

## Important Changes in 2008 Immunization Assessments of VFC Providers

By Jennifer Ralston-King, Assessment Coordinator

Beginning January 1, 2008, providers who receive AFIX (Assessment, Feedback, Incentive, and eXchange) sites visits will be assessed with the CoCASA software designed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CoCASA stands for Comprehensive Clinic Assessment Software Application. It is an upgraded version of CASA, the assessment software used by the Arizona Immunization Program Office to conduct assessments since 1996.

The results of assessments conducted with CoCASA will include only valid doses administered no earlier than recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). A 4-day grace period allowed. Invalid doses will not be counted and children who received them will appear on a list of children who are missing immunizations. The most current and comprehensive ACIP recommendations may be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm>.

Another important change in the 2008 AFIX process will be a request for a brief meeting with a provider, lead nurse or office manager at the conclusion of the AFIX visit. During the meeting, the AFIX specialist will explain the results of the visit provide copies of CoCASA reports and ask that the provider, nurse or manager sign a form indicating that they have received the assessment results and recommendations.

Providers who have questions about the new assessment process or results may contact Jennifer Ralston-King, Assessment Coordinator, at [ralstoj@azdhs.gov](mailto:ralstoj@azdhs.gov) or 602-364-3632.

	2007 AFIX	2008 AFIX
Assessment Tool	CASA	CoCASA
Age Group	24 – 35 month olds	24 – 35 month olds
Age Marker	24 months of age	24 months of age
Vaccines Doses Included in Assessment Results	All doses given by 24 months of age	Doses given by 24 months of age and administered no earlier than the ACIP recommended minimum age/interval
Vaccine Doses Not Included in Assessment Results	Vaccine doses administered after 24 months of age	Vaccine doses administered after 24 months of age and doses given more than 4 days before the ACIP recommended minimum age/interval
Combination Vaccine Series Assessed	4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hep B 4:3:1:3:3	4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hep B, 1 Varicella 4:3:1:3:3:1