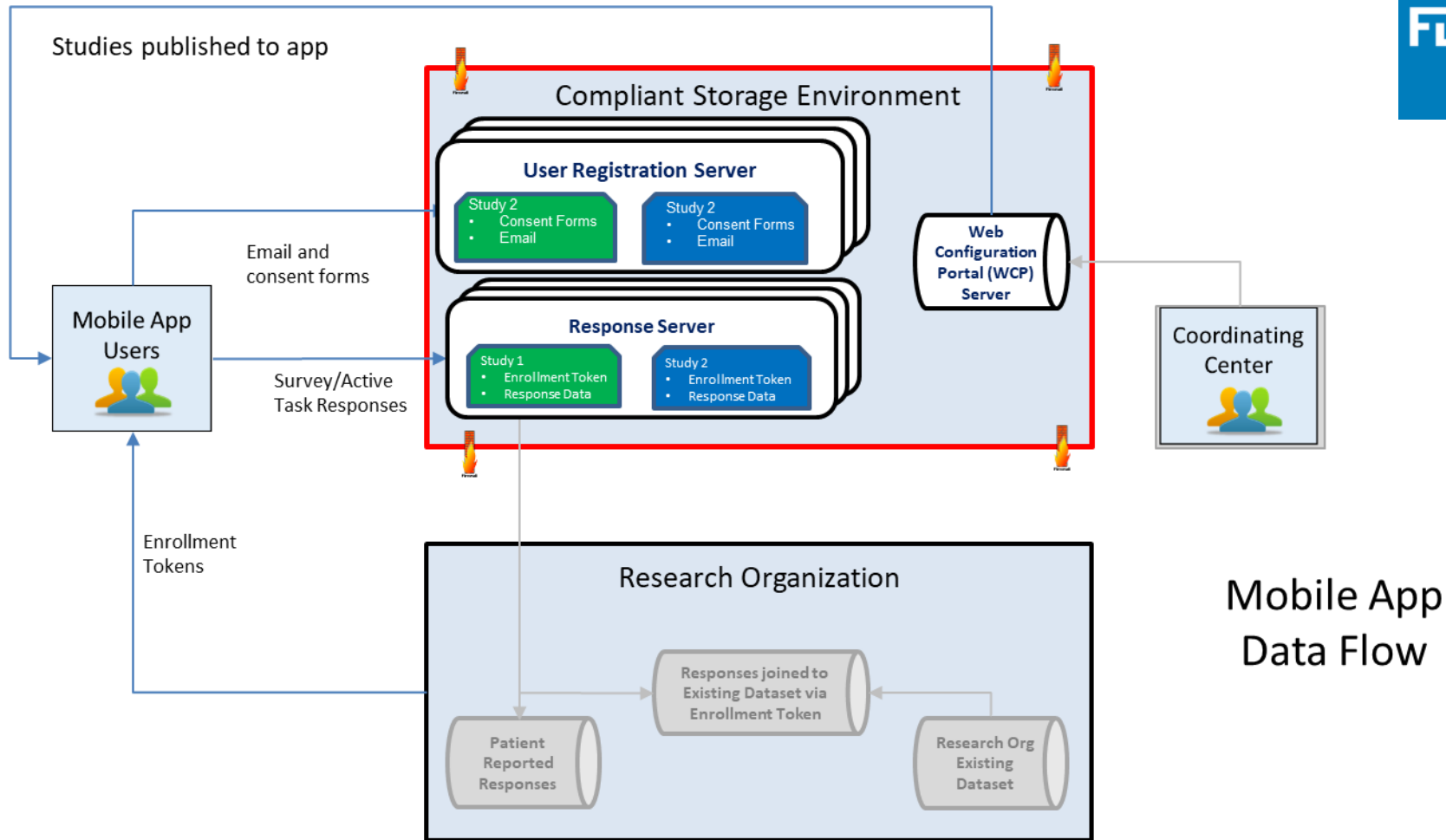
# Usability Features: A few more examples

- Easy to navigate study overview with provision to have a video (helps participants easily understand the app/study)
- Helpful links to study website, protocol document, and relevant resources.
- Ability to tailor content and images to suit your target audience
- Ability to white-label/ apply branding to the app as required
- Customizable push notifications to participants
- Timely and useful reminders and notifications when study activities are due to be taken
- Participant-managed preferences for app settings
- Ability to set up activities with clear and custom instruction steps for participants
- All survey screens are easy to navigate through and answer, irrespective of question type
- Option to allow the app to read a question's numeric response from HealthKit
- Study activities prominently marked with completion status and arranged by date
- Provisions for Feedback and Contact Us forms

# Mobile Application: Compliance / Security Support

- Secure user registration and sign in
- Passcode and Touch ID based access
- Data encrypted at rest and in transit
- Secure session-handling/session management
- No participant identifiable information is transacted to the Response server when responses are saved in or fetched back from it







# Mobile App Architecture and Tech Stack

- The mobile app interacts with the User Registration Server, WCP & Response Server via RESTful services.
- The app uses AES-256 for encryption of data.
- Study metadata and activity/survey information is stored for offline usage.
- Data is stored locally using Realm Database (an open-source database framework)
- Application stores users response data locally, and in cases of network failure, attempts to resubmit the data to the response server when network is available
- The app is not allowed to be used on jailbroken or rooted phones



- The iOS app is built using Swift language
- Runs on the latest Swift 5.0 and Xcode 10.2.
- Makes use of Apple ResearchKit, UIKit, Foundation,
- CoreLocation, HealthKit, AVFoundation, UserNotification
- The app also uses UserNotification framework to schedule local notification/reminders for study activities
- The app follows the Apple-recommended MVC Design Pattern



- Development and Build Tools: Android Studio 3.3.2 & Gradle 3.3.2
- Event Bus Architecture is used for communicating with modules
- Researchstack modules are used for base Enrollment, Informed Consent and Survey functionality.
- Multiple extensions have been developed to the existing ResearchStack framework to support additional functionality



- ResearchKit 2.0 is used
- iOS uses Apple ResearchKit Framework to provide a framework with Enrollment, Informed Consent, Surveys and Active Tasks
- BTC extended the ResearchKit framework to add the following:
  - A custom Active Task 'Fetal Kick Counter' that is built on ResearchKit framework
  - An enrollment token verification step as part of ascertaining eligibility to participate in the study
  - A 'Repeatable Form Step'
  - The response data captured using ResearchKit, is converted into a JSON format and sent to Response Server



ResearchStack



- ResearchStack 1.1.1 is used
- BTC developed the following extensions to the ResearchStack framework
  - Image choice support for Eligibility module
  - Custom Consent module including support for two types of Consent Documents, signed consent PDF generation and review.
  - Survey module to support the following steps:
    - Multiple-select for Image Choice question type
    - Multiple-select Text Choice question type, to support mutually exclusive option as well as to support question Description
    - Single-select Text Choice question type, to support question description
    - New Question Steps for Value Picker, Scale, Text Scale, Continuous Scale, Location, Height, Time Interval, Email



