

Research IT Information & Exchange Series

**Tools to Facilitate Data Collection and  
Organization**

March 17, 2017

# Research IT Information & Exchange Series

- **Goal:** To educate pediatric researchers on the Research IT and Informatics resources and expertise available to facilitate their research and to identify areas where we can enhance IT methods to better support research.
- **Format:** One hour sessions led by subject matter experts to present information on the current services and expertise available.
- **Intended audience:** Researchers with an interest in capitalizing on Research IT tools to make their research better. Also, researchers who are interested in using Big Data and Healthcare Analytic approaches in their research.

# Research IT Information & Exchange Series:

*Resources to be highlighted today*

- Excel
- Access
- REDCap (Emory & Children's)
- LabKey

# Research IT Information & Exchange Series

## *Our presenters today*

- **Courtney McCracken, PhD**, Director, Pediatric Biostatistics Core, Department of Pediatrics, Emory University [courtney.mccracken@emory.edu](mailto:courtney.mccracken@emory.edu)
- **Shirin Jabbarzadeh MD. MSPH**, Senior Research Specialist Dept of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University [Shirin.Jabbar@emory.edu](mailto:Shirin.Jabbar@emory.edu)
- **Nick Heigerick**, IT Product Manager, Library & Information Technology Services [nick.heigerick@emory.edu](mailto:nick.heigerick@emory.edu)
- **Carol Dickens**, Senior BI Application Analyst, Research Technology Team, IS&T, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta [Carol.Dickens@choa.org](mailto:Carol.Dickens@choa.org)
- **Wayne Harris, MSPH**, Research Informatics Analyst, Emory Integrated Computational Core [waharri@emory.edu](mailto:waharri@emory.edu)



# Excel for Data Collection and Management



Excel

Easy to use

existing custom templates

Costs nothing

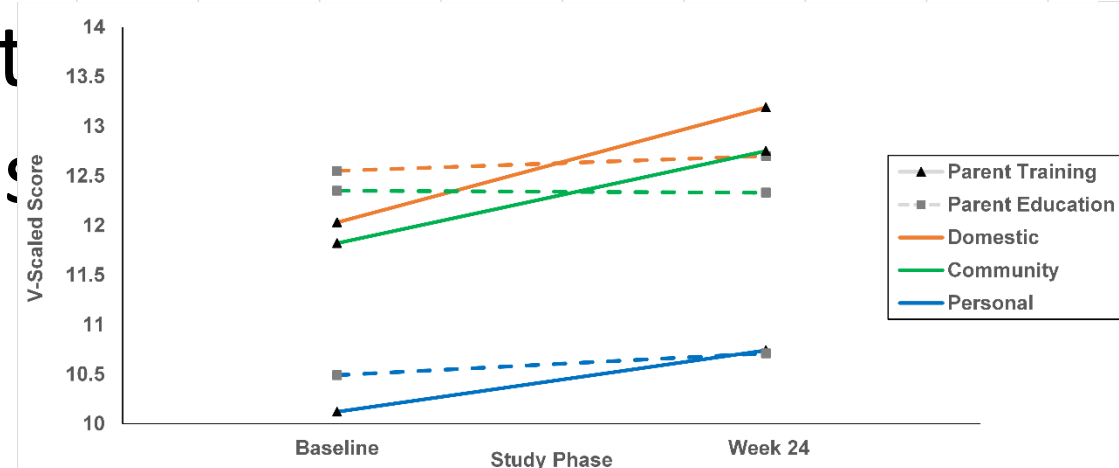
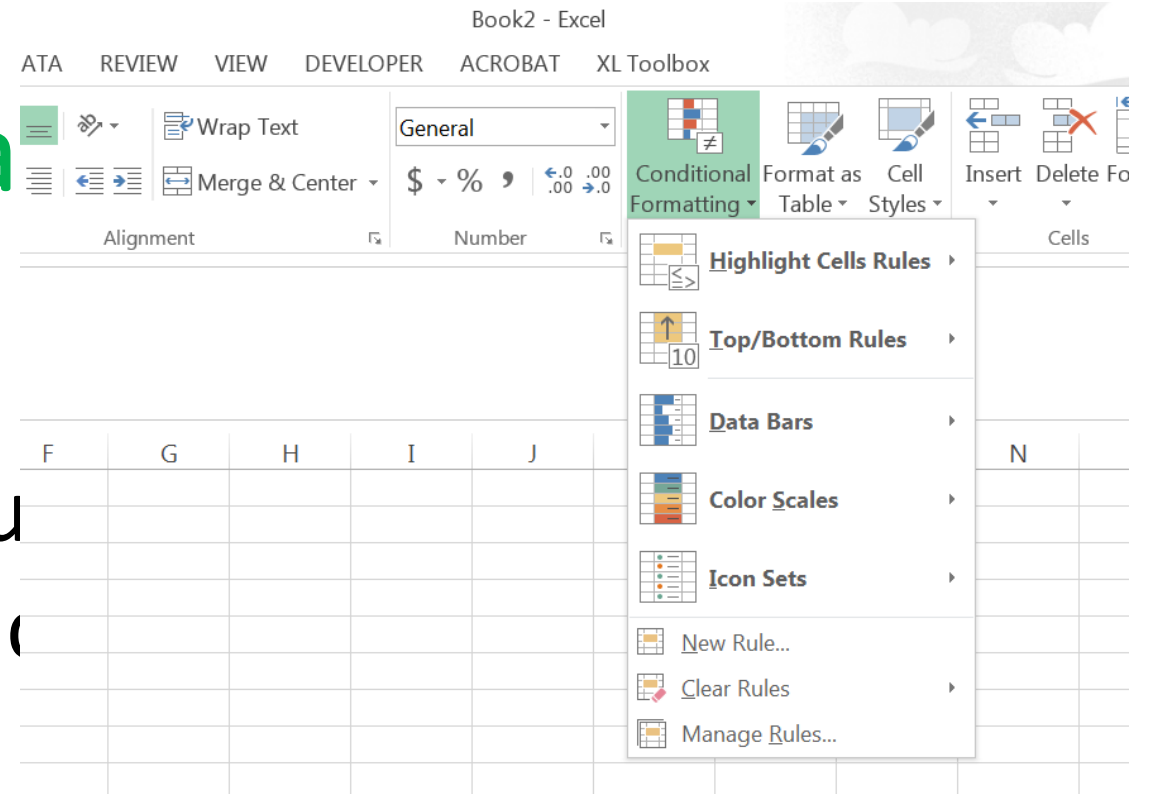
Exports to favorite stat package

