

# Logical Data Model Missing

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The purpose of this document is to show how it is impossible to manage an enterprise database without a logical data model, more specifically The Doctors Clinic (TDC) Enterprise Database and its logical data model.

### Where is the TDC Enterprise DB Logical Model?

To understand and manage our TDC Enterprise Database, we need a normalized logical model. Normalization is required before the contents of fields can be used for calculation.

Calculation is the whole purpose of our database. In other words, the whole purpose of our TDC database is to develop historical rates and factors that assist our decision makers in their planning.

All the information we pull into our TDC Enterprise Database is historical. For example: We get our historical planning data from the payroll and the chart of accounts; our historical sales data from insurance contracts, their billings and receipts; our historical process and facility history from provider and service center production; and we get our historical financial data from our financial reports, the trial balance and again the chart of accounts. From outside the company we get various industrial, consultant and government views of our business. All the information we get is referenced to a specific publication and dated, so it is all historical.

Each of these historical sources is a different view of our business, with their own peculiar way of organizing that view. Our logical model has to be able to handle each of these views, and it does.

An enterprise database like ours changes little, but it changes a little each month. To be effective, the physical enterprise database must be controlled by a normalized logical model, or the calculations will not work. The physical database does not have to be perfectly normalized, but to work properly it must be based on a normalized model. Our physical database works because it is based on a normalized model that can handle all of these views.

### We have a problem – The Logical Meta-Model

There is no logical model for the physical TDC Enterprise Database. Our database is based on a logical meta-model (model of models). Because I understand the meta-model, I know the physical calculations will work. Because the meta-model works for all business relationships, so far I have never made a modeling mistake with the physical TDC Database.

If there were a logical model for our TDC Database, the names of the entities in that model would be specific to The Doctors Clinic; names like: Bremerton, Silverdale; Family Practice; Orthopedics; KPS and Regence. But, when I built the TDC Enterprise Database, I knew it had to communicate with the world beyond Bremerton. So, it is based on a meta-model that works for all business.

There is no logical data model, but there is a logical meta-model. As you at TDC know, it works very well. At the present time, I am the only person in the world who can use it. A new database person would be lost without it. No more TDC Enterprise Database.