ResearchStack

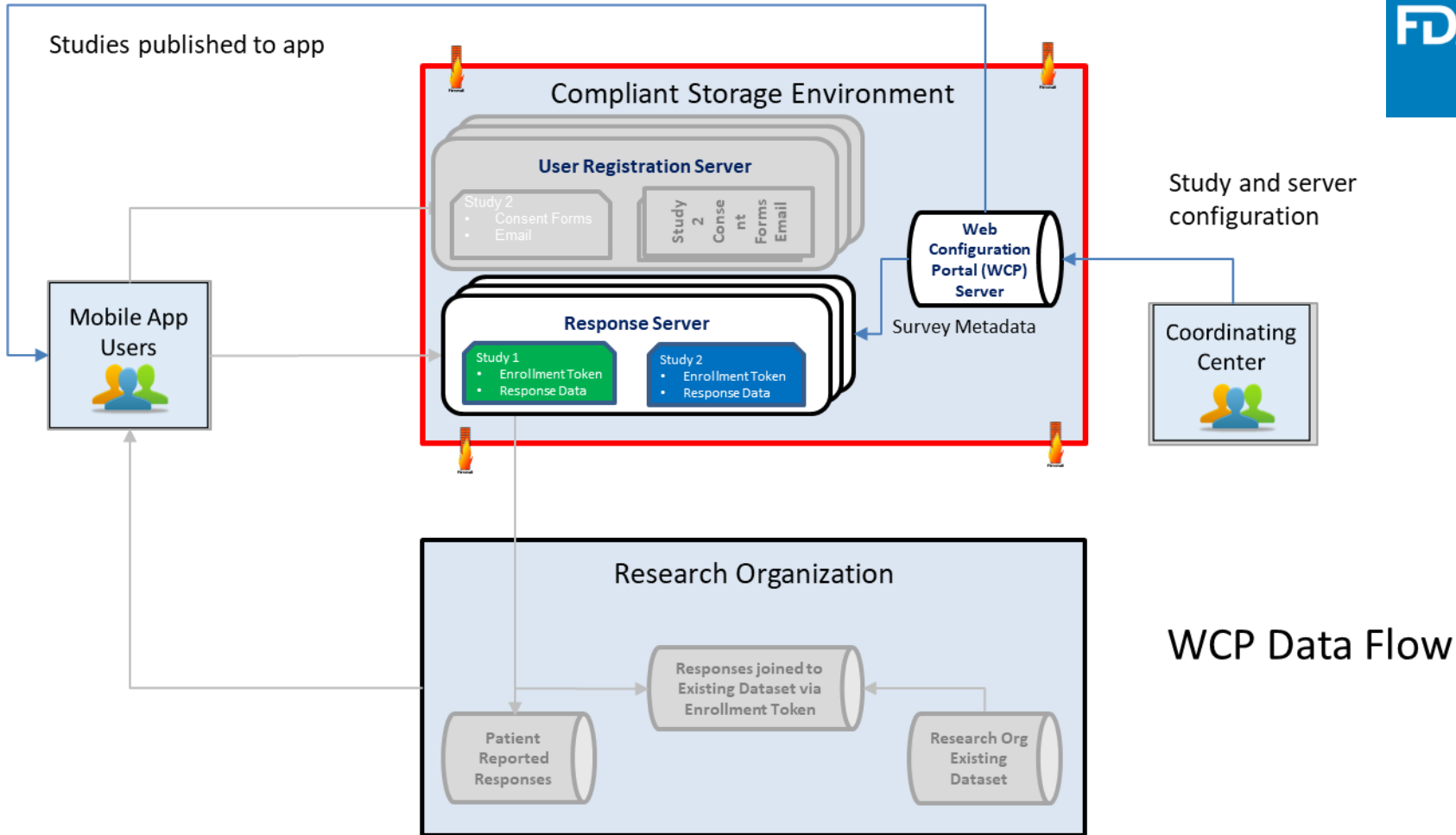


- More Extensions

- Created custom steps to support the Fetal Kick Counter Active Task
- Extended Text Choice question type, to support Regular Expression
- Extended Integer question type, to support units
- Extended Decimal question type, support units
- Extended Date question type, to support multiple date/time response formats
- Extended Form Step to achieve 'Repeatable Form' behavior

# WCP Characteristics

- Flexible
  - Choose components that work for your unique research study requirements
  - Run suite of studies in one gateway app or have a standalone app per study
- Customizable
  - Configure study workflows be it eligibility, consent or surveys
  - Tailor app content as required for your study
- Extensible
  - Extend the platform to offer more functionality and features
  - Add more active tasks, or new question types
- Scalable
  - Run multiple studies in concurrence with large teams of administrators and participants
  - Recruit for and manage long-running studies across diverse populations
  - Engage in large-scale collection of data using surveys and active tasks

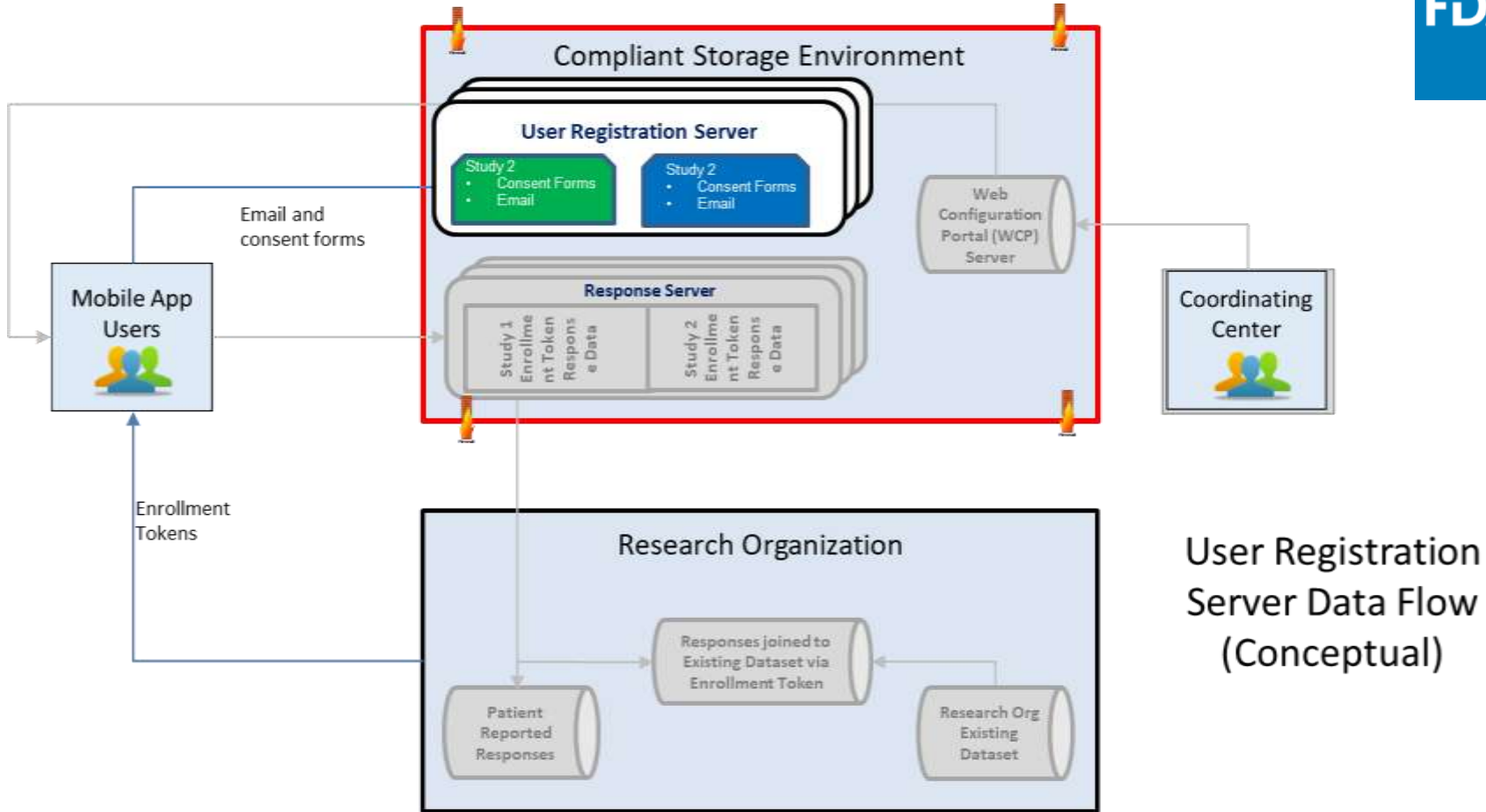


### WCP Data Flow



# WCP and Web Services Tech Stack

- Web application and web services
  - Java (V 1.8)
  - Spring (V3)
  - JQuery
  - Hibernate ORM 3 for web application
  - Jersey RESTful web services
  - Tomcat 8
  - Operating System: Linux (Ubuntu)
  - Database: MySQL Database 5.6



User Registration Server Data Flow (Conceptual)



