

## **The Michigan Questionnaire Documentation System (MQDS) 5 Update**

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The Michigan Questionnaire Documentation System (MQDS) is an application that extracts data and metadata from Blaise instruments, generates human readable metadata documentation, and serializes the extracted information as a Data Documentation Initiatives (DDI) XML instance. DDI is an internationally recognized XML standard for documenting and disseminating social survey data and metadata. The introduction of the next generation of Blaise, version 5 and the recently released DDI version 3.2 standard offers a unique chance to rewire MQDS to adapt to these changing technologies. MQDS 5 will also incorporate work done by Ostergren & Ash, 2013 allowing one to visualize the Blaise logic and dynamically manipulate it within a visual GUI interface.

MQDS Version 5 is being rewritten to work with Blaise 5 datamodels and datasets using the Blaise 5 API (Application Programming Interface). MQDS 5 will also leverage the latest release DDI release, Version 3.3. We are taking a modular approach to constructing the components necessary for the next version. Ideally this allows us to test standalone executables during the development phase. With MQDS 5, the goal will be to clean up and unify the code. However, the core features of extracting Blaise metadata, generating statistics and frequencies from data, representing human readable output, and generating a DDI instance remain.