

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.

OBSERVATION_FACT		
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
PATIENT_DIMENSION		
PATIENT_NUM in PATIENT_DIMENSION	can be joined to	PATIENT_NUM in the OBSERVATION_FACT and VISIT_DIMENSION table
VISIT_DIMENSION		
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
CONCEPT_DIMENSION		
CONCEPT_CD in CONCEPT_DIMENSION	can be joined to	CONCEPT_CD in the OBSERVATION_FACT table
PROVIDER_DIMENSION		
PROVIDER_ID in PROVIDER_DIMENSION	can be joined to	PROVIDER_ID in the OBSERVATION_FACT table