# User Registration Server: Primary Role

- The User Registration server is used to support mobile app functionality and user flows.
- It is accessed via web services by the mobile app
- This server is only used to store only user profile information, preferences and study-related statuses as well as used for push notifications
- No user response data is stored on this server

# User Registration Server Architecture and Tech Stack



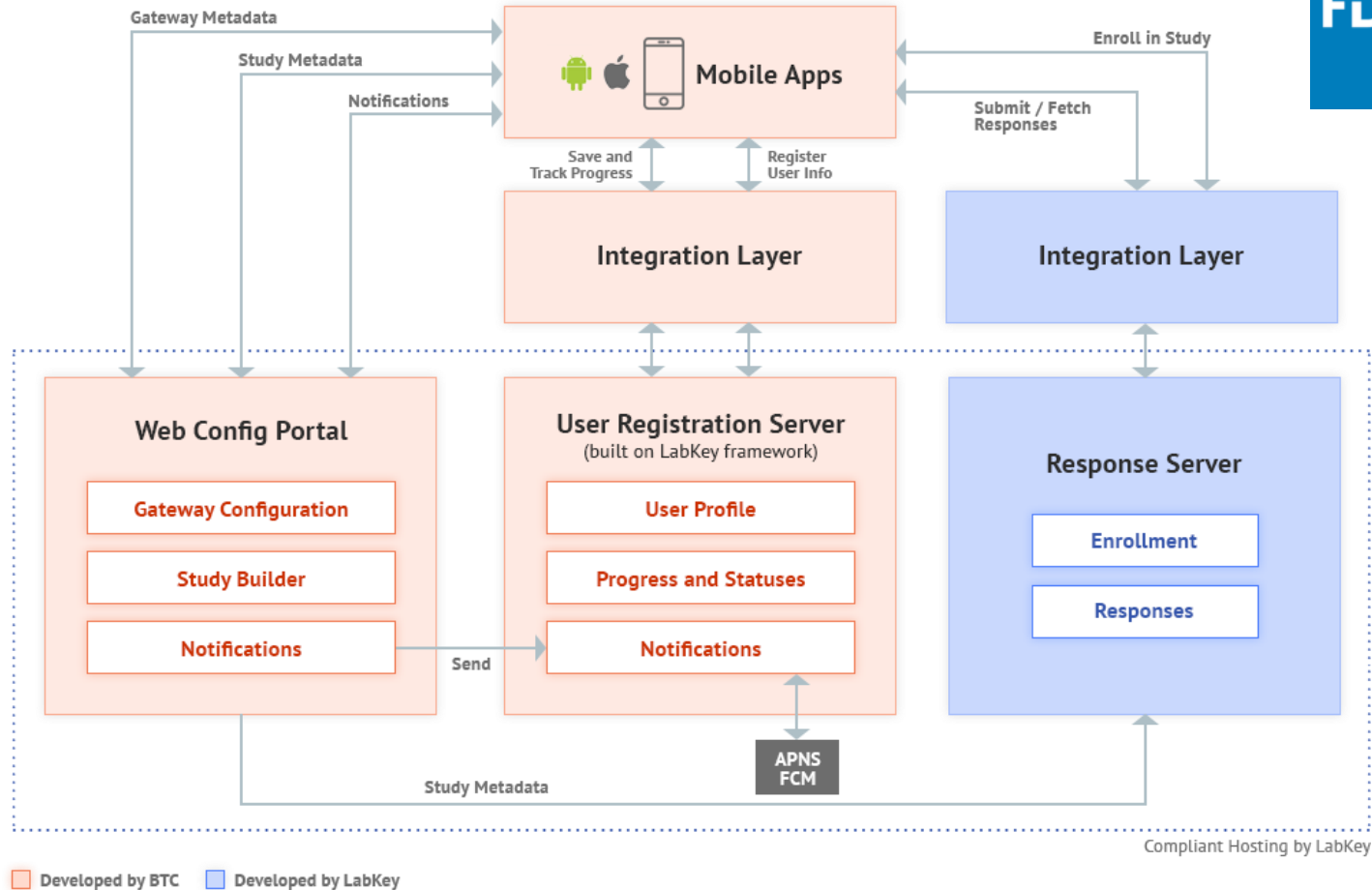
- The web service for the User Registration server are built on the LabKey platform
- Access is limited to users registered on the platform. Each user is assigned a unique user ID and access token
- Access token expiry is set within application configuration on the registration server.
- Access token is required in the web service header to transmit data to/from the registration server
- The User Registration server is built using LabKey framework as well
- It leverages LabKey's User and Registration modules to provide registration services for the users of the mobile app.
- Features:
  - User registration & session management
  - User profile and preferences
  - User progress and activity status
  - Stores study-specific user information such as Participant ID and Enrollment Date/Time

# User Registration Server Architecture and Tech Stack



- LabKey Platform (open-source, Apache 2.0 licensed)
- Java and JavaScript for the web application
- Apache Tomcat
- PostgreSQL database
- Gradle script to build the application
- JSON format for the web services used by the mobile app

# Overall Architecture



# GitHub Repository

- Repository Link: <https://github.com/PopMedNet-Team/FDA-My-Studies-Mobile-Application-System>

- iOS Source Code :  
Download the code OR clone it and run the 'HPHC.xcworkspace'

To rebrand, change App Icon, Launch Image, Logos and Bundle ID (a unique ID registered on the Apple Developer portal for each application).

- Android Source code:  
Download the code OR clone it and open the source code in Android Studio

To rebrand, change App Icon and other assets from 'Resources', and the Package name. Update changes to styles for Researchstack Theme, as required.



Adam Rauch  
LabKey Software  
[adam@labkey.com](mailto:adam@labkey.com)

# LABKEY RESPONSE SERVER TECHNICAL OVERVIEW



## Response Server: Primary Role

Process and store all mobile app survey and active task responses, then provide secure access for data analysis purposes

# Response Server Architecture

Built on LabKey Server, which is:

- Open-source (Apache 2.0 licensed) platform designed to integrate, analyze, and share complex biomedical data
- Originally developed at Fred Hutchinson in Seattle
- Expanded and supported by spin-off LabKey Software
- Open-source project, support, docs: [www.labkey.org](http://www.labkey.org)
- Company info: [www.labkey.com](http://www.labkey.com)

# Response Server Architecture

- Web application written in Java and JavaScript
- OpenJDK
- Apache Tomcat servlet container
- PostgreSQL database back-end
- Scaled down version of LabKey Server
  - Security, administration, compliance, query, reporting, lists
  - Response server functions implemented by mobileAppStudy LabKey module

