

## Top Questions and Answers about the Transition to the Modernized ClinicalTrials.gov and Modernized PRS

Responses to top questions about the transition to the modernized ClinicalTrials.gov website and the modernized Protocol Registration and Results System (PRS) are provided below.

### Modernized ClinicalTrials.gov

#### 1. When will the classic version of ClinicalTrials.gov be retired?

The [classic ClinicalTrials.gov](#) will be retired in mid-2024. At that time, the classic [application programming interface](#) (API; a tool to help researchers and developers access the data in ClinicalTrials.gov study records) will also be retired. Users should make every effort to familiarize themselves with the modernized website beforehand.

#### 2. Is there a new API available to replace the classic API?

The ClinicalTrials.gov [API version 2.0](#) for the modernized website was finalized in February 2024, based on user feedback and usability testing conducted with ClinicalTrials.gov API users. Users should make every effort to transition to the modernized API by June 2024. An [API Migration Guide](#) is available to help users transition from the classic website's API to the modernized API. Additional support materials include documentation on the [Study Data Structure](#) and [Search Areas](#).

As background, the application programming interface, or API, is a tool to help researchers and developers access the data in ClinicalTrials.gov study records. The classic ClinicalTrials.gov API will be retired in June 2024.

#### 3. I bookmarked pages on the classic ClinicalTrials.gov website. Will my bookmarks still work?

With the transition to the modernized ClinicalTrials.gov in June 2023, various content pages were redirected from the classic website. As we migrate more content to the modernized website, more redirects have been put in place. Many bookmarks will still work after the classic website has been retired; however, users may encounter broken links. [Content migration](#) will be completed before the classic website is retired in mid-2024. Please use this time to update your bookmarks.

We appreciate your patience as the remaining website content is migrated.

#### **4. Are the search results on the modernized and classic ClinicalTrials.gov websites the same?**

As a result of improving the ClinicalTrials.gov website for all users, search results are not the same on the modernized and classic websites; the modernized website's search results are more refined. Because there are significant differences between the search algorithms for the two websites, users can expect to see a different number of results returned for the same search. Examples of the differences in the search logic include the following:

- With the modernized website's search logic, synonym recognition is more precise.
- On the modernized website, if a location and distance are specified on the search form, the search results will be biased by proximity to the closest location for every study.

We created a [Search Areas](#) guide that describes the differences between the search logic for the classic website and for the modernized website. Please see the guide for more examples like these.

#### **5. Will I see my favorite features from the classic ClinicalTrials.gov website on the modernized ClinicalTrials.gov website?**

Many features of the classic website are now available on the modernized website, including the search function, study record details, the ability to download study results in CSV and JSON formats, a draft API, the ability to save studies, and the ability to create an RSS feed to save searches. Before the classic website is retired, the draft API will be finalized, all relevant content will be migrated, and the Record History will be updated so that users can compare versions of a study record. After the classic website is retired, we will continue to improve features of the modernized website and, potentially, add new ones. User feedback and usage information will inform decisions about which additional features will be completed and in what order. To learn about the latest updates to the modernized ClinicalTrials.gov, please visit the [Release Notes](#) page.

#### **6. Can I save my search?**

Yes, the modernized ClinicalTrials.gov now provides an RSS Feed, which allows users to save a search from the search results page. [More detailed instructions](#) are available on the modernized website.

## Modernized PRS

### 1. What features are available in the modernized PRS?

Currently, users can complete the entire protocol registration process and submit the Protocol Section of a study record to ClinicalTrials.gov for review. They can control who can access a record and email others with record access directly from the Record List as well as copy and download the Protocol Section of their records. PRS Administrators can now access the Planning View and Public Site Views to manage records.

### 2. If I'm working in the classic version of the PRS, will my updates also appear in the modernized PRS?

Absolutely. Data submitters can use the modernized PRS to work on real study records. Any information entered and saved in one version of the PRS will be available in the other, so your work will not be lost. For example, you can make changes to a record using the modernized PRS, and those changes will also be saved in the classic PRS.

### 3. Can PRS users switch between the modernized PRS and the classic PRS?

Yes, users can switch between the modernized PRS and the classic PRS. To access any functionalities that are not yet available in the modernized PRS, users will need to return to the classic PRS. Any changes users make using either the classic or modernized PRS will appear in both. Please note that users should save their work *before* switching between the two versions of the PRS.

### 4. Currently, how many records can users view and export information about in the modernized PRS?

As of January 2024, users are limited to viewing and downloading data for a maximum of 1,000 records in the modernized PRS. However, users will soon be able to view and export columns of data for all of the records associated with their account.

### 5. When will the modernized PRS be completed?

Development of the modernized PRS continues in 2024 as we build tools to provide reviewer comments to data submitters and to allow data submitters to address those comments and submit study results. These features will be released later this year, and we will communicate progress made on the modernized PRS (for example, through the [Release Notes](#) page and the [Hot Off the PRS!](#) E-bulletin) as releases occur.

## **6. When will the classic PRS be retired?**

The classic PRS will remain available until all components of the modernized PRS have been built and are fully functional. The timeline for retiring the classic PRS has not been determined yet, but retirement will not occur before mid-2025.

## **7. Can I practice using the modernized PRS before using it to submit my record?**

Features of the modernized PRS are first deployed in PRS Test, a sandbox environment where users can log in to explore features and practice registering a clinical trial. PRS Test is for training purposes only, and any changes made in PRS Test will not affect the actual PRS system. We encourage users to explore the modernized PRS and become familiar with it using the PRS Test environment. If you need a PRS Test account, please contact us at [register@clinicaltrials.gov](mailto:register@clinicaltrials.gov).