formula and calculation features

# Excel for Data Collection and

## Additional Features

- Online- allow for multiple users
- Add-in packages help with (e.g. high resolution images for pubs)
- Pivot tables and basic statistical analysis
- Create basic field validations (e.g. dropdown menus and validation rules)



# Excel for Data Collection and Management

Excel is good for

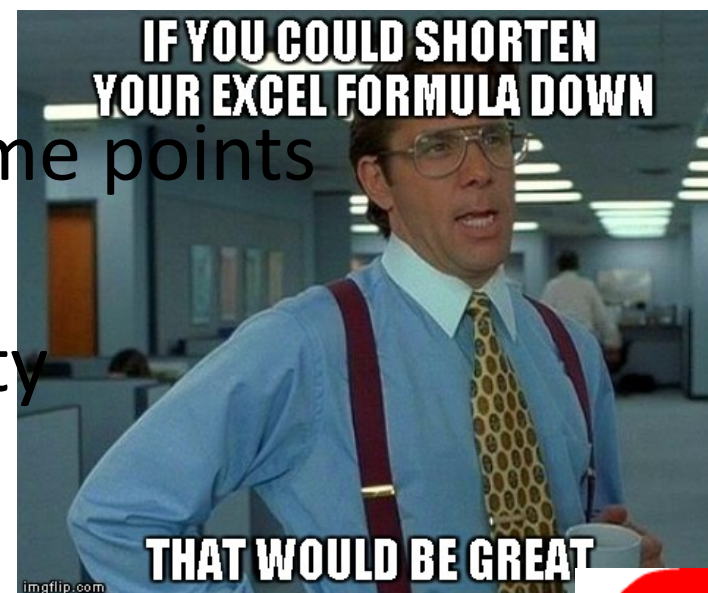
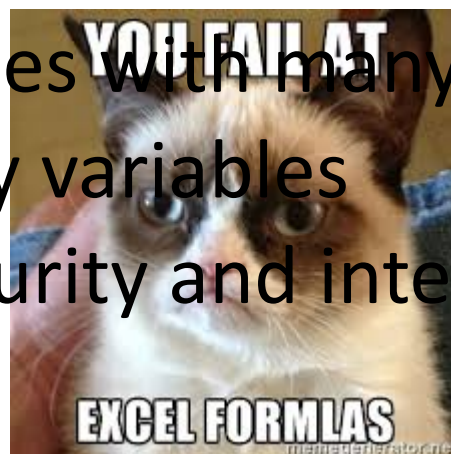
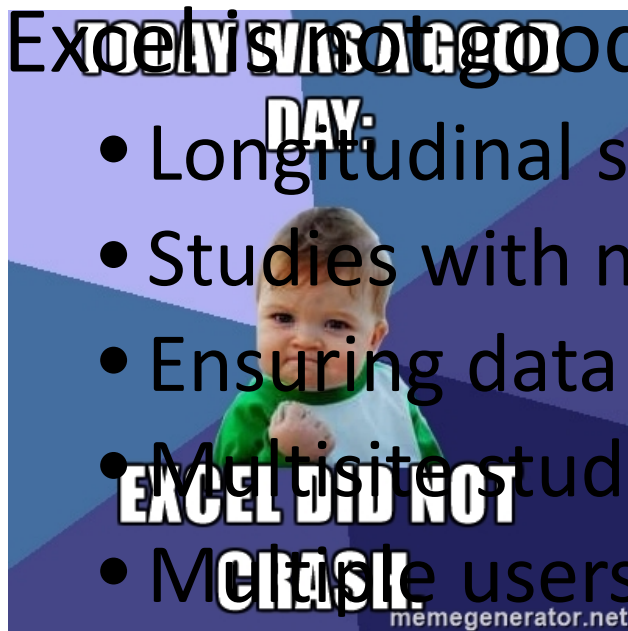
- Cross-sectional studies (one time point)
- Small number of observations (< 200)
- Few variables (<50)
- Single Users
- Basic retrospective chart review
- Data visualization



# Excel for Data Collection and Management

Excel is not good for

- Longitudinal studies with many time points
- Studies with many variables
- Ensuring data security and integrity
- Multisite studies
- Multiple users
- Data manipulation
- Relational data
- Clinical Trials
- Most statistical analyses







