

# THIS IS AN OFFICIAL NH DHHS HEALTH ALERT

Distributed by the NH Health Alert Network  
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April 13, 2021 Time 1100 (11:00 AM EDT)  
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## **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Outbreak, Update # 40** ***Pause Administration of Johnson and Johnson Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine***

### **CDC Announcement on April 13, 2021:**

- CDC and FDA are reviewing data involving six reported U.S. cases of cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST) in combination with thrombocytopenia in individuals after receiving the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) Janssen COVID-19 vaccine. All six cases occurred among women between the ages of 18 and 48 years old, and symptoms occurred 6 to 13 days after vaccination. One case was fatal.
  - As of April 12, more than 6.8 million doses of the J&J vaccine have been administered in the U.S.
  - NH DHHS has distributed more than 37,000 doses in New Hampshire; the federal vaccine administration program has also distributed doses
- CDC will convene a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) April 14 2021 to review these cases and then FDA will review that analysis. Until then, CDC and NH DHHS recommend a pause in the use of the J&J vaccine out of an abundance of caution.
  - Administration of the mRNA vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) should continue
  - NH DHHS is working with vaccine administration partners to ensure they are adjusting their operations to accommodate this pause and to provide an alternative supply of mRNA (Pfizer and Moderna) vaccines to continue operations
- Clinicians should be prepared to recognize and manage this potential adverse event
  - People who have received the J&J vaccine who develop severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain, or shortness of breath within three weeks after vaccination should be evaluated
  - Full recommendations for treatment of CVST with thrombocytopenia are not yet available, except that use of heparin may be dangerous, so, if anticoagulation is necessary, non-heparin alternative anticoagulants are indicated
  - Health care providers are asked to report adverse events to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System ([VAERS](#))
- NH DHHS will review this event in available detail during the weekly healthcare provider call detailed below.

**Weekly Partner Calls For:**

- **Long-term care facilities and congregate living settings** first and third Wednesdays from 11:45 am – 1:00 pm, in partnership with the NH Healthcare Association (NHHCA):
  - Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/511075725>
  - Call-in phone number: (929) 205-6099
  - Meeting ID: 511 075 725
  - Password: 092020
- **Educational and childcare partners** first and third Wednesdays from 3:30 – 4:30 pm:
  - Zoom link: <https://nh-dhhs.zoom.us/j/98062195081>
  - Call-in phone number: (646) 558-8656
  - Meeting ID: 980 6219 5081
  - Password: 197445
- **Healthcare providers and other public health partners** every Thursday from 12:00 – 1:00 pm; these calls focus on new science, medical, and vaccine updates:
  - Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/s/94841259025>
  - Call-in phone number: (646) 558-8656
  - Meeting ID: 948 4125 9025
  - Password: 003270

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- For any questions regarding this notification, please call the NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at (603) 271-4496 during business hours (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.).
- If you are calling after hours or on the weekend, please call the New Hampshire Hospital switchboard at (603) 271-5300 and request the Public Health Professional on-call.
- To change your contact information in the NH Health Alert Network, please send an email to [DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov).

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From: Elizabeth A. Talbot MD, Deputy State Epidemiologist  
Originating Agency: NH Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services