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A track defines a sequence of surveys and calculates the period when a certain survey should be answered by or for a certain patient.

These calculations use dates from multiple sources:

- an answer from a survey - an appointment linked to the track - another round in the track - from the track itself - manual input

Using the **Next Step engine** you can only use the previous round in the track and answers from that previous round. This speeds up track editing and track calculation and simplifies the structure.

More complex dependencies are possible using the **Previous Step engine***, where you can use a date from any of the previous rounds for the valid from date and any of the rounds - either later or earlier - for the valid until date. As this is a more complex version of the Next Step engine you can always upgrade to the Previous Step engine, but nor revert back from it.

In both engines the valid from date of the first round cannot be dependent on a previous round, so the date should either be calculated from an appointment or from a track level date.

An answer from a survey

Every survey has a completion date that can

An appointment linked to the track

Another round in the track

From the track itself

Manual input

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