# RESEARCH IT – NEW INFORMATION & EXCHANGE SERIES

**MS ACCESS**

**SHIRIN JABBARZADEH**

**MARCH 16, 2017**

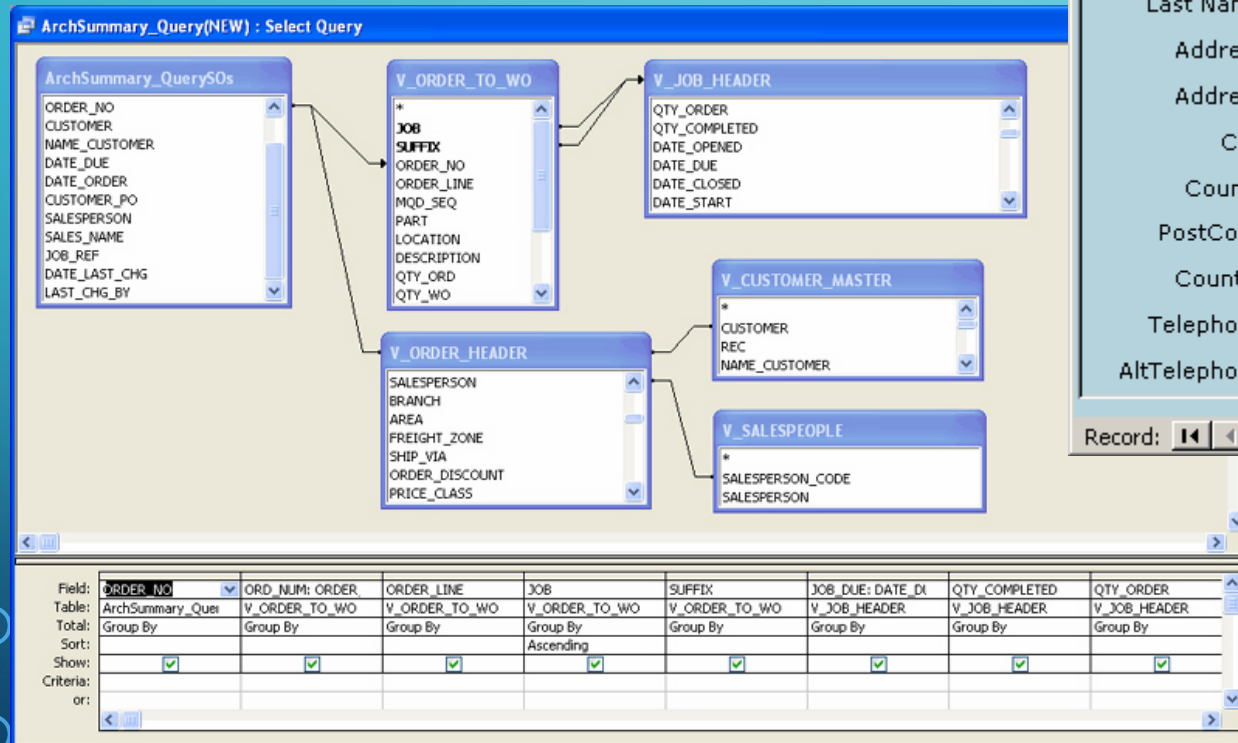
## MS ACCESS

- Microsoft Access is a database management system that serves as an electronic filing system.
- An Access database is a relational database contained in a single file that you can upload.
- Relational Database is a database structured to recognize relations among stored items of information.

# MS ACCESS DATABASE CONTAINS

- Tables
- Saved queries (stored procedures) - organizing and/or manipulating data
- Forms – Interface for interaction with data
- Reports – customized results





frmStudentInformation

Please Enter Student Number to search for:

Search >>

Department: MOUS MASTER (98)-00      Category: STUDENT(CIT)

Student ID: BJ25344      Business: CURRENT

First Name: LEE      Enrolled: 24/07/2001

Last Name: FORD      Last Changed: 01/07/2004

Address: 28 SIMPSON CLOSE      Updated By: GT

Address: EVERTON

City: LIVERPOOL

County: MERSEYSIDE

PostCode: L21 5ER

Country: UNITED KINGDOM

Telephone: 01512 800355

AltTelephone: 07977 102363

Record: 1 of 37

# FUNCTIONALITIES

- Edit data directly in the query
- Update values according to a criteria
- Create a link to a table in another Access
- Links to the data from different database format
- Import data from another database
- Analyze and/or graph your data
- Directly export to statistical software ( SAS, SPSS...)
- Replicate

## ALSO YOU CAN

- Allow multiple users to access the database simultaneously
- Share the research data within the team
- Set up a change tracking log
- Make a password protected system
- Encrypt for data privacy/security
- Use macros and VB programs for extending functionality



# PROS

- Easy to install and it comes with MS office
- Available all over campus
- No financial burden
- Handles small to medium size database
- You don't need professional programmer
- One system to enter, manage, track, store, analyze, and report data

# CONS

- Large longitudinal database
- Solid understanding of relational database and data format
- Some programming skills
- Time consuming (compare to point and click systems)
- Field data collection (data collection via mobile device)
- Doesn't look good in your grant proposal





# REDCap

---

Research Electronic Data Capture



# What is REDCap?

---

- REDCap is a secure, web-based application for building and managing online surveys and databases.
