closer

The home of longitudinal research

How to get the most out of CLOSER Discovery

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UKRI Economic and Social Research Council

Outline

- Part 1 -
  - CLOSER
  - CLOSER Discovery
  - Key features
  - Summary of benefits
- Part 2 - Feedback and redesign
- Part 3 - CLOSER Discovery demonstration
- Part 4 - Q&A

CLOSER &
CLOSER Discovery

Increase the visibility, use and impact of longitudinal population studies, data and research

CLOSER website

CLOSER resources

CLOSER Discovery
Search and explore data from UK longitudinal population studies

Learning Hub
Resources for those new to longitudinal population studies

Our Changing Society
Historical and political backdrop to the lives of study participants

Training Hub
Advanced learning resources and training opportunities

Cross-study guides
Interactive guides on cognition, physical activity, and diet measures

Policy Hub
Bespoke guidance, tools and templates to help mobilise research

…Navigating the complexities of locating, understanding and using this data can be a daunting task…

CLOSER Discovery animation (YouTube)

closer Discovery

“The Discovery research tool makes it so much easier to work out what questions and variables are available in a study.” - PhD student

Discovery website

Benefits for researchers

- LPS information all in one place and standard topic list
    - Users know where to go
    - Saves time
    - Helps cross study comparisons
- Consistent high-level information helps users get to know the study
- Consistent detailed information enables searches at variable/question level
- Variable provenance (e.g. question or source variables) to understand context
- Assess data to determine usefulness, before requesting or accessing data