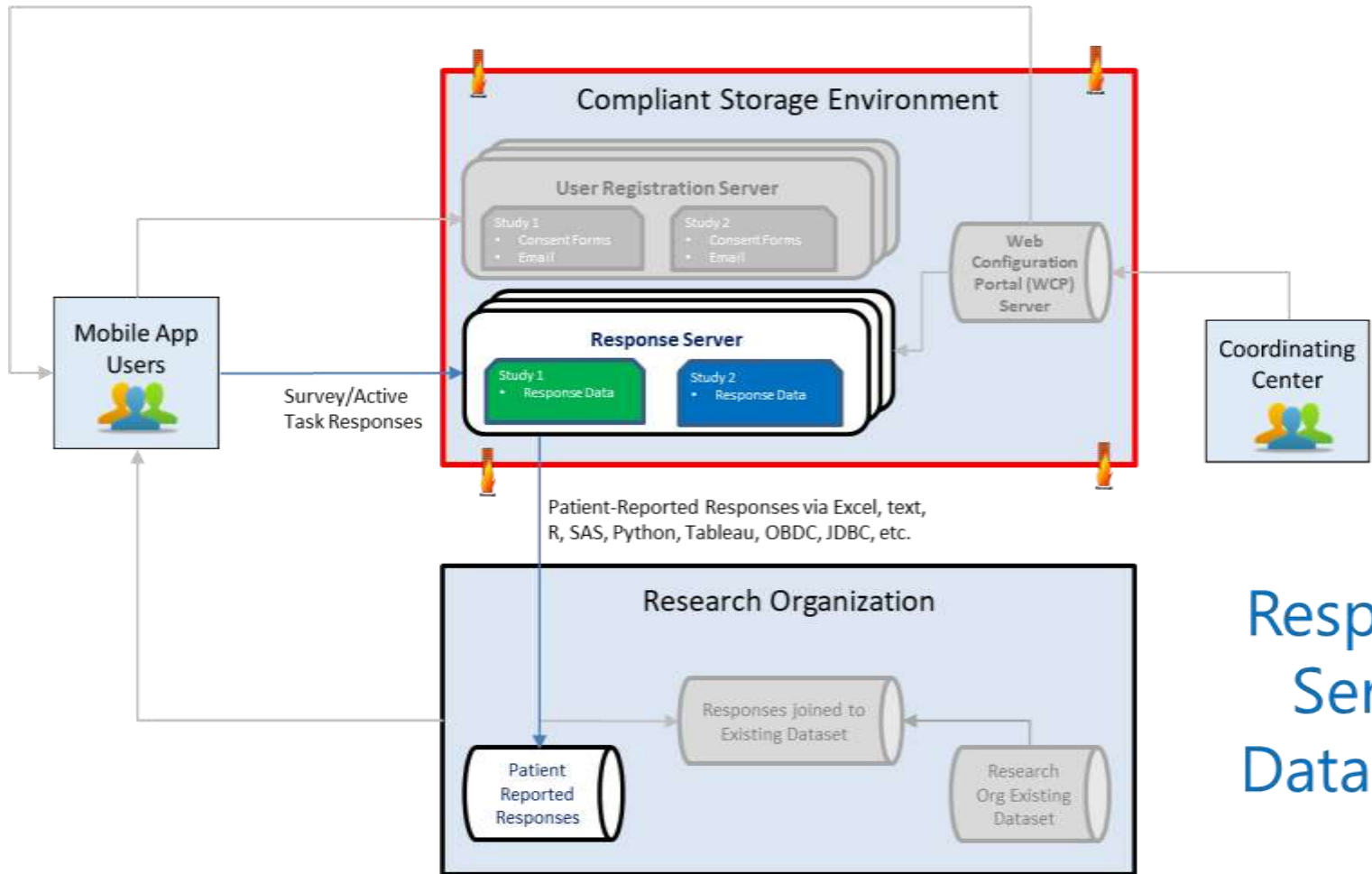
# Response Server: Processing Responses

- Receives responses from mobile app
  - JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) format
- Performs basic validation
  - Valid, existing participant ID for an enrolled participant
- Queues processing job and sends response to mobile app
- Parses JSON and stores responses in database tables
  - All data partitioned by study and restricted to authorized users
- Provides many ways to analyze and retrieve data



```
{
  "startTime": "2019-03-14T12:26:00.000-0700",
  "endTime": "2019-03-15T12:26:00.000-0700",
  "results": [
    {
      "resultType": "textChoice",
      "key": "ethnicity",
      "startTime": "2019-03-14T16:11:59.824-0400",
      "endTime": "2019-03-14T16:12:05.212-0400",
      "skipped": false,
      "value": [
        "HispanicLatino"
      ]
    },
    {
      "resultType": "textChoice",
      "key": "country",
      "startTime": "2019-03-14T16:12:09.347-0400",
      "endTime": "2019-03-14T16:12:17.175-0400",
      "skipped": false,
      "value": [
        "US"
      ]
    },
    {
      "resultType": "textChoice",
      "key": "IBDcurrentmed",
      "startTime": "2019-03-14T16:12:49.987-0400",
      "endTime": "2019-03-14T16:12:53.976-0400",
      "skipped": false,
      "value": [
        "Yes"
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

## Sample Response JSON



# Response Server Data Flow

# Response Server: Other Duties

- Issues enrollment tokens to research organizations
- Enrolls and unenrolls participants
- Creates database schemas that match each study's design and updates them as studies change
- Provides limited querying of data by mobile app
- Enables web analytics, querying, reporting, and visualizations through manual and programmatic methods
- Forwards responses to external system (optional)

# Enrollment Token

- Purpose
  - Uniquely identifies a participant and authorizes that person to enroll in a specific study
  - Links a participant's data to records maintained by the research organization
  - Provides option of keeping PII (Personally Identifiable Information) out of Response server
- Process
  - Token: randomly generated, one-time-use code that's 8 letters plus a checksum (e.g., "EZMKPHMPK")
  - Research organization requests tokens from a specific study on the Response server