- The **REDCap Consortium** is composed of **2,265 active institutional partners** from CTSA, GCRC, RCMI and other institutions in **108 countries**. The consortium supports a secure web application (REDCap) designed exclusively to support data capture for research studies.



# Global REDCap

The REDCap application allows users to build and manage online surveys and databases quickly and securely, and is currently in production use or development build-status for more than **392,000 projects** with over **501,000 users** spanning numerous research focus areas across the consortium.



# Some Advantages Using REDCap

---

- **Build online surveys and databases quickly and securely** - Create and design your project rapidly using secure web authentication from your browser. No extra software is required.
- **Fast and flexible** - Conception to production-level survey/database in less than one day.
- **Export data to common data analysis packages** - Export your data to Microsoft Excel, PDF, SAS, Stata, R, or SPSS for analysis.
- **Ad Hoc Reporting** - Create custom queries for generating reports to view or download.
- **Scheduling** - Utilize a built-in project calendar and scheduling module for organizing your events and appointments.
- **Easily manage a contact list of survey respondents or create a simple survey link** - Build a list of email contacts, create custom email invitations, and track who responds, or you may also create a single survey link to email out or post on a website.
- **Send files to others securely** - Using 'Send-It', upload and send files to multiple recipients, including existing project documents, that are too large for email attachments or that contain sensitive data.
- **Save your data collection instruments as a PDF to print** - Generate a PDF version of your forms and surveys for printing to collect data offline.
- **Advanced features** - Auto-validation, calculated fields, file uploading, branching/skip logic, and survey stop actions.
- **REDCap API** - Have external applications connect to REDCap remotely in a programmatic or automated fashion.
- **Data Queries** - Document the process of resolving data issues using the Data Resolution Workflow module.
- **Piping** - Inject previously collected data values into question labels, survey invitation emails, etc. to provide a more customized experience.