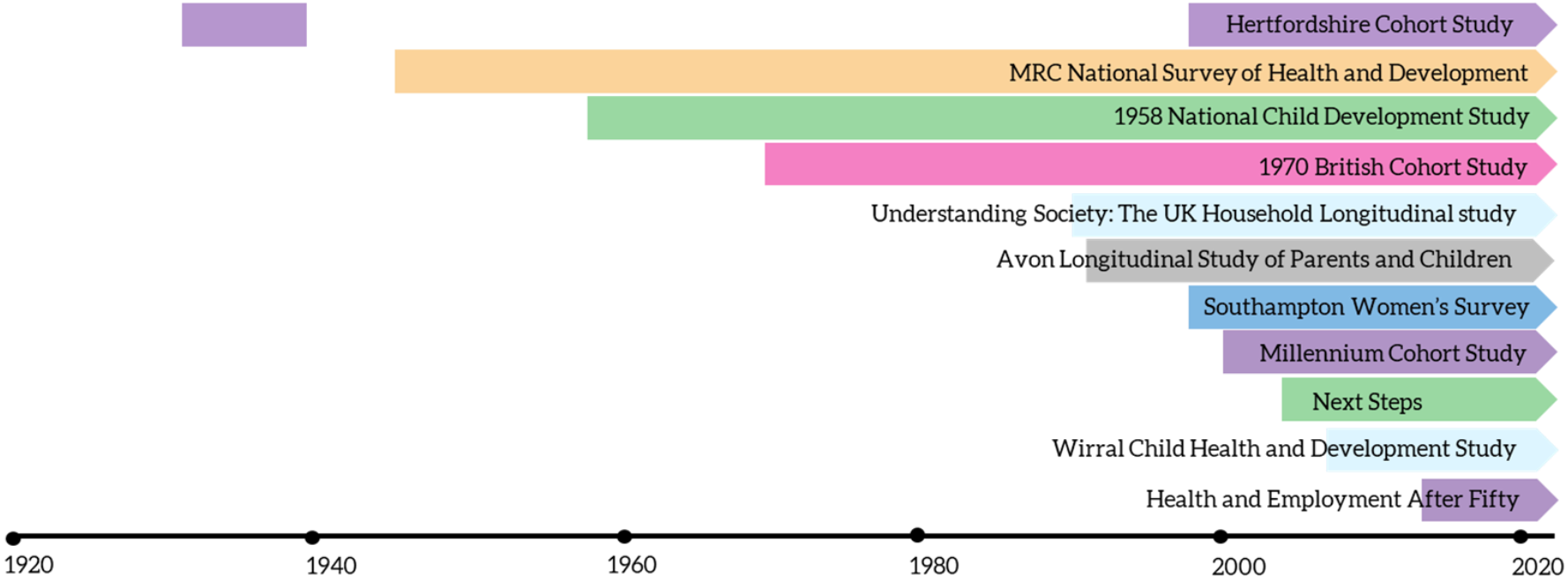
Discover the future blog

Benefits for Data Managers

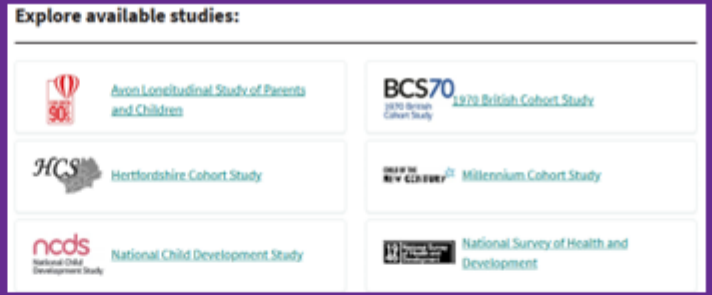
- Researchers can browse and explore Discovery before contacting the study
- Reduces knowledge loss as key metadata is documented
- Documented using international metadata standards and API available for interoperability
- Documented using international metadata standards to ensure metadata is futureproof

