

Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute

REDCap Feature Spotlight

How to Use the REDCap Mobile App

February, 2020



Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute



- Tufts CTSI is committed to providing the best expert advice and user experience to investigators who use our services.
- As a part of this commitment, we will now be providing you with the frequent ***REDCap Feature Spotlight***.
- As part of the **9.5.5 Upgrade**, we are now enabling the **REDCap Mobile App**.
- The **Mobile App** is a platform for offline data collection on Android and iOS mobile devices. Data is manually synchronized with the main database when an internet connection is present.

Table of Contents

- [What is the REDCap Mobile App, and what is it for?](#)
- [Setting up the REDCap Mobile App for a Project](#)
- [Using the REDCap Mobile App](#)
- [Best Practices](#)
- [Contact Us!](#)

What is the REDCap Mobile App and What is it For?

February, 2020

What is the REDCap Mobile App?

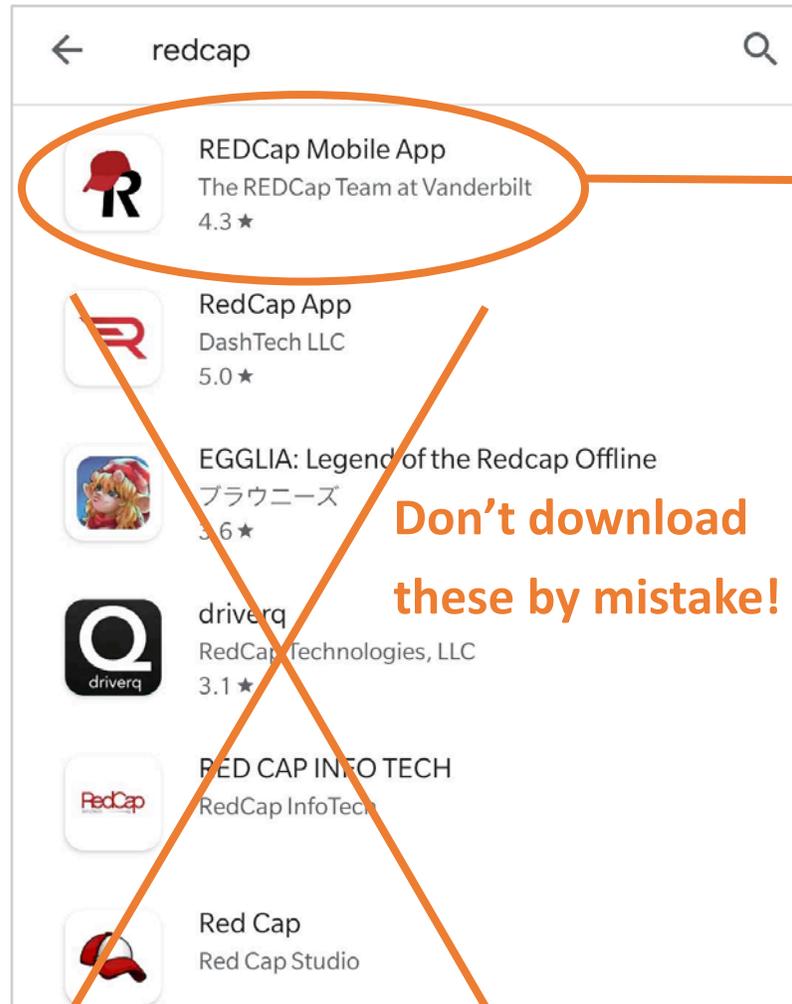
- The **REDCap Mobile App** is a platform for offline data collection on Android and iOS Mobile devices. Data is manually synchronized with the main database when an internet connection is present
- It is available for free in the **Apple App Store** and **Google Play Store**
- The Mobile App **cannot administer surveys, and is not intended for research participants.**
- If you need to use surveys and have internet access, REDCap (including both forms and surveys) can be accessed via a **mobile browser** instead