    - Typically in batches of 100, 1000, etc.
    - Export via Excel and text formats, retrieve via API call, etc.
  - Research organization assigns tokens to prospective participants, stores with participant records, sends with invitations
  - Participant enrolls in study via the mobile app
    - Participant enters enrollment token into mobile app UI
    - Mobile app calls Response server to validate enrollment token and exchange for secure participant ID used for subsequent authorization
  - Later, research organization retrieves response data and joins it to participant records via enrollment token



### Enrollment Token Batches

<span>📅 ▾</span> <span>📄 ▾</span> <span>New Batch</span> <span>🖨️</span>					
<input type="checkbox"/> ▾	Batch Id ▾	Tokens Generated ▾	Created ▾	Created By ▾	Tokens In Use ▾
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	100	2019-01-24 10:39	adam	0
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	100	2019-01-24 10:40	adam	
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	1,000	2019-04-06 15:24	adam	
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	1,000	2019-04-06 15:26	adam	

**Generate Tokens** ✕

How many tokens would you like to generate?

100  
 1,000  
 10,000  
 Other

Token Batches

## Enrollment Tokens ▢ Mobile App Test Study

☰ + + + 1 - 100 of 1,000 < >

Excel Text Script

- Excel Workbook (.xlsx) Maximum 1,048,576 rows and 16,384 columns.
- Excel Old Binary Workbook (.xls) Maximum 65,536 rows and 256 columns.
- Refreshable Web Query (.iqy)

Column headers: ? Caption ▾

Export/Sign selected rows

Export Sign Data

☰ - Token

<input type="checkbox"/>	RZMKPMPK
<input type="checkbox"/>	MBDMSFJLE
<input type="checkbox"/>	PUYJNQYEG
<input type="checkbox"/>	LVTEGKGD
<input type="checkbox"/>	JMFIHVEVF
<input type="checkbox"/>	JCNQMGVJ
<input type="checkbox"/>	PZWERQPO
<input type="checkbox"/>	LRXKOMZPZ
<input type="checkbox"/>	QZMPWUXE
<input type="checkbox"/>	FJVGKILYO
<input type="checkbox"/>	BTBMOVZJ
<input type="checkbox"/>	KXSPMTXUN
<input type="checkbox"/>	LORSECQZN
<input type="checkbox"/>	LCOQEWNSV
<input type="checkbox"/>	ACDNAYIRS

Token Batches

### Enrollment Tokens Mobile App Test Study

1 - 100 of 1,000

Excel **Text** Script

Separator: **Tab**

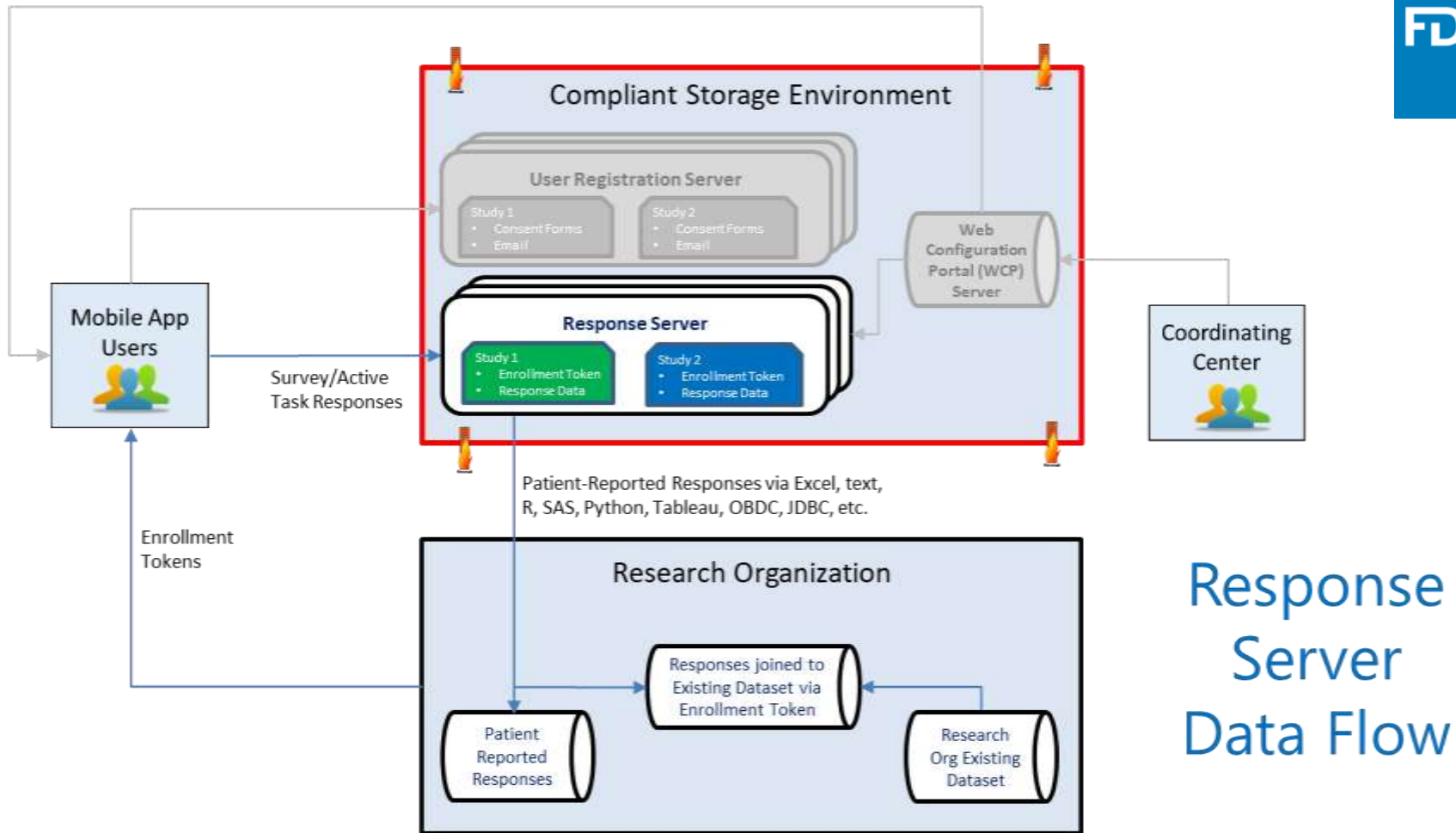
Quote: **Double (")**

Column headers: **Caption**

