



**The goal of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) Common Data Elements (CDE) Project is to develop data standards for neurological clinical research. Central to this project is the creation of common definitions and metadata sets so that information (data) is consistently captured and recorded across studies.**

### Benefits of Using Data Standards

- Open-access (**for All, regardless of funding source**)
- Free to use
- Non-copyrighted instruments available
- Can be expressed in machine-readable formats
- Link datasets and examine relationships
- Increase the precision (minimize variability)
- Improve efficiency (streamlined start-up)

### CDEs Promote Data

- *Interoperability*—re-analysis, meta-analysis, and collaboration
- *Quality*—data aggregation across projects to increase statistical power and make data AI-ready
- *Reproducibility*—for rigorous comparison across studies
- *Efficiency of collection*—“off-the-shelf” data elements reduce time and costs to investigators
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- When used in **NIH grant applications**: It is aligned with some Institutes and project requirements and the NIH *Data Management and Sharing Plan*

## NINDS Common Data Elements (CDE) Project

The purpose of the CDE Project is to standardize the collection of investigational data to facilitate comparison of results across studies and more effectively aggregate information into significant metadata results.

The goals of the CDE Project are:

- Develop data standards for neuroscientific clinical research
- Creation of common definitions and metadata sets
- Minimize variability
- Improve data quality

### CDEs Now Available:

- Parkinson’s Disease (version 2.0)
- Cerebral Palsy Pain Instruments and Orthopedic Surgery
- Neurorehabilitation

### Benefit from CDEs at NINDS

- Search CDEs across 23 neurological disease areas
- Many pediatric CDEs
- Download Case Report Forms in multiple formats
- Download data dictionaries (DD)
- Upload DD into your preferred data capture system (e.g., REDCap)
- Data managers and database developers creating data dictionaries for study forms should try the [Form Builder](#)

### Contact Us

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### Learn More:

<https://www.commondataelements.ninds.nih.gov/>