How to Set Up the REDCap Mobile App for a Project

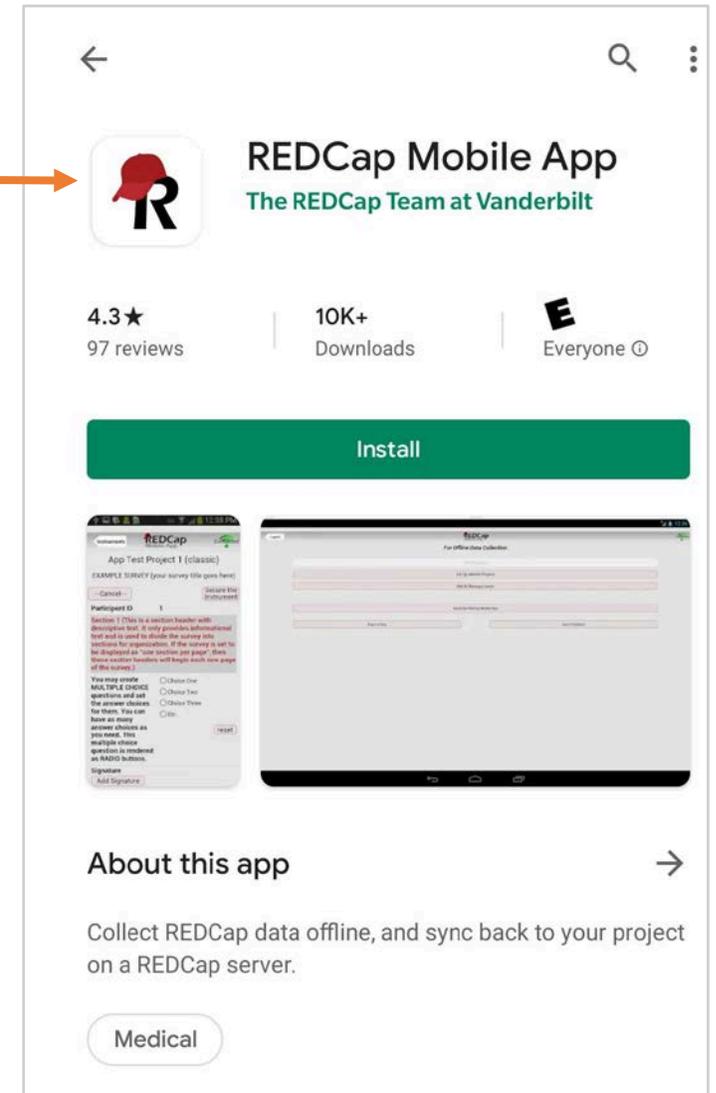
February, 2020

Setting Up the REDCap Mobile App

The REDCap mobile app can be found and downloaded for **free** from the **Apple App Store** as well as the **Google Play Store**:



Don't download these by mistake!

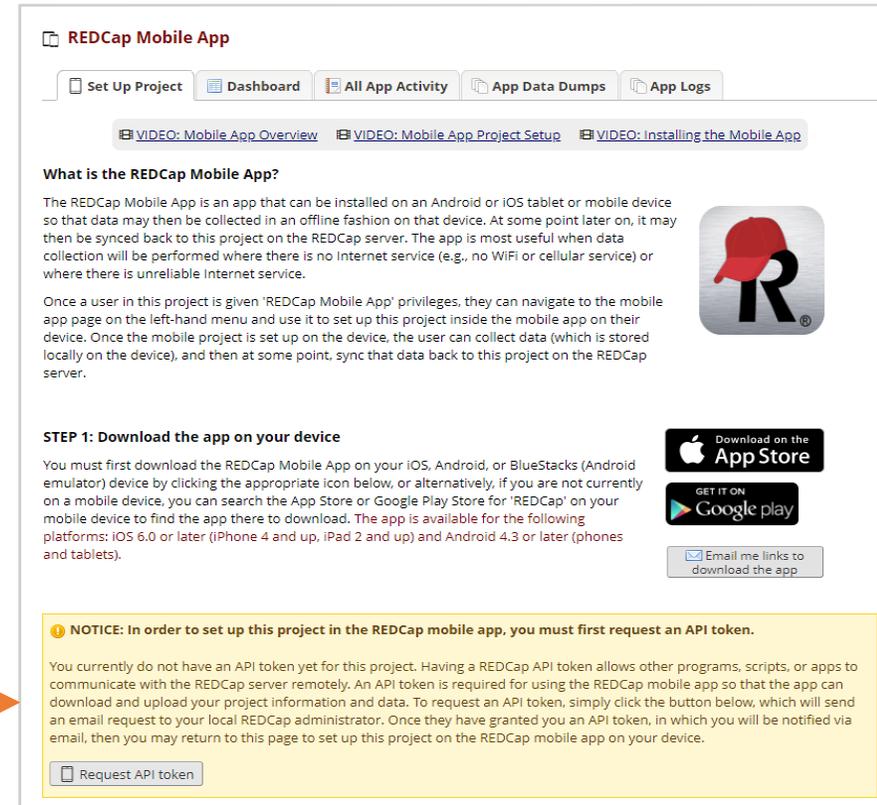
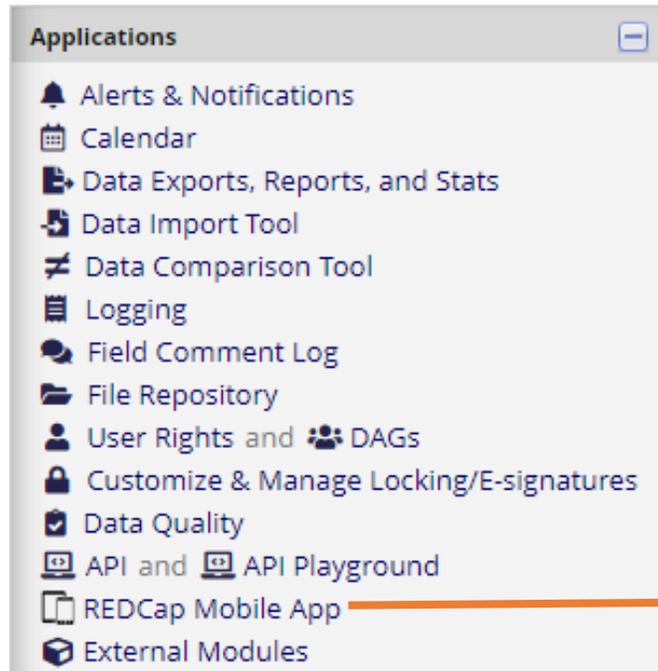


