Value Columns

The **OBSERVATION_FACT** table has six columns associated with values. This section contains additional information about each of these columns that contain value related data.

OBSERVATION_FACT Value Columns						
VALTYPE_CD	TVAL_CHAR	NVAL_NUM	VALUEFLAG_CD	UNITS_CD	OBS_BLOB	
N	E (equal) NE (not equal) L (less than) LE (less than and equal to) G (greater than) GE (greater than and equal to)	Actual numeric value of object	H (high) L (low) N (normal) <ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="d4d2ee95-d4e9-4b5e-a7a2-d5410ffed26c"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[null] (unknown)	Units associated with object	Misc. encrypted information	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>
T	Actual short text value of object	N/A	A (abnormal) N (normal) <ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="3dfddd59-85cd-42a1-aaa0-4641624ac9a5"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[null] (unknown)	Units associated with object	Misc. encrypted information	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>
B	N/A	N/A	X (encrypted)	N/A	Raw text	
NLP	N/A	N/A	X (encrypted)	N/A	NLP result XML	

VALTYPE_CD Column

The **VALTYPE_CD** defines what type of object is being stored in the remaining value columns. The possible values are:

Value	Description
@	No value
N	Numeric objects such as those found in lab tests
T	Text objects such as labels, short message, enumerated values
B	Raw text objects such as a doctor's note, discharge summary, and radiology report
NLP	NLP result xml objects

TVAL_CHAR Column

The **TVAL_CHAR** column is used in conjunction with the **VALTYPE_CD** column. The information stored in the TVAL_CHAR column is dependent on what the VALTYPE_CD is for the object.
VALTYPE_CD = "T"

- The text value associated with the *CONCEPT_CD* is stored.

VALTYPE_CD = "N"

- If an operator is associated with the numeric value then it is stored in the VALTYPE_CD.

The operators are:

Operator	Description
E	Equal
NE	Not equal
L	Less than
LE	Less than and Equal to
G	Greater than
GE	Greater than and Equal to

NVAL_NUM Column

If the *VALTYPE_CD* = "N" then the actual numeric value associated with the *CONCEPT_CD* is stored in the **NVAL_NUM**.

VALUEFLAG_CD Column

The **VALUEFLAG_CD** column is for storing flags associated with an object. It is usually seen used with a lab object to indicate that a lab value is high or low. It may also be used in conjunction with *VALTYPE_CD* = "B" or "NLP" to indicate encrypted data in the *OBSERVATION_BLOB* column.
The possible values are:

Value	Description
@	No value
A	Abnormal
H	High
L	Low
X	Blob column is encrypted

UNITS_CD Column

The **UNITS_CD** column stores the units associated with the object, such as mmol/l. It is usually used for lab test values.

OBSERVATION_BLOB Column

The **OBSERVATION_BLOB** column stores large text objects such as raw text (B) or NLP results (NLP). For these types of objects, the *VALUEFLAG_CD* indicates whether or not the data is encrypted. Other objects (numeric or short text) may store miscellaneous information about the object. For these objects (N, T) the data in this field defaults to encrypted.