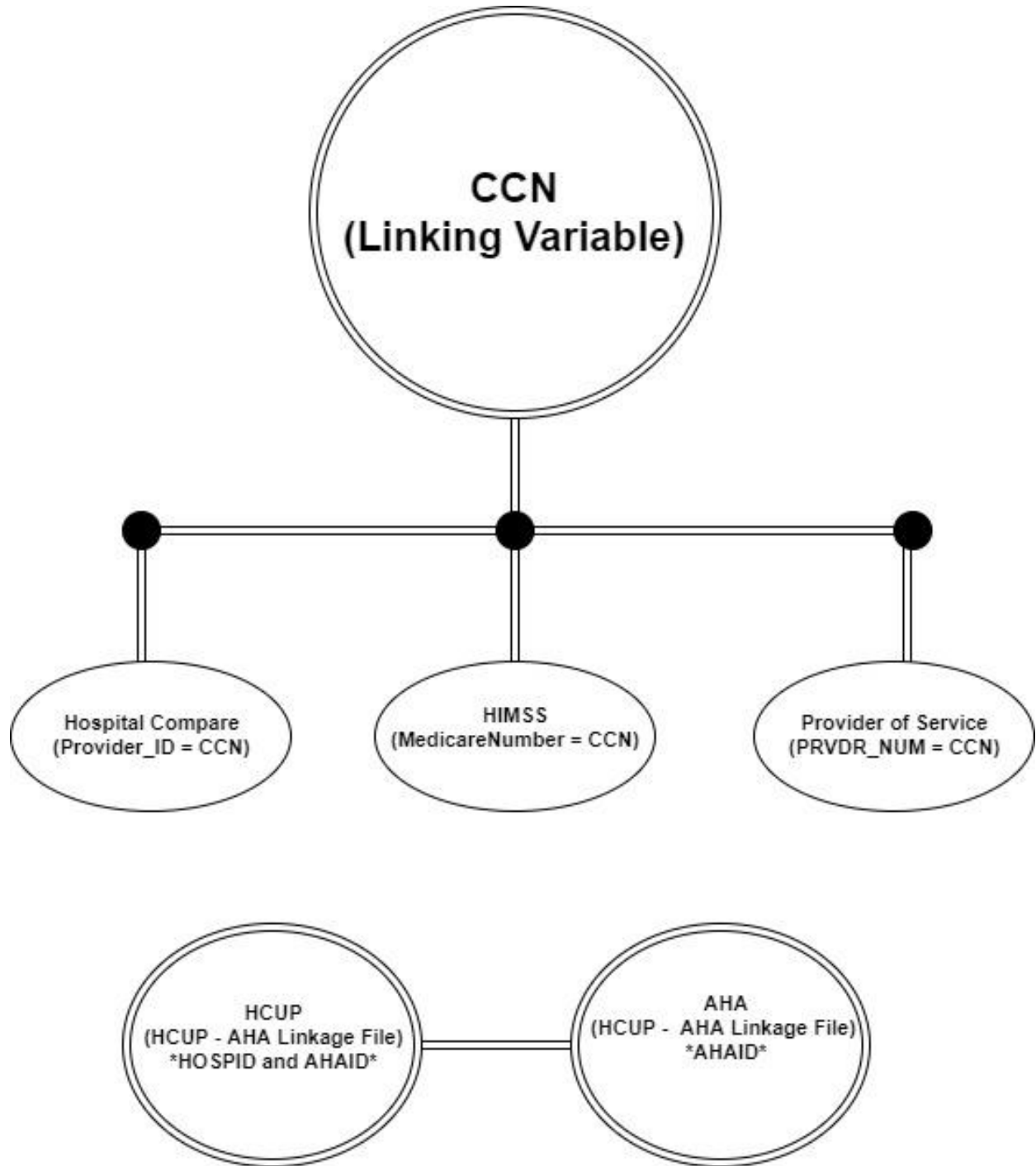


**Figure 1**

Framework to Link Variables across Hospital-Level Data Sets



*Abbreviations:* AHA, American Hospital Association; CCN, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Certification Number; HCUP, Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project; HIMSS, Health Information Management Systems Society.