Export/Sign selected rows

**Export** Sign Data

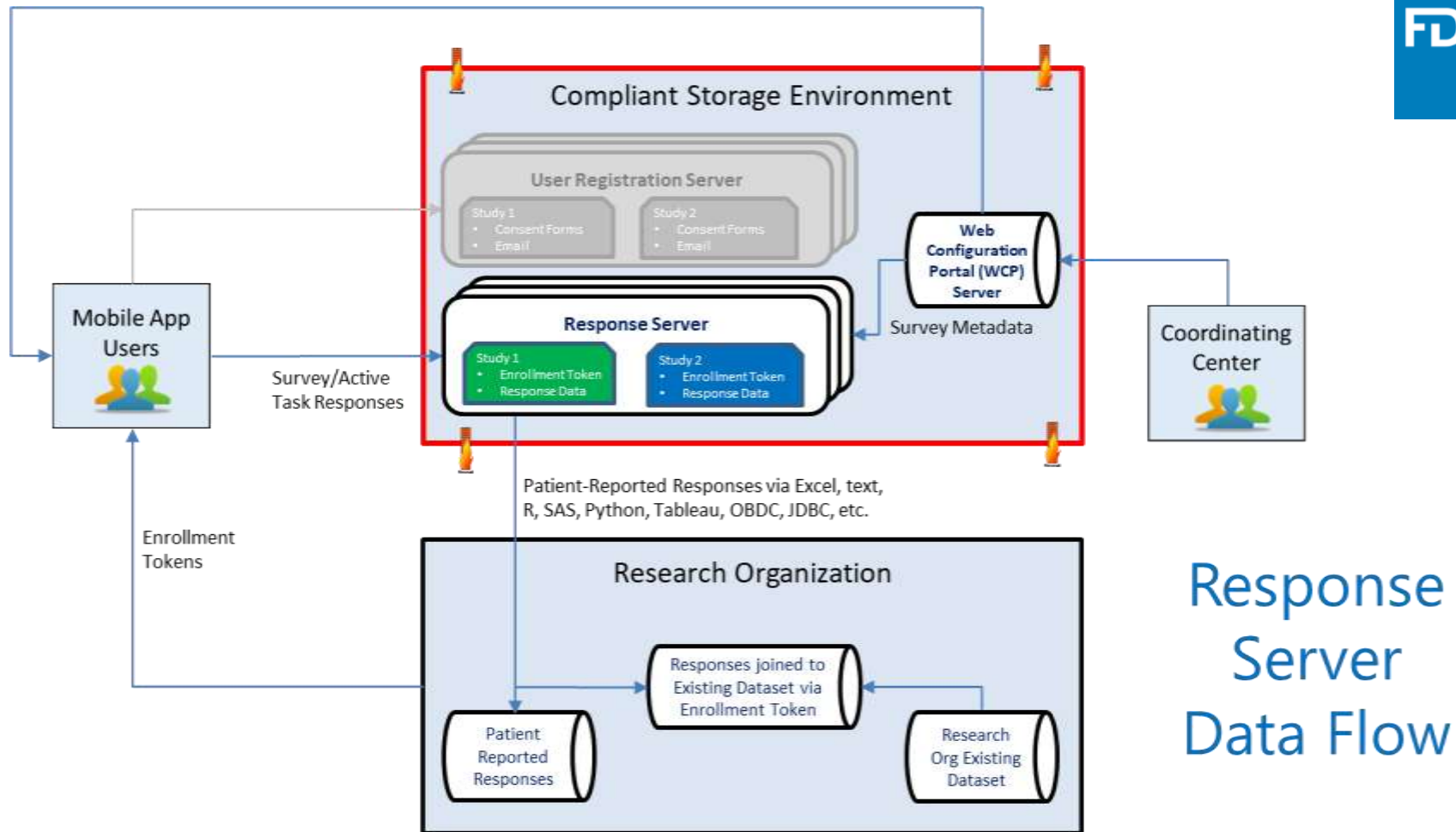
Token
RZMKPHMPK
NBDMSFJLE
PUYJINQYEG
LVTEGKGOL
JMFIHVEVF
JCNQMGVJ
PZWERQPOS
LRXKOMZPZ
QZMMPWUXE
FJVGKILYO
BTBOMWZJ
KXSPMTXUN
LORSECQZN
LCOQEWMSV
ACDNAYURS
TPBRWDPAB
OTGGGZTIP



# Response Server Data Flow

# Response Schema Management

- Studies are designed via the WCP (Web Configuration Portal) web application
- Response server provisions a custom, independent database schema for each study based on WCP-provided metadata
- Update to study design triggers Response server schema changes, for example:
  - Study administrator uses WCP to add a new question to a survey
  - Response server adds a new column to corresponding table



# Response Server Data Flow

# Data Analytics Options

- Standard Community Edition
  - Built-in web analytics, querying, reporting, visualizations
  - Export responses in Excel, text, XML formats
  - APIs: R, SAS, Python, Java, JavaScript, Perl, JSON
  - Configure real-time “response forwarding” (in testing)
- Premium
  - Support for HIPAA-compliant PHI handling and logging
  - Support for FISMA and 21 CFR Part 11 compliance
  - Tableau Desktop, MS Access, SSRS, JMP, and other ODBC clients
  - Spotfire and other JDBC clients
  - RStudio, Rserve, sandboxed R instances



## GitHub Repository: Response Server Module

<https://github.com/PopMedNet-Team/FDA-My-Studies-Mobile-Application-System>

## Subversion Repository: LabKey Server Platform

<https://svn.mgt.labkey.host/stedi/branches/release19.1-SNAPSHOT>

## Documentation and Support for Building & Deploying LabKey Server

<https://www.labkey.org/home/project-begin.view>





# BREAK

# Q&A and Resources



Click for:

- <https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/FDAInBrief/ucm625228.htm>
- <https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/ScienceResearch/ucm624785.htm>
- <https://github.com/PopMedNet-Team/FDA-My-Studies-Mobile-Application-System>
- <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/use-electronic-informed-consent-clinical-investigations-questions-and-answers>
- <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/use-electronic-records-and-electronic-signatures-clinical-investigations-under-21-cfr-part-11>
- <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM193282.pdf>
