

1 November 2026

SEMA3 Shutdown Planned for Mid-2027

We have some important and melancholy news about the future of SEMA3. After much deliberation, due to a shortage of funding and resources, we have made the difficult decision to phase out SEMA3 over the next several months, with the platform closing in mid-2027.

This was not an easy decision, and we want to start by extending our heartfelt **thank you!**

Your enthusiasm, commitment, and support for SEMA3 over the years has meant a great deal to us. Knowing that SEMA3 has supported so many diverse research projects around the world has made the work of building and maintaining this platform worthwhile. We truly appreciate that you put your trust in SEMA3 for your EMA / ESM / daily diary studies.

We understand that this is disappointing news and may raise some concerns, particularly if you have studies currently running on SEMA3. We are genuinely sorry for any inconvenience and disruption this causes. Please be reassured that **SEMA3 will continue running as normal until mid-2027**, and we are fully committed to supporting you through this transition. We are also pleased to advise that we have negotiated a discounted rate for eligible SEMA3 users with our recommended alternative platform, **m-Path** (see below).

Key Dates & What to Expect

➢ **New research users no longer on-boarded to SEMA3** ➢ **SEMA3 will remain active for existing users** *Existing users can continue using SEMA3 to run existing studies, but no new research users ("admins") will be on-boarded.* *If you are planning to create a new study that has not yet started, please consider shifting to our recommended alternative platform, m-Path (see below).*	**1 Nov 2026**
➢ **SEMA3 users encouraged to complete all data collection, export data, and save information about their studies** ➢ **Technical support continues** *The SEMA team will continue providing technical support; we can assist you with finalising your SEMA3 studies, exporting data, and documenting all the methodological details (e.g., survey items/structure; sampling schedule) of your study.*	1 Nov 2026 — **30 Jun 2027**
➢ **Technical support for SEMA3 ends** ➢ **New study creation disabled** ➢ **SEMA3 platform remains accessible** *We will no longer be providing technical support, and it will no longer be possible to create new studies from 1 July 2027. However, SEMA3 will remain accessible to allow existing users a final opportunity to export data and save any other information about their existing studies.*	1 Jul 2027 — **31 Aug 2027**
➢ **SEMA3 platform officially decommissioned** *SEMA3 will no longer be accessible to any users from 1 Sep 2027. It will no longer be possible to access SEMA3 studies or to export data from SEMA3 after this point.*	**1 Sep 2027**
➢ **SEMA3 data deleted** *All SEMA3 data will be deleted with no possibility for recovery after this date.*	**31 Dec 2027**





Transitioning to Another EMA Platform

We recommend m-Path

We know that finding an alternative platform is probably your most pressing concern right now, and we want to help make that as painless as possible.

To assist with this, we have partnered with **m-Path**, a full-feature EMA platform that we believe will be well suited to most SEMA3 users' future research needs. For what it's worth, this is the platform our team will be using moving forward!

The m-Path team is led by experienced EMA/ESM researchers who have developed a highly flexible platform for daily life research: m-Path will allow you to continue everything you were doing on SEMA3 and more. m-Path has a basic free plan, which will meet the needs of some SEMA3 users, and will allow others to test out the platform before committing to a full-feature paid plan.

We're Here to Help!

Between now and 30 June 2027, the SEMA3 team will be on hand to help you complete your data collection, export your data and back up your study information. In short, we are available to help you make the transition to a new daily-life research platform as *SEMA-less* as possible.[*Please excuse this awful pun, we simply could not resist!*]

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at any point if you have questions or concerns. You can reach us at sema-team@unimelb.edu.au

Citing SEMA3 in Your Publications

Please remember that if you are reporting research conducted using SEMA3, the correct reference to cite is:

O'Brien, S. T., Dozo, N., Hinton, J. D. X., Moeck, E. K., Susanto, R., Jayaputera, G. T., Sinnott, R. O., Vu, D., Alvarez-Jimenez, M., Gleeson, J., & Koval, P. (2024). SEMA3: A free smartphone platform for daily life surveys. *Behavior Research Methods, 56*(7), 7691–7706. https://doi.org/10.3758/s13428-024-02445-w

Thank You and Hooroo!

Thank you again for being part of the SEMA3 community. It has been a privilege to support your research. We are sorry that SEMA3 will be coming to an end, but we look forward to working together over the coming months to ensure a smooth transition and we wish you all the very best with your ongoing daily-life research adventures!

Hooroo and all the very best from the SEMA3 team,

Peter Koval Sarah O'Brien

