

**OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
CALIFORNIA INPATIENT DATA REPORTING MANUAL,
MEDICAL INFORMATION REPORTING FOR CALIFORNIA, SIXTH EDITION**

PRINCIPAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN

Section 97234

Effective with discharges occurring on or after January 1, 2009, the patient's principal language spoken shall be reporting using one of the following three alternatives:

(a) If the patient's principal language spoken is known and is included in the following list of alternatives, report the three letter code from the list:

See list below:

(b) Other. If the principal language spoken is known but is not listed in subsection (a), report the full name of the language.

(c) If the principal language spoken is unknown, report the three digit code 999.

DISCUSSION

Specifications for reporting this data element with the Record Entry Form for online web entry of individual records or online data file transmission for encounters occurring on or after **January 1, 2009:**

PRINCIPAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN					
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
ENG	English	HIN	Hindi	POL	Polish
ARA	Arabic	HUN	Hungarian	POR	Portuguese
ARM	Armenian	ITA	Italian	RUS	Russian
CHI	Chinese	JPN	Japanese	SCR	Serbo-Croatian
FRE	French	KOR	Korean	SPA	Spanish
CPF	French Creole	LAO	Laotian	TGL	Tagalog
GER	German	HMN	Miao, Hmong	THA	Thai
GRE	Greek	KHM	Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	URD	Urdu
GUJ	Guarathi	NAV	Navajo	VIE	Vietnamese
HEB	Hebrew	PER	Persian	YID	Yiddish
				999	Unknown

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Reporting Requirements:

- Enter only **one** 3-digit value.
- You may use up to 24 alpha characters to report the full name of languages not already listed.
- Indicating more than one language designations is not allowed.

DISCUSSION

Principal Language would be the language the patient primarily uses in communicating with those in the health care community.

A child's language can be the language of the parent or caretaker used for communicating with the physician on the child's behalf.