

# NIH Library Electronic Lab Notebook Survey screenshots

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**NIH Library Electronic Lab Notebook Survey**

OMB#: 0925-0648, Exp. Date: 05/31/2021

**Burden Disclosure**

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**Introduction**

The purpose of this survey is to determine interest in the use of Electronic Lab Notebooks (ELNs) at the NIH. We are also interested in surveying non-users and current users of ELNs. Your survey responses will help the NIH Library to determine our role and support for ELNs at the NIH.

**Instructions**

Please note the following below:

- Survey responses reside behind the NIH firewall and are secure to the extent permitted by law.
- For each question, select the option that best represents your view.
- The survey will take approximately 5 minutes to complete.
- Try to answer each question as honestly and accurately as possible.
- At any point, you may exit the survey and return to complete the survey at a later time. Your answers will be saved.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Doug Joubert, Data Services Leader at [douglas.joubert@nih.gov](mailto:douglas.joubert@nih.gov).

**1. What is your NIH Institute or Center?**

**2. What type of research is conducted in your lab?**

**\* 3. Do you or does anyone in your lab currently use an Electronic Lab Notebook (ELN)?**

Yes

No

I do not know

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## If answered Yes to Question 3

**4. Which brand of ELN are you using?**

- Benchling
- Bio-ITech
- BIOVIA
- Chemotion
- Confluence
- Doccollab
- ecLabNote
- eLabFTW
- ELOG Evemote
- Exemplar
- Findings
- Hivebench
- iDBS
- Jupyter
- LabArchives
- LabCollector
- LabGuru
- LabVantage
- LabWare
- LabFolder
- MBook
- OneNote
- OpenVetWare
- OSP
- PerkinElmer Signals
- RSpace
- Riffyn
- sciNote
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

**5. Does your ELN link to a laboratory information management system (LIMS)?**

- Yes
- No
- I do not know

**6. What was the primary reason your lab purchased an ELN?**

**7. What were the greatest challenges you and your lab experienced in migrating to the ELN?**

**8. What are the major obstacles and challenges you experience in using the ELN? Check all that apply.**

- Ease of use
- Software and system compatibility and integration
- Data compatibility and portability
- HHS, NIH, or Institute/Center IT security requirements
- Need for ELN software updates
- Time needed to learn how to use it
- Does not do everything that I need it to do
- Lack of technical support in-house
- Cannot easily import images, photos, scans, etc.
- Searching within the ELN is not easy nor efficient
- Collaboration and use by multiple lab members is difficult
- Other (please specify)

**9. Do you use or have any specialized functionality in your ELN (e.g. chemical structure drawing, lab inventory control, protocols and templates, etc.) that is important to your lab's work?**

- Yes
- No
- I do not know

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## If answered Yes to Question 9

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10. If yes, what is the specialized functionality?

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## If answered No or I do not know to Question 9

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10. If no, what would you like to be able to do with your ELN?

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## At end of survey after answered Question 10

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Please contact Doug Joubert, Data Services Leader [douglas.joubert@nih.gov](mailto:douglas.joubert@nih.gov) if you have any further questions or suggestions on use of Electronic Lab Notebooks at the NIH.

**Save the Date!** Join us for an informal small group discussion on November 7 or 8, 2018 at the NIH Library to discuss Electronic Lab Notebooks. Please visit the NIH Library's Data Services [training topics](#) for more information and to register for a discussion.

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## If answered No or I do not know to Question 3,

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4. Why are you or your lab currently not using an electronic lab notebook (ELN)?

5. What are you or your lab currently using to manage your research or experimental data?

Google Docs  
 Google Keep  
 Google Sheets  
 Google Tasks  
 GraphPad  
 Microsoft Excel  
 Paper notebook  
 PyPlots  
 R  
 Spartan  
 XivGrace  
 Other (please specify)

6. What are the major challenges or problems you or your lab have with your current method of managing research or experimental data?

7. If you or your lab are currently using a paper lab notebook, what are your reasons for not switching to an electronic format?

I/We do not use a paper lab notebook  
 We have not switched because...

8. Are you or your lab interested in learning more about ELNs?

Yes  
 No

9. Where would you go to find information about ELNs and how to select one for use in your lab? Select your primary choice.

Ask a colleague  
 Conduct a Google search  
 Email lab managers email listserv  
 Go to an ELN vendor website  
 Review NIH Library resource or webpage  
 Talk to someone at the NIH Library  
 Other (please specify)

## At end of survey after answered Question 9

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