Setting Up the REDCap Mobile App

- Upon launching the app for the first time, you will be asked to set up both a **user account** for data entry and an **admin account**
- The admin account is **only for user management**; you cannot use it to enter data in a project
- This allows one device to be **shared between team members**, *however*, make sure each user only uses their own account for accurate logging of data collected and changes made

Setting Up the REDCap Mobile App

Once you've downloaded the app, you must set it up for each project you want to use it for by going to “**REDCap Mobile App**” in the left-hand column in REDCap:



A screenshot of the REDCap Mobile App setup page. The page title is 'REDCap Mobile App'. Below the title are tabs for 'Set Up Project', 'Dashboard', 'All App Activity', 'App Data Dumps', and 'App Logs'. There are also video links for 'VIDEO: Mobile App Overview', 'VIDEO: Mobile App Project Setup', and 'VIDEO: Installing the Mobile App'. The main content area is titled 'What is the REDCap Mobile App?' and contains text explaining the app's purpose and how it works. To the right of this text is the REDCap logo. Below the text is a 'STEP 1: Download the app on your device' section with instructions on how to download the app from the App Store or Google Play. There are buttons for 'Download on the App Store' and 'GET IT ON Google play'. At the bottom of the page is a 'Request API token' button. A yellow notice box at the bottom of the page states: 'NOTICE: In order to set up this project in the REDCap mobile app, you must first request an API token. You currently do not have an API token yet for this project. Having a REDCap API token allows other programs, scripts, or apps to communicate with the REDCap server remotely. An API token is required for using the REDCap mobile app so that the app can download and upload your project information and data. To request an API token, simply click the button below, which will send an email request to your local REDCap administrator. Once they have granted you an API token, in which you will be notified via email, then you may return to this page to set up this project on the REDCap mobile app on your device.'

Setting Up the REDCap Mobile App

- In order to set up the app for a project you must **request an API token**; these must be approved by a REDCap Administrator

NOTICE: In order to set up this project in the REDCap mobile app, you must first request an API token.

You currently do not have an API token yet for this project. Having a REDCap API token allows other programs, scripts, or apps to communicate with the REDCap server remotely. An API token is required for using the REDCap mobile app so that the app can download and upload your project information and data. To request an API token, simply click the button below, which will send an email request to your local REDCap administrator. Once they have granted you an API token, in which you will be notified via email, then you may return to this page to set up this project on the REDCap mobile app on your device.

 Request API token

- You can request **multiple tokens per project** (one per user), each of which can link to **multiple phones**. Please manage users responsibly!

