

# Safety First for J&J Vaccine Pause

Johns Hopkins Medicine has paused all use of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine, based on guidance from the U.S. Federal Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Here is why and what we want our employees, patients and the public to understand.



## Public Safety

Six women developed rare blood clots after being vaccinated with the J&J vaccine. Out of concern for the public's safety, The U.S. Federal Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) asked health care providers across the country to temporarily stop using the J&J vaccine until further notice.



## Pausing Allows Time to Check Safety

The reported health issues are serious, but they are also very rare. There are currently six cases that are being investigated out of more than 6.8 million people who have received J&J COVID-19 vaccines. The FDA and CDC are investigating to determine if there is a connection between the vaccine and the reported health issues. This information will help them decide if and when we can safely begin using the J&J vaccine again.



## Know the Symptoms for Rare Reaction

The adverse events appear to be exceedingly rare, and there are still important benefits of the J&J vaccine in preventing severe COVID-19. According to the FDA and CDC, people who develop severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain, or shortness of breath within three weeks after vaccination should contact their health care provider or call 911 if the symptoms are severe.



## Vaccination Continues with Other Vaccines

The JHM vaccination program will continue to provide both the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines to our employees who wish to be vaccinated, to eligible patients, and at our pop-up community vaccine sites. Both vaccines have been tested and found to be safe and effective in preventing severe COVID-19. Both vaccines are undergoing continuous and intense safety monitoring. To date, there is an excellent safety record reported among the millions of people who have received the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.



## Future Steps with J&J Vaccine

Johns Hopkins Medicine will begin providing the J&J vaccine when federal, Maryland, Washington D.C., and Florida governments finalize review of the data and approve the safe and effective use of the J&J vaccine.

For more information, visit

[www.hopkinsmedicine.org/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine/jj-vaccine-pause.html](http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine/jj-vaccine-pause.html)

or link to information using a mobile device through this QR code.