Discover the future blog

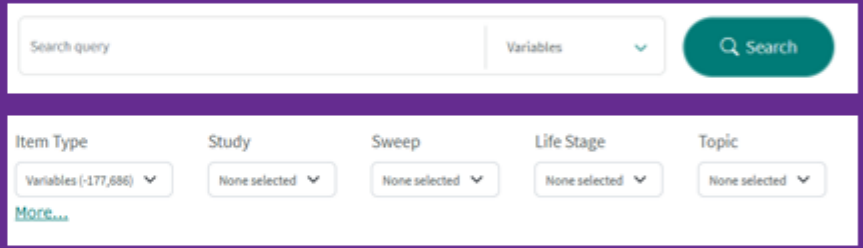
Partner studies in Discovery



BROWSE

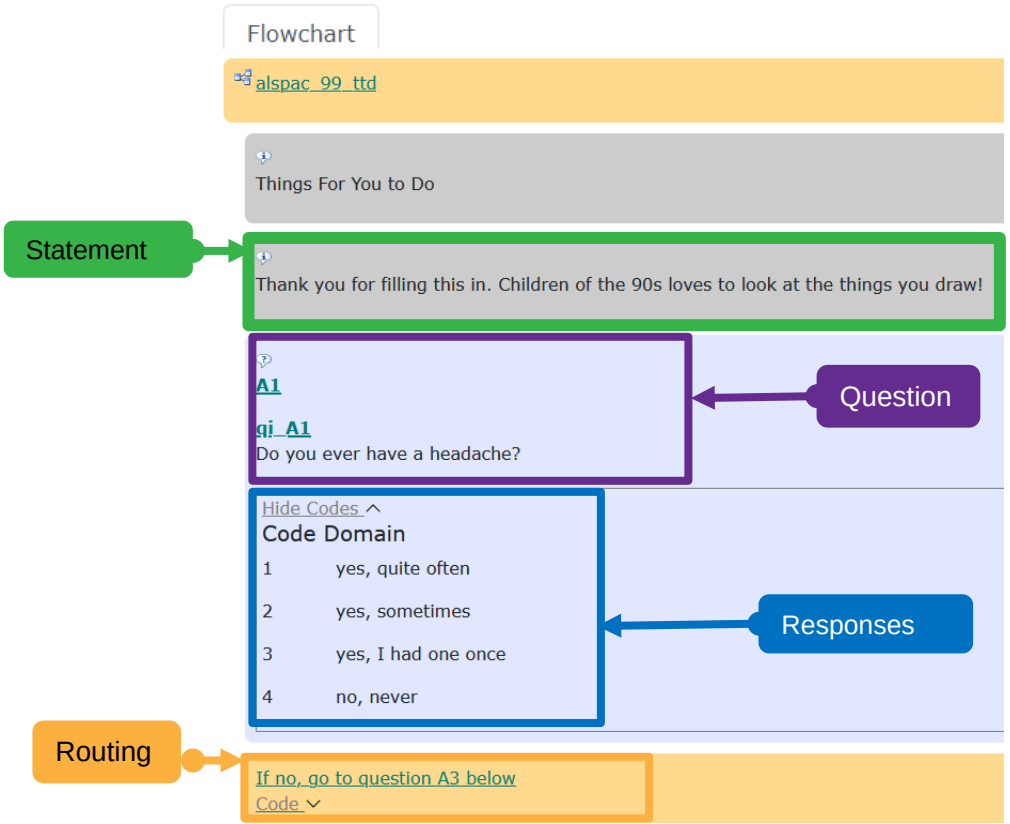


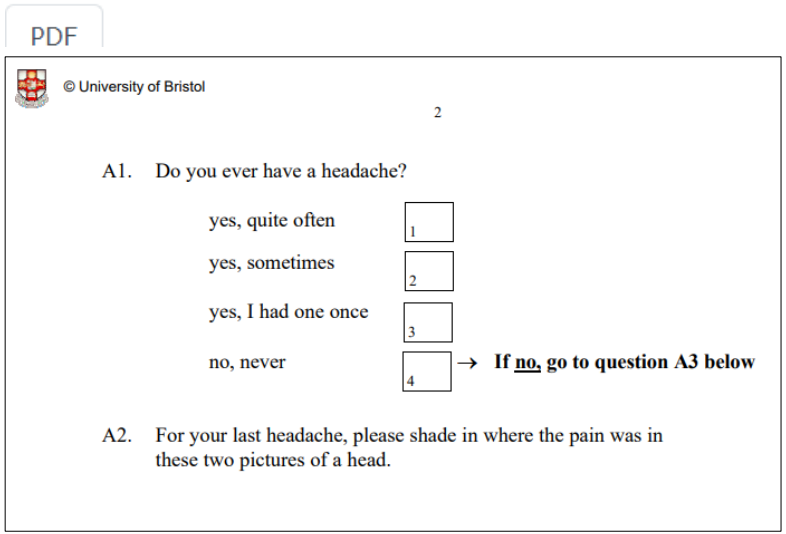
SEARCH



EXPLORE

Questionnaires





Questions

Variables

Question | Appears in Questionnaire | Related Variables | Question Groups

Name qi_32
Label 32
Question Text How often do you have a drink containing alcohol?
Instructions CROSS (X) ONE BOX
Representation Type Code List
Selection Style SelectOne
Codes cs_q32

- 1 Never
- 2 Monthly or less
- 3 2-4 times a month
- 4 2-3 times a week
- 5 4 or more times a week

Variable Description | Representation | Source Questions | Lineage | Variable Groups

Name B9SCQ32
Label PAPI:Frequency of having an alcoholic drink
Dataset BCS70 Paper Self Completion (2012) Dataset

B9SCQ32

Summary Statistics for 'B9SCQ32'

Value	Valid	Label	Frequency	% of Valid	% of All
-9	Missing	Not Stated	104		1.05%
-8	Missing	Multicode	47		0.48%
-1	Missing	Paper self completion not received	1,107		11.20%
1	Valid	Never	855	9.92%	8.65%
2	Valid	Monthly or less	1,734	20.11%	17.55%
3	Valid	2-4 times a month	2,043	23.69%	20.68%
4	Valid	2-3 times a week	2,585	29.98%	26.16%
5	Valid	4 or more times a week	1,406	16.31%	14.23%

Lists

Details

Title
My CLOSER Discovery list
Subtitle
Test list
Principal Investigator
Hayley Mills
Description
Test list of variables for publication
Citation
Mills, H. 2021 My CLOSER Discovery list
Persistent ID
83fea8a4-e50b-4f8a-88d0-af50cd962213
Created
27/10/2020 15:03:24
Last Updated
16/05/2021 14:20:08
Accessibility
Private

Activate

Edit

Remove

Variables (8)