Setting Up the REDCap Mobile App

- Once you have an **API Token**, you will be given a **QR Code** to scan with your phone.
- If your phone has trouble with the QR Code, you can also **request an alphanumeric code** instead

STEP 2: Set up the mobile project on your device

You must have already downloaded the REDCap mobile app on your mobile device or tablet. To set up this project in the REDCap app:

1. Open the app on your device.
2. Click the 'Set Up Mobile Project' button.
3. Click the 'Scan QR Code' button.
4. Scan the QR code that you see displayed below.
5. The project will automatically begin downloading and processing.



[Can't get the QR code to work?](#)

REDCap Mobile App Connected ethan (v4.8.5)

Initialize a Project

Scan QR Code

To initialize a REDCap project in this app, first log in to your REDCap server as you normally would in your web browser; then go to the desired project in your My Projects list; and click the "Mobile App" link on the left-hand menu of the project. (If you do not see that link on the menu, then you probably have not been given "App" user rights yet in that project.) On that page, click the "Initialize Project" button to display the QR code, after which you can click the "Scan QR Code" button below to scan that QR code in order to initialize the project in the mobile app.

[Scan QR Code](#)

The Alternative Method

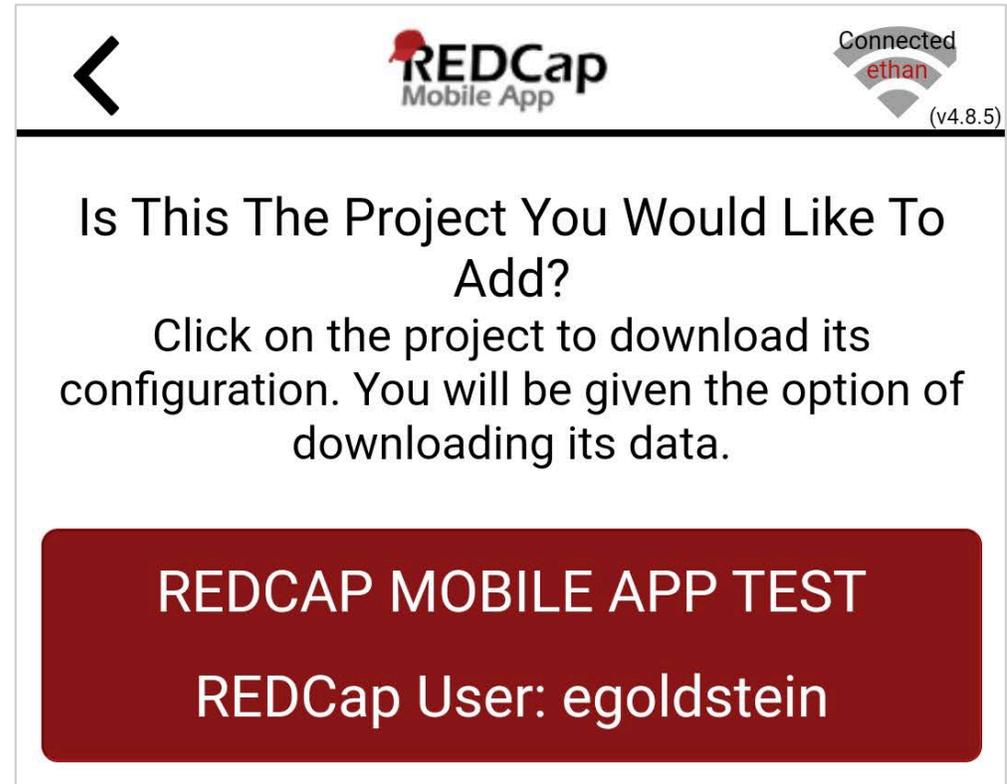
If you have trouble scanning the QR code, then click the "Can't get the QR code to work?" link on the page in your REDCap project. This will provide you with an initialization code that you can then enter into the app. Be sure to move your mouse arrow off of the QR code, or the scan will not work.

Code:

[Submit Code](#)

Setting Up the REDCap Mobile App

- The app will then ask you to **confirm the project**; once you do so, **the project will be added to the app**.
- You are allowed to set up **multiple projects** in the app, regardless of which user's API token they are linked to.

