

# Joining Columns

All of the tables above can be linked together using SQL joins to obtain more data.

**Example:**

A concept will have a code in the **OBSERVATION\_FACT.CONCEPT\_CD** column but will have to be joined to the **CONCEPT\_DIMENSION.CONCEPT\_CD** column to find the *NAME\_CHAR* and / or *CONCEPT\_PATH* defined for the concept.

The following are some examples of common columns used to join tables in the star schema.

<b>OBSERVATION_FACT</b>		
ENCOUNTER_NUM in OBSERVATION_FACT	can be joined to	ENCOUNTER_NUM in the VISIT_DIMENSION table
PATIENT_NUM in OBSERVATION_FACT	can be joined to	PATIENT_NUM in the PATIENT_DIMENSION and VISIT_DIMENSION tables
PROVIDER_ID in OBSERVATION_FACT	can be joined to	PROVIDER_ID in the PROVIDER_DIMENSION table
<b>PATIENT_DIMENSION</b>		
PATIENT_NUM in PATIENT_DIMENSION	can be joined to	PATIENT_NUM in the OBSERVATION_FACT and VISIT_DIMENSION table
<b>VISIT_DIMENSION</b>		
ENCOUNTER_NUM in VISIT_DIMENSION	can be joined to	ENCOUNTER_NUM in the OBSERVATION_FACT table
PATIENT_NUM in VISIT_DIMENSION	can be joined to	PATIENT_NUM in the OBSERVATION_FACT and PATIENT_DIMENSION tables
<b>CONCEPT_DIMENSION</b>		
CONCEPT_CD in CONCEPT_DIMENSION	can be joined to	CONCEPT_CD in the OBSERVATION_FACT table
<b>PROVIDER_DIMENSION</b>		
PROVIDER_ID in PROVIDER_DIMENSION	can be joined to	PROVIDER_ID in the OBSERVATION_FACT table