Download Metadata

cce200	A10: Degree to which child likes bedroom Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children ALSPAC Childhood (5 years to 12 years 11 months) ALSPAC My World Questionnaire Dataset
feag206	DV: MPVA>=2296 Mean sedentary minutes per valid day: F11 Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children ALSPAC Childhood (5 years to 12 years 11 months) ALSPAC Focus 11+ Clinic Dataset
fm1sa013	Consent to Haemoglobin test: FOM1 Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children ALSPAC Adolescence (13 years - 18 years 11 months) ALSPAC Focus on Mothers 1 Clinic Dataset

Create, share and export lists

PDF XML Excel

CLOSER Discovery new design

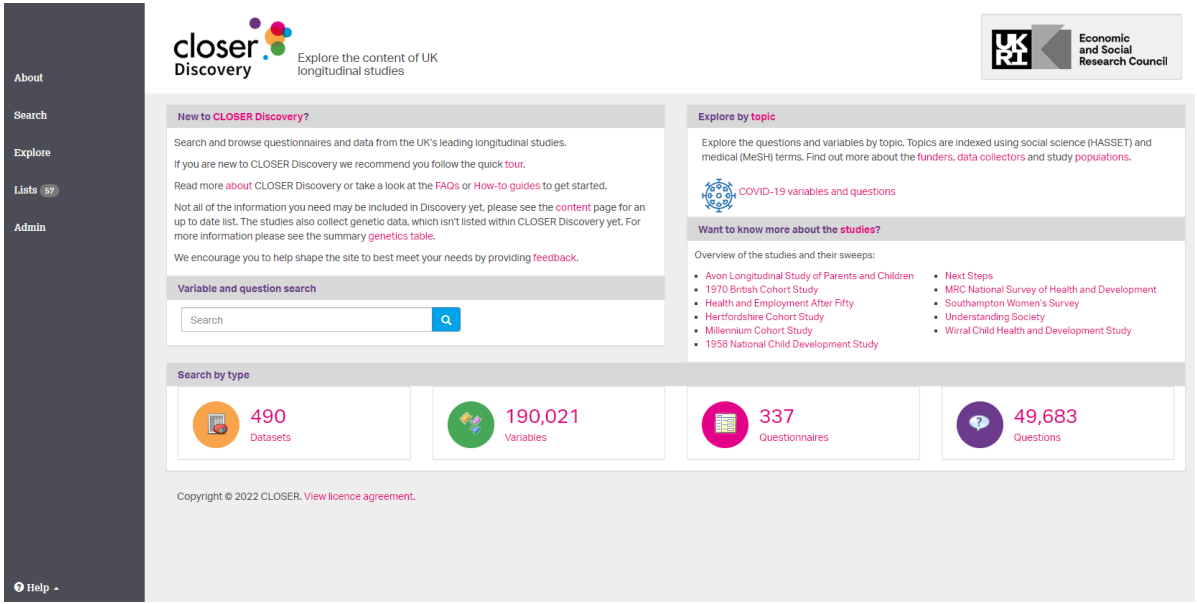
Redesign process

- Bravand - digital design company with experience of complex websites
- In-depth interviews:
  - Covered different perspectives
  - Both current and potential users of CLOSER Discovery
- Redesign was based on user feedback
- Colectica developers implemented
- Focused on home, search and explore pages

Bravand. closer colectica

Behind the redesign: CLOSER Discovery blog

User-testing feedback: homepage



"Not sure where to start - everything looks samey"

"Design looks dated"

Too much text, too many text links"

"Surface *Help* - you have to go find help. It seems to be there, but not at the point needed"