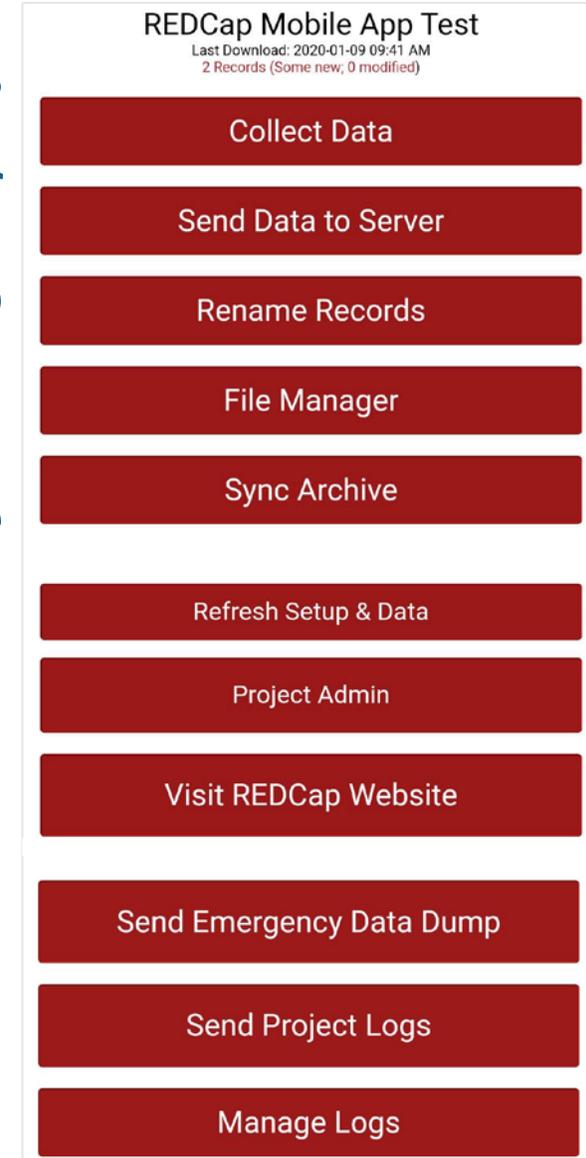


Using the REDCap Mobile App

February, 2020

Using the REDCap Mobile App

Once in a project, the Mobile App offers numerous options for project and data management. Remember that the **app assumes you are offline**; if you wish to synchronize your project with the REDCap server you must **do so manually by selecting the appropriate options** (downloading records, uploading data collected, maintaining archives, etc.)



REDCap Mobile App Test
Last Download: 2020-01-09 09:41 AM
2 Records (Some new; 0 modified)

- Collect Data
- Send Data to Server
- Rename Records
- File Manager
- Sync Archive
- Refresh Setup & Data
- Project Admin
- Visit REDCap Website
- Send Emergency Data Dump
- Send Project Logs
- Manage Logs

Using the REDCap Mobile App

By pressing the **Collect Data** button, you can choose an instrument and record to add / modify data in

Instrument - Remote Data Collection

UNMOD = Unmodified | MOD = Modified | NEW = New | [BLANK] = Empty

- Incomplete
- Unverified
- Complete
- No data saved

Select Record

Create New Record

NEW <input checked="" type="radio"/>	1
NEW <input checked="" type="radio"/>	2

Record ID 1

Location

Weather

- Sunny
- Rainy
- Cloudy

Notes

Form Status

Complete?

Using the REDCap Mobile App

- Saving a record on the app will **only save data locally** until you press the **Send Data to Server**.
- Records may be **renumbered** to avoid conflicts; make sure to rely on other identifiers so you know what data is what!

Send Data to Server

REDCap Mobile App Test

To send back the data collected in the mobile app and push it with your project on the REDCap server, press the button below and begin the process of sending the data.

Begin Send of All Data

Select a Partial Set of Records

Send Data will look at only new and modified data.