# Children's REDCap Deployments

Number of projects 1100

Production 516

Development 503

Operational projects 603

Research Projects 197

Active Daily Users 300

Support Tickets ~150 weekly

Number of Instruments 384

Number of Records 709,000

Number of fields 237,000

Survey responses Overall 285,857

Invitations sent 130,000



# Children's REDCap Services

---

- Build and design services
  - Workflow Consulting
  - Reporting Consulting
  - Training Services
- 
- Currently these services are 'no fee', however a minimal, cost recovery based fee structure for extramural grant funded projects is under discussion

*Children's REDCap projects and services are available to Children's employees or for use with Children's sponsored projects.*



# Children's Intake Process

---

- Intake Form & Ticket opened (5-6767 or via Careforce)
  - *'One IS&T' form entry forthcoming*
- Sign Appropriate Use Agreement
- Sign Data Use Agreement
- Intake Approval Process
- REDCap team member assigned ( as applicable)
- Production Move approval



# Emory REDCap

---

Amount of projects 590  
Production 352  
Development 238

Operational projects 472  
Research Projects 206

Active Daily Users 272

Amount of Instruments 8,148

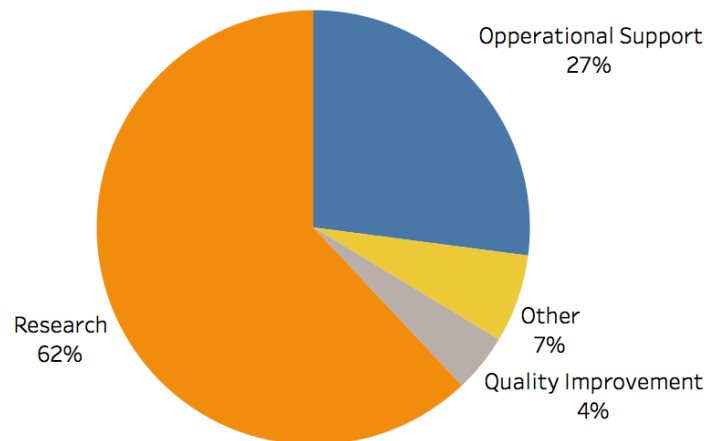
Amount of Records 773,594

Amount of fields 422,146

Survey responses Overall 130,649

Invitations sent 67,783

Support Tickets 40 weekly





# Emory REDCAP SERVICES

---

- Projects Cost \$25 per month
  - Include 2 hrs of consultation or training
- Complete project builds are billed at \$75 per hr.
- No fee workflow Consulting
- No fee Reporting Consulting
- Emory Redcap Service must be initiated or sponsored by an Emory employee
- Anyone anywhere can acquire an Emory sponsored account and participate on projects



# Emory Intake Process

---

- Intake Form
- Sign Appropriate Use Agreement
- Project created by Product Team
- REDCap team member assigned ( if applicable, complete builds only)
- Production Move approval



# Contact Information

---

## Children's Contact Information

Carol Dickens, Sr. Analyst:

[carol.dickens@choa.org](mailto:carol.dickens@choa.org) / 404-785-5948

or

Todd Sharp, Manager, Research Technology

[redcap@choa.org](mailto:redcap@choa.org)

## Emory's Contact Information

Nick Heigerick

Or

Patrick Maloney

[redcap.help@emory.edu](mailto:redcap.help@emory.edu)