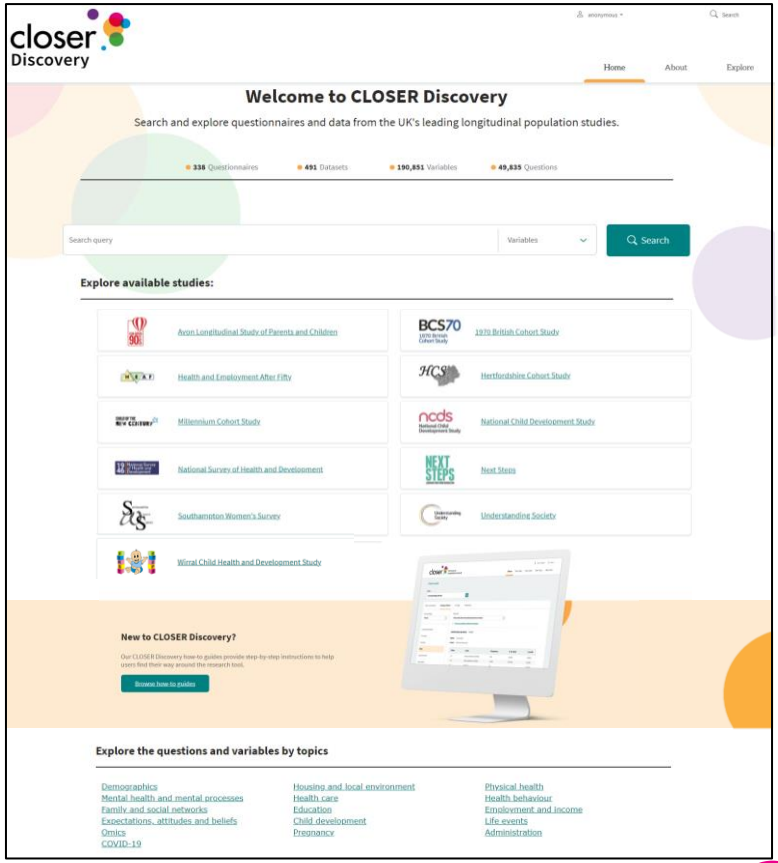
"Important things are not obvious"