- <https://www.fda.gov/science-research/science-and-research-special-topics/real-world-evidence>
- Additional questions on the webinar?

Email: [CDERSBIA@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:CDERSBIA@fda.hhs.gov)

**Open Q&A begins shortly – type in your questions now.**

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Stuart MacDonald  
LabKey Software  
[stuartm@labkey.com](mailto:stuartm@labkey.com)

# DEPLOYING THE MYSTUDIES SYSTEM IN A COMPLIANT MANNER



# Numerous Compliance Requirements

- HIPAA
- FISMA
- CFR-Part 11
- NIST SP 800-53

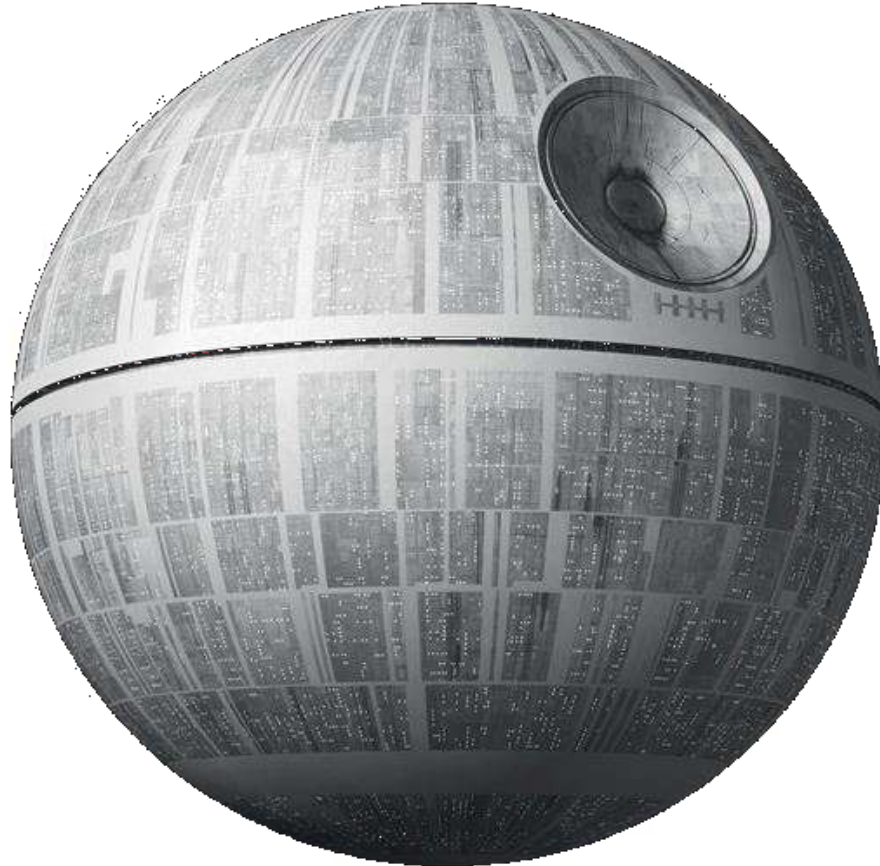
# Compliance – not as easy as...

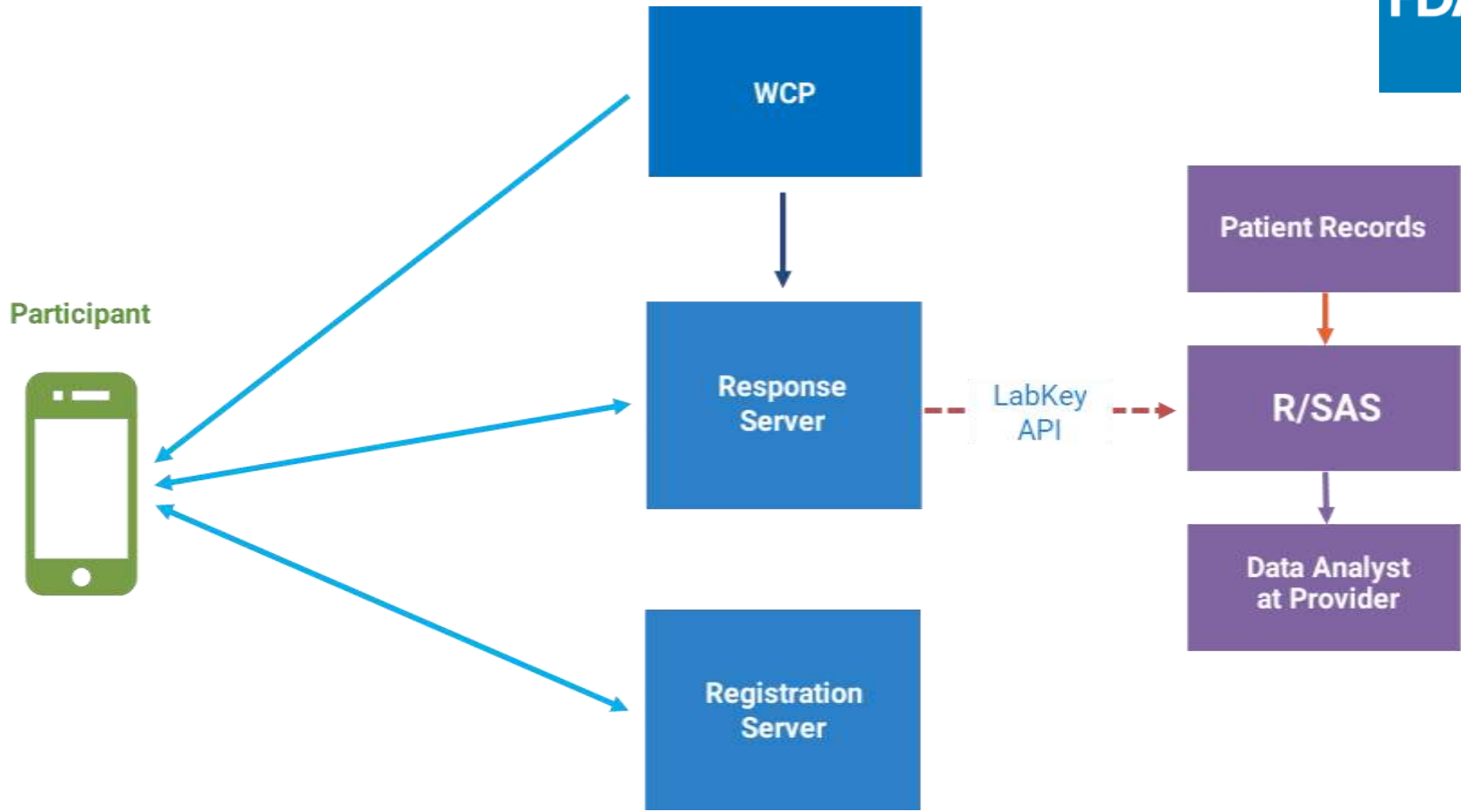


... it looks more like this

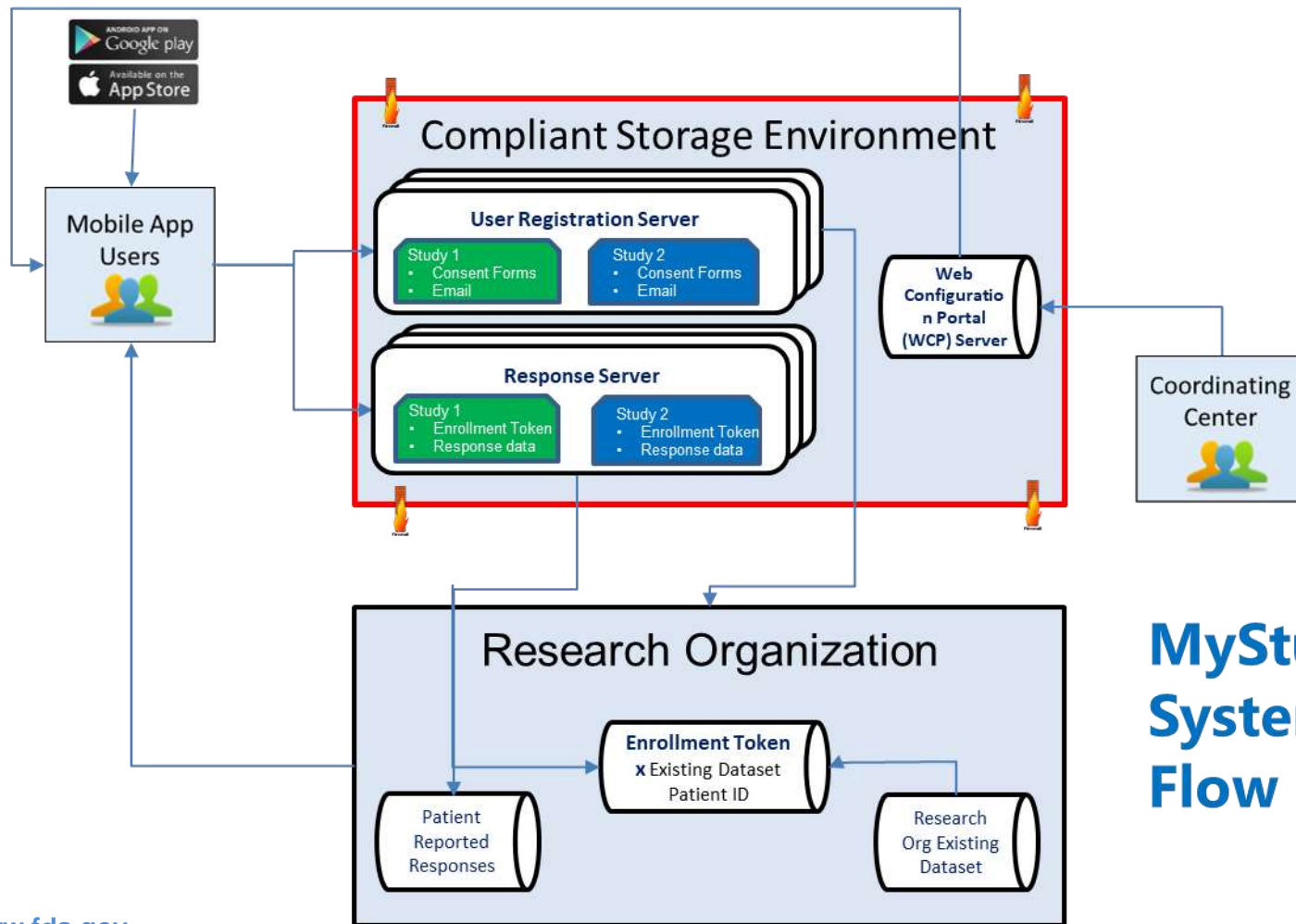


# Which sort of resembles this...

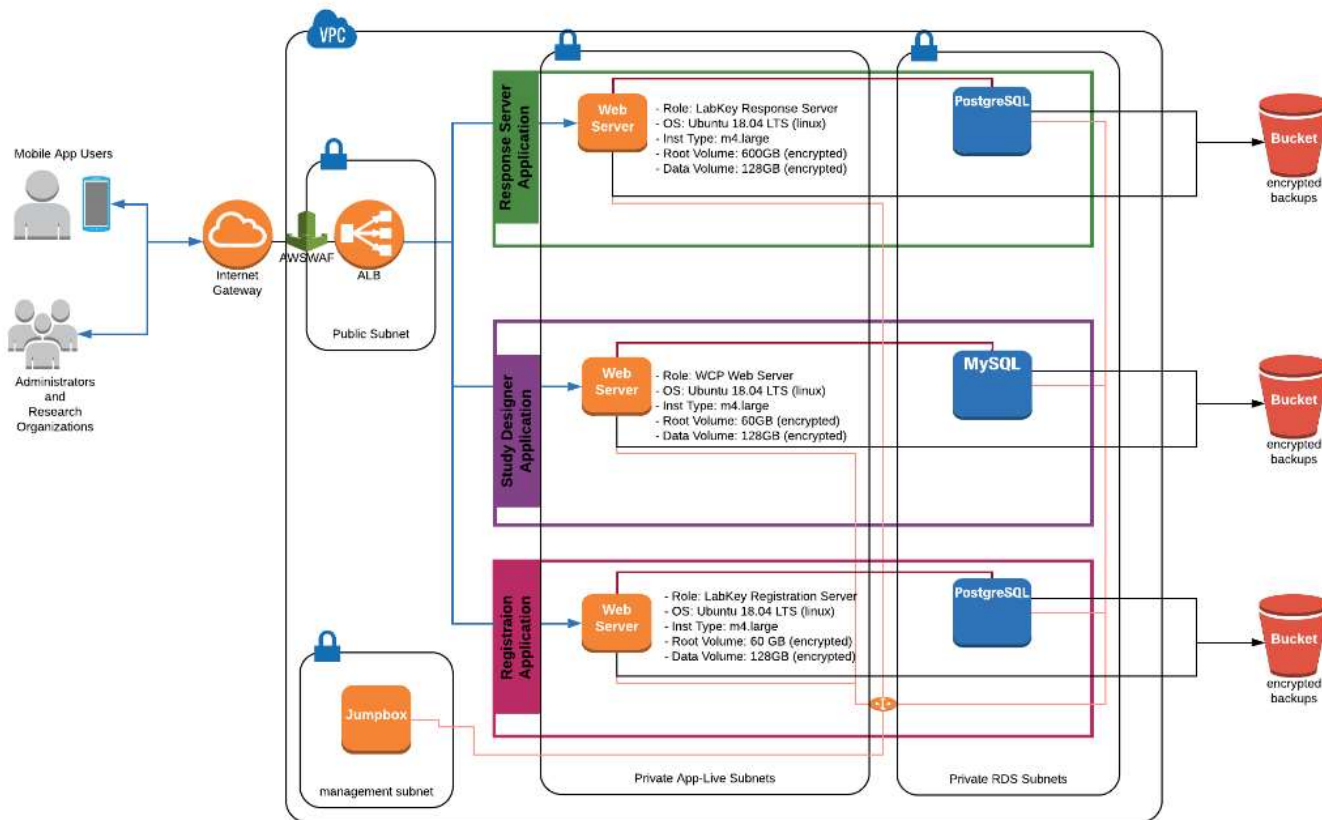






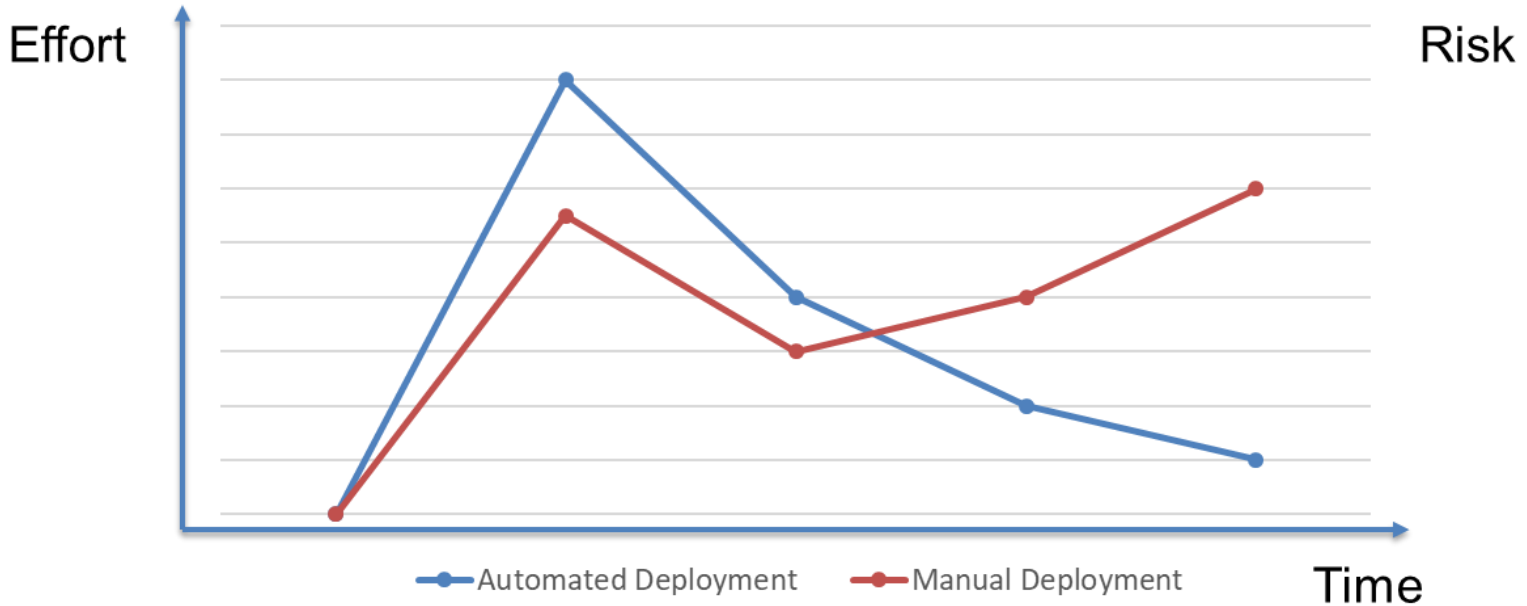


# MyStudies System Data Flow



# Why Automate?

Effort vs Risk



# Keys to addressing compliance requirements

- Design
- Automation
- Defense

# Keys to addressing compliance requirements

## 1. Design

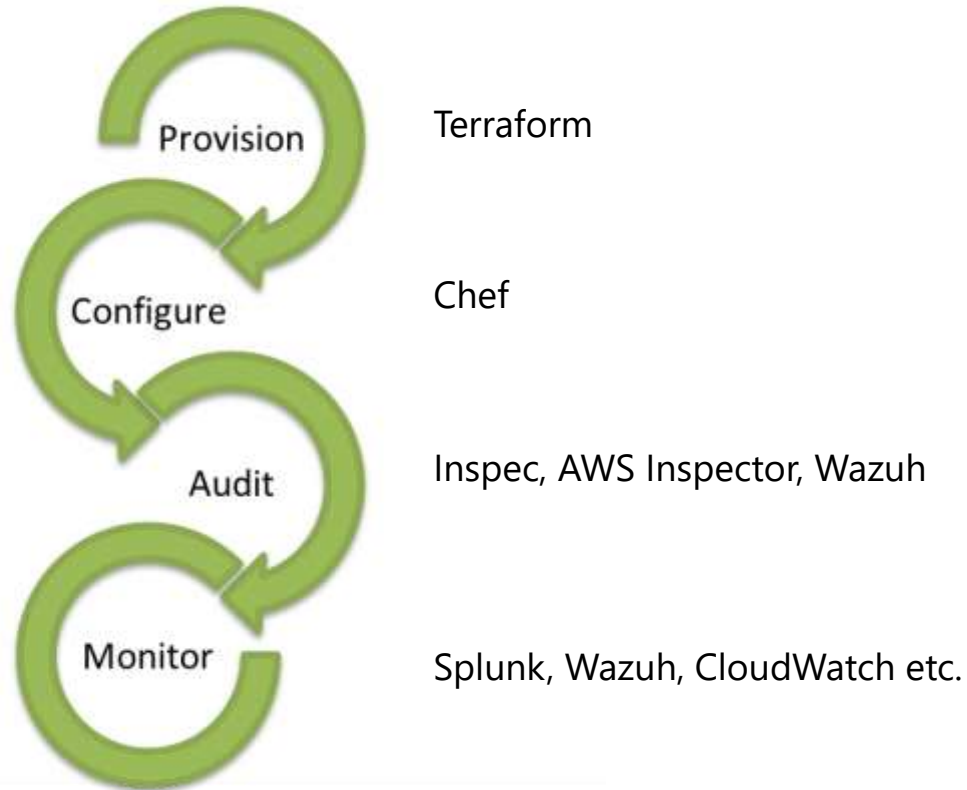
- Tiered application design - segmentation and isolation
- Encryption everywhere
- NACLs, Firewalls (security groups)

# Keys to addressing compliance requirements

## 2. Automation

- a) Use automation to deploy and enforce the security design
- b) Use configuration management to enforce the configuration and prevent drift
- c) Use automation for testing of security controls
- d) Blue-Green deployment model - no more patch in place - deploy new instead

# LabKey Automation Tooling



# Keys to addressing compliance requirements

## 3. Defense

- a) Web Application Firewall
- b) Intrusion Detection & Prevention
- c) Log Aggregation
- d) Log Monitoring
- e) Vulnerability Scans



# Do's & Don'ts

## Do's

- Do design and plan for changes
- Do consider using a Cloud Provider
- Do use automation to provision, configure and validate your infrastructure
- Do use encryption everywhere

## Don'ts

- Don't deploy the platform manually
- Don't forget about backups, data retention and data recovery plans
- Don't forget about important processes and procedures
  - Change Management
  - Security Incident Management
  - Compliance policies, procedures and documentation

