

COVID-19 VACCINE



 AdvocateAuroraHealth

Johnson & Johnson vaccine pause: What you need to know

“Cases like the ones that caused this pause are exceptionally rare, and that’s why it’s so important people take the time to understand the full context,” Advocate Aurora Health Executive Medical Director of Infectious Disease and Prevention [Dr. Robert Citronberg](#) said. “Federal regulators are smart to take a pause and figure out what happened, but we still know that vaccines, while not completely without risk, are safe, and they are our way out of the pandemic. This kind of intense scrutiny is part of the safety process. It shows the system works. The benefits of the vaccines continue to far outweigh the risks.”

<https://www.ahchealthenews.com/2021/04/13/issue-that-prompted-call-for-johnson-johnson-vaccine-pause-is-rare/>

- Following the guidance from the FDA and CDC, out of an abundance of caution, we are pausing administration of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine following six reported U.S. cases of a rare and severe type of blood clot in individuals after receiving this vaccine.
- Currently, these adverse events appear to be extremely rare – six cases out of 6.8 million doses – and the CDC and FDA have asked for this temporary pause pending further review of these cases.
- All six cases involved women between the ages of 18 and 48, and symptoms occurred 6 to 13 days after vaccination.
- People who received the J&J vaccine within the last three weeks should contact their health care provider if they experience any of the following symptoms:
 - severe headache
 - abdominal pain
 - leg pain
 - shortness of breath

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- Until further direction from the FDA and CDC, we will only be offering the Pfizer and Moderna two-dose vaccines.
- We strongly encourage patients and community members to receive Pfizer or Moderna as soon as they can as vaccination is our way out of this pandemic.

Advocate Aurora Health values the trust you have placed in us – our expert physicians, nurses, and team members. We will continue to monitor and share developments as guidance is available from the CDC and FDA. As always, please reach out to your healthcare provider’s office with questions or concerns. We are here to help.

For additional employer resources, please visit the following webpage for further guidance and recommendations.

Advocate Aurora Health Vaccine information:

- **English:** <https://www.advocateaurorahealth.org/coronavirus-disease-2019/covid19-vaccine/>
- **Spanish:** <https://es.advocateaurorahealth.org/coronavirus-disease-2019/covid19-vaccine/>

Below are links to the Illinois and Wisconsin State Vaccine Websites:

- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccine-faq>

Thank you for your partnership and contact us through your account executive <https://employersolutions.aah.org/contact-us>.