Redesign: homepage

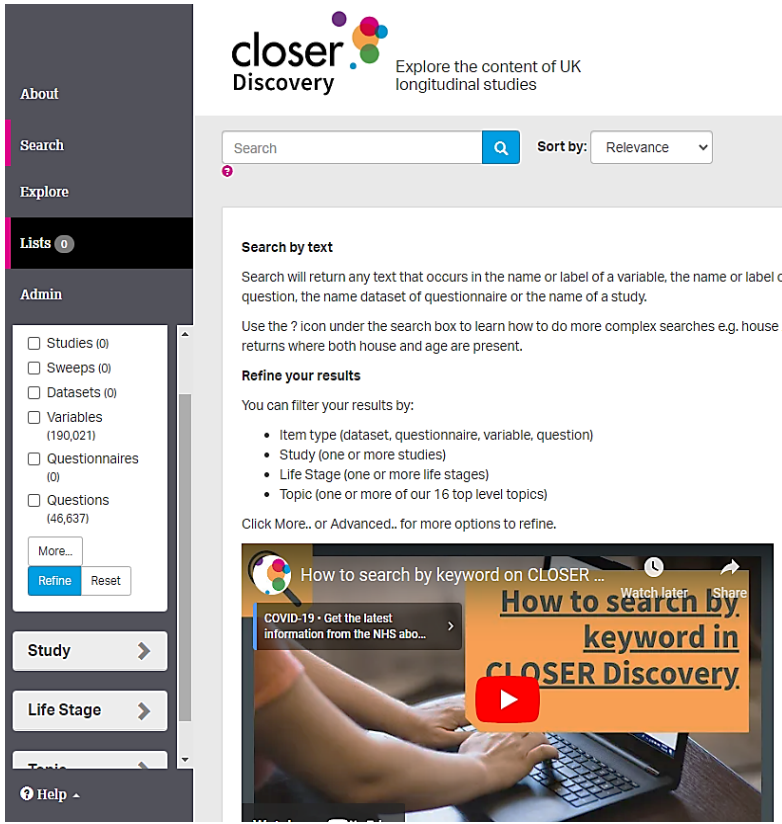
Cleaner, clearer, modern home page

List of studies and topics front and centre

How-to help guides easier to find and help also in the footer



User-testing feedback: filters



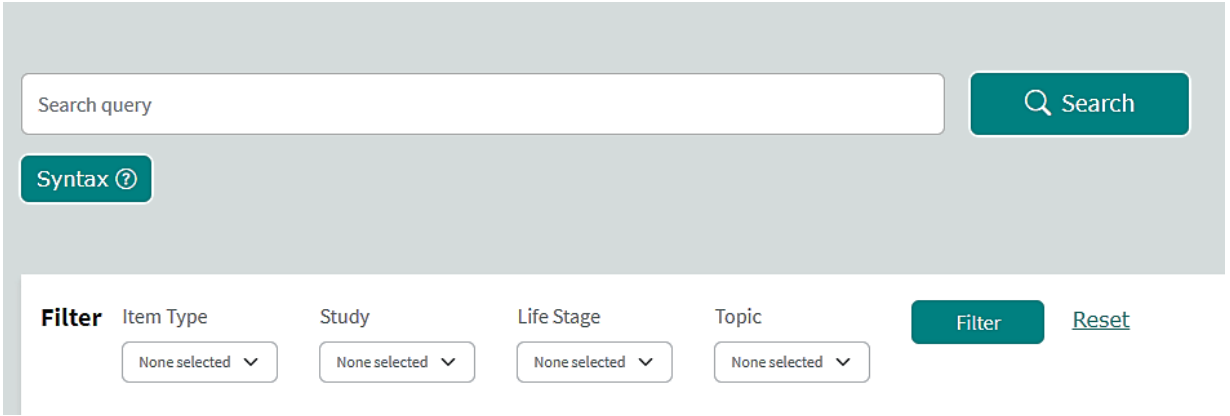
"…interacting with *Explore* and *Search*, the refine/filter and reset functions aren't intuitive"

"Surfacing filters alongside *Search* would enable the user to construct their own framework"

"In both *Search* and *Explore*, there's no obvious Reset"

Explore filters

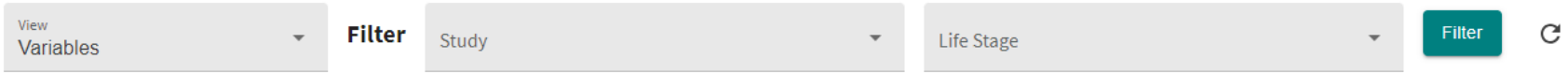
Redesign: filters



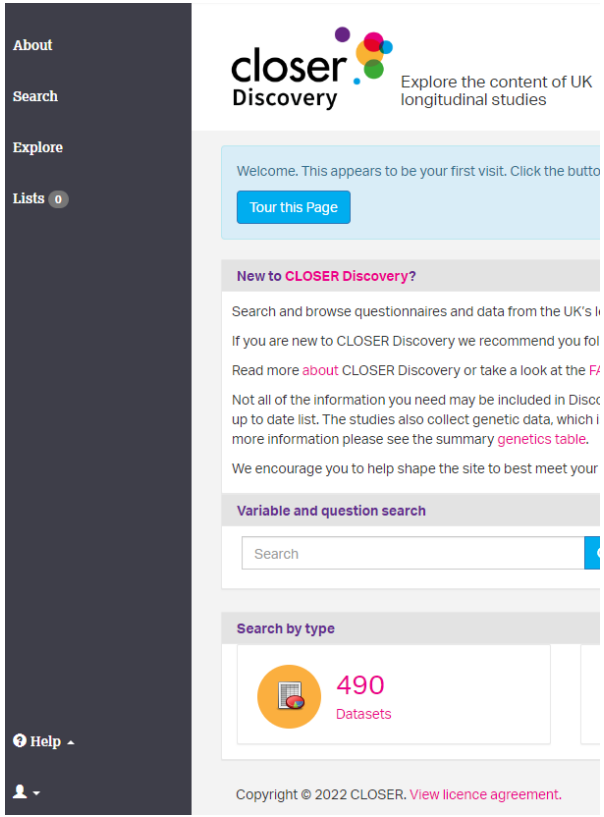
Search and *Explore* filters are more easily accessible, clearly labelled and visible.

Reset buttons are also more obvious.