Using the REDCap Mobile App

- Records created by the Mobile App will, on the **logging tab**, appear to be created by **API**

12/16/2019 10:26pm		Created Record (API) 4	record_id = '4'
--------------------	--	---------------------------	-----------------

- Logs from the Mobile App can instead be found on **specific tabs in the Mobile App section**

Set Up Project	Dashboard	All App Activity	App Data Dumps	App Logs
Mobile App Dashboard of User Activity				
Time / Date	Username	Event	Device	
01/09/2020 2:45pm	egoldstein	Import data from app (10 new records created)	Remote Data Collection 1 (633d3591f5161cb4)	
01/09/2020 2:41pm	egoldstein	Set up project in app	Remote Data Collection 1 (633d3591f5161cb4)	

Applications	
🔔	Alerts & Notifications
📅	Calendar
📄	Data Exports, Reports, and Stats
📄	Data Import Tool
🔍	Data Comparison Tool
📄	Logging
🗨️	Field Comment Log
📁	File Repository
👤	User Rights and DAGs
🔒	Customize & Manage Locking/E-signatures
📄	Data Quality
📄	API and API Playground
📄	REDCap Mobile App
📄	External Modules
📄	iLEARN
📄	PROFILES - Researcher social network
📄	CECER - Comparative effectiveness research education
📄	TMC Biorepository
📄	TrialPedia
📄	Transgenic Core - small animal services

Using the REDCap Mobile App

- General information about app usage (phones and recent activity) can be found on the **dashboard**
- **All App Activity** lists all app-derived events
- **App Data Dumps** and **App Logs** allow the download of phone-specific log activity

The screenshot shows the REDCap Mobile App dashboard with the following navigation tabs: Set Up Project, Dashboard, All App Activity, App Data Dumps, and App Logs. The 'All App Activity' tab is selected.

Displayed below are the devices utilizing the REDCap Mobile App for this project and also a log of important activities - namely, the most recent project download and the five (5) most recent synchronizations. You may provide each device with a nickname to more easily identify the device in the activity below and other Mobile App pages. You may also 'block' an individual device so that it may no longer sync data, download data, or even have the project be accessible within the Mobile App on the device. For instance, you might want to block the device if it were stolen. This helps protect your data from being corrupted or from falling into the wrong hands.

Devices Used By The Mobile App			
Device UUID	REDCap Nickname for Device	Block Device?	
633d3591f5161cb4	Ethan OnePlus 6	Edit Nickname	Unblocked Block Device

Recent Downloads and Uploads (All Devices)			
App Event	Time	Effect	Device
Last Refresh	12/16/2019 10:25pm	Project Download, but No Data Downloaded	Ethan OnePlus 6 (633d3591f5161cb4)
Last Sync 1	12/16/2019 10:26pm	Upload with 1 Record.	Ethan OnePlus 6 (633d3591f5161cb4)

Using the REDCap Mobile App

- You can choose to send user-specific logs to REDCap to help with auditing
- There are also several options for managing and storing these locally on your device
- Project logs are stored in easy-to-read formats that make them easily transferable and auditable

Send Emergency Data Dump

Send Project Logs

Project logs are available for each user for auditing purposes. These are stored in plain text format. Upload of logs requires the Internet to complete properly. The LOG file will show up under the REDCap Mobile App icon on the left-hand toolbar and under the Mobile App File Archive tab.

Proceed with Project Log Send

Manage Logs

Using the REDCap Mobile App

- An **Emergency Data Dump** allows a user to upload copies of all records they have access to
- This can be performed even if a user gets locked out of their account to assure data continuity

Emergency Data Dump options
Which records do you want to send?

All Records

New/Modified Only

Select records manually

Cancel

Emergency Data Dumps (All Devices)

OnePlus (633d3591f5161cb4)

Time	CSV	Included Records
01/09/2020 2:48pm	1578581259746.data.csv Import Data from File Download CSV	2 Records

Username: ethan

PIN:

Log In

[Trouble logging in?](#)

Data Dump All Projects
for ethan

Best Practices

- The REDCap Mobile App is **highly specialized**, and **should only be used when necessary**. Consider alternatives before committing to using the App for a project
- Make sure to **test your project and workflow** before using the REDCap Mobile App for any data collection
- When in doubt, **ask for help!**

CONTACT US!

To begin using the REDCap Mobile App for a project, please use the “Request API Token” button, and download the app onto a phone.

NOTICE: In order to set up this project in the REDCap mobile app, you must first request an API token.

You currently do not have an API token yet for this project. Having a REDCap API token allows other programs, scripts, or apps to communicate with the REDCap server remotely. An API token is required for using the REDCap mobile app so that the app can download and upload your project information and data. To request an API token, simply click the button below, which will send an email request to your local REDCap administrator. Once they have granted you an API token, in which you will be notified via email, then you may return to this page to set up this project on the REDCap mobile app on your device.

 Request API token

For questions or concerns, please contact us at:
informatics@tuftsctsi.org



Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute