



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE JOHNSON & JOHNSON/JANSSEN COVID-19 VACCINE

On April 23, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommended use of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen (J&J/Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine resume in the United States, after a temporary pause.

Blood clots involving blood vessels in the brain, abdomen, and legs along with low levels of platelets (blood cells that help your body stop bleeding), have occurred in some people who have received the J&J/Janssen vaccine. In people who developed these blood clots and low levels of platelets, symptoms began approximately one to two-weeks following vaccination. Most people who developed these blood clots and low levels of platelets were females, ages 18 through 49 years. The chance of having this occur is very low.

**A review of all available data at this time shows that the J&J/Janssen vaccine's known and potential benefits outweigh its known and potential risks.** However, women younger than 50 should be aware of this rare but increased risk and that there are other COVID-19 vaccine options available for which this risk has not been seen.

- This side effect is rare, occurring at a rate of about 7 per 1 million vaccinated women between 18 and 49 years old.
- For women 50 and older and men of all ages, this adverse event is even more rare.

### **Additional Vaccine Options**

**As of April 23, 2021, this adverse event has not been linked to the other two available COVID-19 vaccines made by Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna.**

**Please ask if an alternative vaccine is available today at this clinic if you choose not to receive the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Please note that the other vaccines require 2 instead of 1 dose and will require a return visit to this clinic site for your second dose.**

If you would prefer an alternate vaccine and one is not available at this vaccination location, you can visit [vaccinate.virginia.gov](https://vaccinate.virginia.gov) or call 877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682) to schedule an appointment to receive a preferred COVID-19 vaccine.