

# Is the J&J COVID-19 vaccine safe



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have **lifted the temporary pause** on the use of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine after a **thorough safety review**.

## What We Know

- The **Virginia Department of Health (VDH)** is following the CDC and FDA guidance to **resume use** of the J&J vaccine.
- The CDC and FDA have confidence that this vaccine is **safe and effective** at preventing COVID-19.
- The vaccine's **known and potential benefits outweigh** its known and potential risks in people aged 18 years and older.
- Data suggest the chance of developing blood clots with low levels of platelets (thrombosis with thrombocytopenia)\* is **very low**.
- The CDC and FDA will **remain vigilant**.
- Vaccinations are an **important tool to control the pandemic** and all 3 COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.

## Other factors considered in evaluating the risks and benefits of resuming use of the J&J vaccine included:

- **Recent trends** in COVID-19 cases in the U.S. and around the world
- **Variants** circulating in the U.S.
- **Hospitalizations and deaths** associated with COVID-19
- **Equity** of obtaining the vaccine



\***Women younger than 50 years of age** should be aware of the rare but increased risk of this adverse event. There are other COVID-19 vaccine **options available** for which this risk has not been seen.

Sign up for **your** free COVID-19 vaccine at [Vaccinate.Virginia.gov](https://www.vaccinate.virginia.gov) or call **877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682)**.



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