

Wheels: A recent e-mail says, “My 1990 Lumina has a problem with intermittent speedometer function and also idle problems and has stored codes 44 and 45 on the ECM. I’ve done lots of inspecting for bad connections on sensors and vacuum leaks, but still no luck. Are the codes 44 and 45 just a result of faulty ECM and speedometer freaks from ECM problems? All grounds I have found look in good shape. The car only has 79,000 miles.”

Halderman: The codes indicate a rich (45) and a lean (44) exhaust. This is typical of a problem if the engine has bad fuel injectors. The fuel injectors in the engine are a pattern failure. See www.lindertech.com for more details. The speedometer problem could be the result of a defective dash unit itself called the IP or instrument panel. I suggest that you have the vehicle speed sensor checked and if this signal is reaching the dash, look for a used dash assembly.