# Emory University Labkey Server Introduction

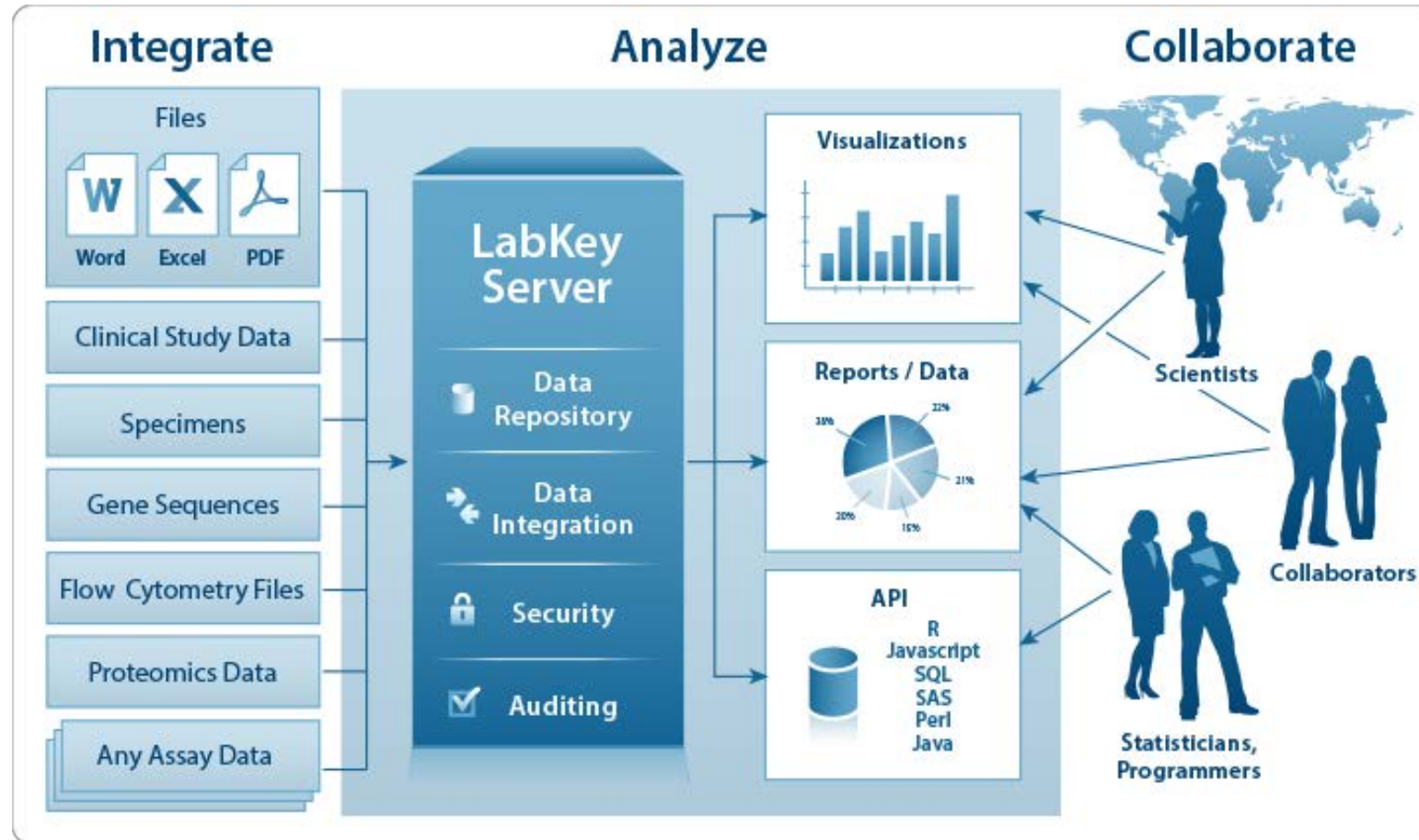
By: Wayne Harris, MSPH

Emory Integrated Computing Core

# Description

- Labkey server is offered as SAAS to the Emory University research community
- Supported by partnership between the Emory Integrated Computational Core (EICC) and Library and Informational Technology Services (LITS)
- EICC provides client engagement and programming/computational support for their research needs
- LITS provides application infrastructure and database support and maintenance, and additional services like storage services.

# Labkey Server Description



# Description

- **LabKey Server** is platform available for scientists to [integrate](#), [analyze](#), and [share](#) biomedical research data.
- The platform provides a secure [data repository](#) that allows web-based querying, reporting, and collaborating across a range of data sources.
- Specific scientific applications and workflows can be added on top of the basic platform and leverage a data processing [pipeline](#).
- It is also highly extensible with modules, scripts and libraries..