

Large-scale lookups, from an end-user and a programmer perspective

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With many lookups in a CAPI instrument, the contents of the lookup database are typically the same for every survey respondent. When we ask respondents what prescribed medicines they use, for example, the list we use in the background for their search is the same for all respondents. However, when we want them to select a physician or medical professional in a lookup search, it doesn't make sense to present all possible selections from the entire country to everyone, as the lookup would be too large, and even more importantly, it would end up showing many irrelevant results to the end user, making it too hard to find the desired result. This paper discusses ways to make medical provider lookups relevant from an end-user perspective and manageable from a programming and file management viewpoint.