QDS™
Custom Data Management Solutions

You already know that NOVA's Questionnaire Development System (QDS™) is the answer to your survey development needs and that our developers are ready to assist you in preparing your data collection software, but our support doesn't stop there. In addition to questionnaire development support, NOVA provides custom data management solutions. You can have NOVA's data management experts support your project in one or more of the following areas:

- Creating data collection systems using QDS™ alone or in conjunction with other software products like Microsoft Access or FileMaker Pro

- Creating and maintaining study documentation

- Training site staff in data collection and data management

- Coordinating data collection and submission for single- or multisite studies

- Generating enrollment-randomization assignments

- Producing routine status reports (e.g., recruitment/enrollment status reports)

- Reporting on missing or inconsistent data

- Creating an analytical data set

- Providing analysis support (SAS, SPSS)

Why NOVA?

NOVA Research Company has been the national data management and evaluation contractor for many multisite collaborative research studies since 1987. These studies have involved extensive survey instrument programming and software development efforts and have been conducted as collaborative projects with researchers throughout the United States. They have resulted in data collection instruments that continue in use well beyond the original programs for which they were designed. Examples include:

- For the National Cancer Institute:

  - Prostate, Lung, Colon, and Ovarian (PLCO) Prospective Epidemiology/Nutrition Study.

  - Studies for Office of Education and Special Initiatives, Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities, and other NCI Divisions.

- For the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

  - Evaluation of the Impact of HIV Counseling and Testing on Methadone Clients in Drug Treatment Centers.

  - Data Management of a Multicenter Randomized Trial for the Prevention of STD/HIV Infection (Project RESPECT/RESPECT-2).

- For the National Institute on Drug Abuse:

  - NIDA National Data Coordination and Evaluation Center for the National AIDS Demonstration Research (NADR) Project.

  - NIDA Data Management and Support for the Cooperative Agreement (CA) for the AIDS Community-Based Outreach/Intervention Research Program.

  - NIDA Five-City Women's Health Research Study: Women Helping to Empower and Enhance Lives (WHEEL) (Pilot-Testing the AIDS Prevention Model: Reaching Women at Risk).

  - NIDA Grant to Investigate Strategies to Reduce HIV Sexual Risk Practices of Drug Users.

  - NIDA Adolescent HIV/STD Risk-of-Exposure Screen Development.

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For more information, e-mail sales@novaresearch.com or contact Benjamin Neal at (301) 986-1891 ext. 106

Select Study Descriptions

■ **Adolescent HIV/STD Risk-of-Exposure Screen Development**
National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

The goal of this 5-year, two-phase multisite project is to develop a reliable, valid, brief adolescent-appropriate HIV/STD risk scale in English- and Spanish-language versions. In Phase I, data are collected from eight clinical and educational field sites located in the United States. Survey data are collected via audio-CASI data collection software developed using QDS™. As the data coordinating center, NOVA receives data from each site via a secure FTP site. NOVA downloads the field site-collected data and runs data quality control programs to check for data errors and possible inconsistencies. Data are imported into the QDS™ Warehouse Manager and exported to SAS for analysis by NOVA. For this study, NOVA used MS Access to develop an Electronic Logbook to assist with data management by automatically assigning the appropriate ID number, starting the audio-CASI interview, synchronizing data between onsite data collection stations, managing and transferring data between collection sites and NOVA, and generating reports. NOVA has provided site staff with onsite training on project software and study protocols and has also prepared User's Manuals, Quick Start Guides, and computerized tutorials for all study data procedures. NOVA also provides data management and technical assistance as needed. During Phase II of the project, adolescents will be drawn from sites that serve Spanish-speaking youth. NOVA has also received an international supplement to collaborate with South African researchers in developing a POSIT HIV/STD Risk Screen for Afrikaans-speaking adolescents. Procedures similar to those of Phase I will be followed for data collection and management.

■ **Project RESPECT and RESPECT-2**
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

NOVA was awarded these research support contracts to provide coordination for data collection, data management, and technical assistance to multicenter, randomized HIV/STD intervention clinical trials. The first trial (Project RESPECT) compared the effectiveness of CDC-defined standard HIV counseling with an enhanced counseling protocol in preventing new HIV/STD infections. The second (RESPECT-2) compared standard HIV testing and enhanced counseling against HIV rapid test administration and same-day enhanced counseling. As data coordinating center, NOVA collected data from five study sites in Project RESPECT and three sites in RESPECT-2. NOVA designed and implemented an integrated analytic database and conducted statistical analyses with guidance from CDC and site PIs. NOVA also provided technical assistance to the sites in a variety of areas, as needed, including design, implementation, and training of staff in the use of a client tracking system; data entry, verification, and data cleaning/consistency procedures; intervention conduct training; and data management procedures training. NOVA produced user's manuals for all study protocol procedures. In the RESPECT-2 study, all baseline and follow-up interviews were conducted using QDS™ audio-CASI software.

■ **Grant to Investigate Strategies to Reduce HIV Sexual Risk Practices of Drug Users**
National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

This 5-year set of three research grants tested theoretically informed interventions to reduce sexual transmission risks of HIV infection among chronic, out-of-treatment crack cocaine smokers and their sexual partners; the interventions were tested at several different sites. The study outcome evaluated the efficacy of the experimental interventions in reducing HIV-risky sexual behaviors. NOVA's research and data management staff coordinated data collection and data management support for the IRPG grantees. NOVA organized the diverse set of knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and behavioral data collected, along with demographic characteristics and biological testing data (blood and urine tests) and processed the data into SAS data sets. NOVA staff also prepared training and user's protocol manuals used in the project. In addition, NOVA staff built the audio-CASI interview administration modules for several of the questionnaires and trained staff in their use.

■ **Cooperative Agreement Program**
National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

The purpose of NIDA's national Cooperative Agreement Program was to develop and evaluate the efficacy of community-based outreach and intervention strategies designed to prevent and reduce the spread of HIV infection among injection drug and crack cocaine users, as well as their sexual partners. NOVA's coordination and analysis role in the project, encompassing 23 university and state/local health department grantees, was multifaceted and national in scope. NOVA's research support tasks included project and protocol planning; analysis and evaluation planning and design; technical collaboration with participating programs; ADP planning, data collection, processing, and statistical analysis; meeting logistics; training, protocol, and intervention manuals preparation; research documentation support; information dissemination; and report preparation.