

**Proposed Changes for HEDIS 2010:
Volume 2 Technical Specifications, Volume 3 Specifications for Survey
Measures and Electronic Coding Tables (ECT)**

NCQA seeks comments on proposed modifications to *HEDIS 2010 Volume 2: Technical Specifications, Volume 3 Specifications for Survey Measures* and the HEDIS 2010 Electronic Coding Tables (ECT).

We propose removing all coding tables from the HEDIS Technical Specifications, releasing codes in electronic format and itemizing codes to their maximum specificity. Code descriptions (e.g., Inpatient, Outpatient, Diagnosis) and instructions for use during data collection will remain in Volume 2.

The proposed process is consistent with how National Drug Codes (NDC) and Ambulatory Surgery Codes are provided (i.e., electronic only).

Currently, codes in Volume 2 are listed at the minimum specificity and organizations must use any valid fourth or fifth digit for HEDIS reporting. For example, Table ASM-A is presented as follows.

Table ASM-A: Codes to Identify Asthma

Description	ICD-9-CM Diagnosis
Asthma	493

NCQA proposes including codes in the 2010 ECTs at the maximum specificity, and all iterations of a code will be listed individually. For example, ICD-9-CM Diagnosis codes for asthma include 493, 493.0, 493.00, 493.01, 493.02, 493.1, 493.10, 493.11, 493.12, 493.2, 493.20, 493.21, 493.22, 493.8, 493.81, 493.82, 493.9, 493.90, 493.91, 493.92.

The proposed modification will result in consistency across plans and reduced programming burden associated with HEDIS data collection. There will be two releases of the ECTs: the first with Volume 2 in July of each year; the second with the October *Technical Update*.

For HEDIS 2011, we will remove invalid codes from HEDIS reporting. Using asthma as an example, ICD-9-CM Diagnosis code 493 is valid for billing only at the 5th digit level. Therefore, the 2011 ECT will include 493.00, 493.01, 493.02, 493.10, 493.11, 493.12, 493.20, 493.21, 493.22, 493.81, 493.82, 493.90, 493.91, 493.92.

Codes that are invalid for billing (493, 493.0, 493.1, 493.2, 493.8, 493.9) will be removed from the ECT and will not be eligible for use in HEDIS reporting.