Explore filters

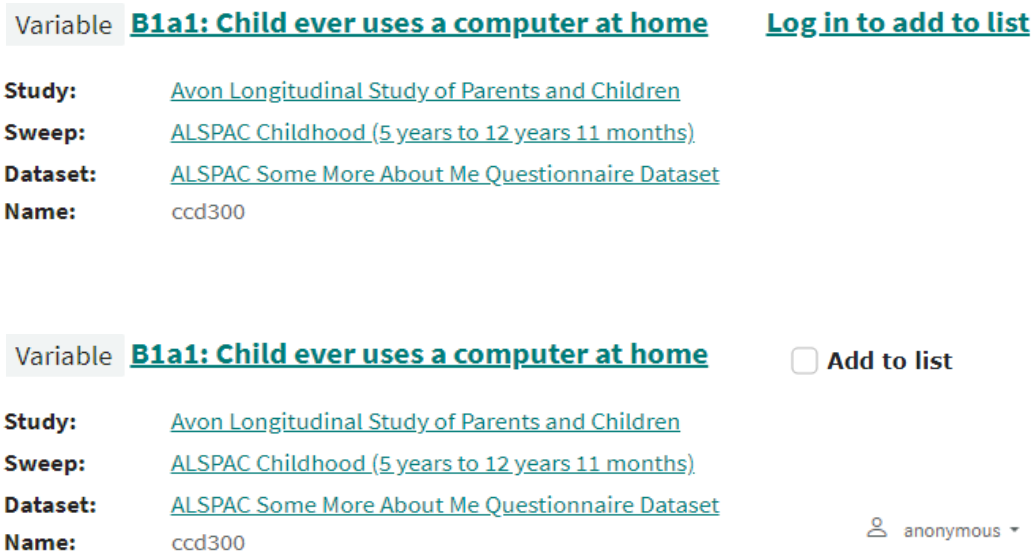


User-testing feedback: user accounts



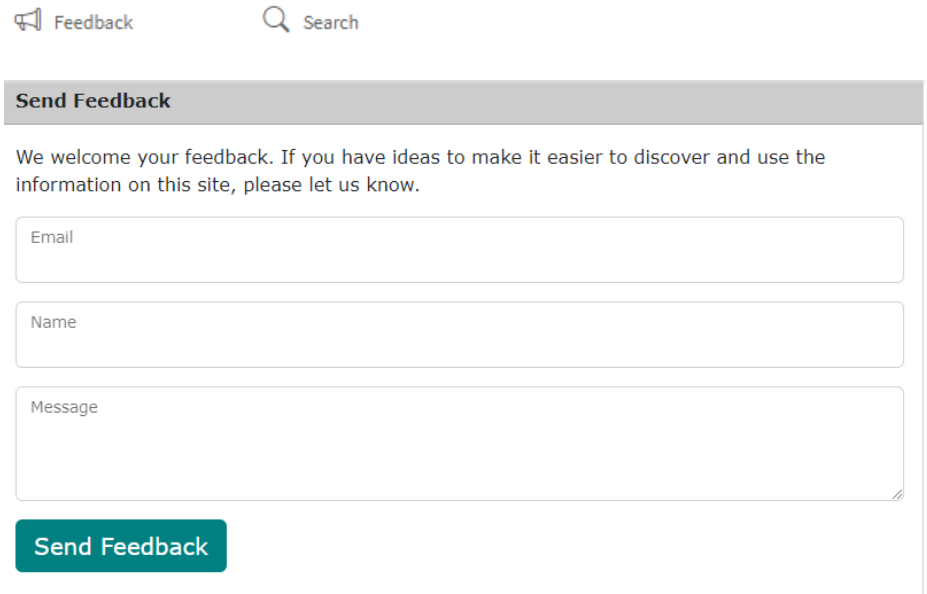
"Nobody noticed or mentioned creating an *Account* to create a *list* without a prompt, however, several people mentioned they would like to make a note or list"

Redesign: user accounts



When a user is not logged in, there is a prompt to “Log in to add to list” next to the item.

Redesign: feedback form



Please provide CLOSER Discovery feedback

discovery.closer.ac.uk/Feedback

CLOSER Discovery Demonstration

Live Demo: Key takeaways

- Lots of ways to navigate: browse, explore, search
- Contains metadata only - links will take you to where to request/download the data
- Content is always being added, so keep in mind not everything may be included yet
- Variables and questions only appear in one topic
- Use different search terms and techniques to capture all the results
- How-to guides and FAQs for help

Q&A

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Thank you

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