## Compliance Quote of the day....

“ It is not only for what we do that we are held responsible, but also for what we do not do. ”

-Moliere



# BREAK





# Q&A and Resources

Click for:

- <https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/FDAInBrief/ucm625228.htm>
- <https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/ScienceResearch/ucm624785.htm>
- <https://github.com/PopMedNet-Team/FDA-My-Studies-Mobile-Application-System>
- <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/use-electronic-informed-consent-clinical-investigations-questions-and-answers>
- <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/use-electronic-records-and-electronic-signatures-clinical-investigations-under-21-cfr-part-11>
- <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM193282.pdf>
- <https://www.fda.gov/science-research/science-and-research-special-topics/real-world-evidence>
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MyStudies Team

# MYSTUDIES CLOSING THOUGHTS AND RESOURCES

# Key System Attributes

- **Scalable:** Capability to simultaneously support multiple studies for a research organization
- **Modular:** Various modular components of the platform can be integrated with external/3rd party system of choice to create a tailored solution for your organization.
- **Secure:** Partitions all data and provides robust access controls
- **Compliant:** Can be deployed to comply with HIPAA, FISMA, and 21 CFR Part 11
- **Customizable:** All study content as seen in the app can be authored and updated via the WCP web application rather than through new software development per study or app
- **Tested:** FDA and PCORI sponsored clinical research demonstration projects
- **Open-source** and ready for research organizations to re-brand, publish, and use!



# Call to Action

- Review code in the GitHub repository and ask questions
- Clone, build, and test the code in your development environment
- Work with today's presenters to deploy and configure the system for your studies:
  - Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute ([Zachary\\_wyner@harvardpilgrim.org](mailto:Zachary_wyner@harvardpilgrim.org))
  - Boston Technology Corporation ([Shyamd@boston-technology.com](mailto:Shyamd@boston-technology.com))
  - LabKey Software ([adam@labkey.com](mailto:adam@labkey.com))
- Or deploy the system yourself to your own hosting environment

