



## Johnson & Johnson Vaccine: Frequently Asked Questions – General Public March 1, 2021

1. **Where can I get the Johnson & Johnson vaccine?** The Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine will be provided at a variety of sites, including pharmacies, county and local health departments, and hospitals. The list of community-based sites at [COVID-19 Vaccine Locations for Eligible Recipients](#) will be updated on the New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub to reflect which locations are offering which vaccine.
2. **What are some unique benefits of the J&J vaccine?** The J&J vaccine is single-dose, is more conveniently stored and so can be used in more locations. This vaccine does not need to be kept in a freezer and can be stored at refrigerator temperatures— so it is easy to transport and store and allows for expanded availability in many community settings as supply scales up. Adding the J&J vaccine to our toolbox means more people can get vaccinated, which increases the overall population protected against severe disease, hospitalization, and death.

All the vaccines that are currently available were studied in different trials, among different people and different timelines. They were not studied in head-to-head comparisons or trials; therefore, they should not be compared to each other. The J&J, Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are all safe, effective options and eligible people should take the vaccine that is available to them.

3. **Why is my community (closed POD/FEMA community site) only being offered J&J when other vaccines may be better?** While our goal is to widely distribute all vaccines across the state, it is common for sites to offer a single vaccine product. New Jersey now has greater flexibility about where vaccines can be offered due to having different types of vaccines available for use. The three authorized vaccines have different storage and handling requirements, and have different intervals between doses (J&J = 1 dose, Moderna = 2 doses 28 days apart, Pfizer = 2 doses 21 days apart).
4. **How do the side effects compare between various vaccines?** Based on the clinical trial data, J&J's vaccine appears to have less side effects (e.g., sore arm, swelling, headache, muscle aches, fatigue) than the mRNA vaccines. Serious adverse events are not common in any of the authorized vaccines.
5. **As of now, will I need booster doses for any of the vaccines and when?** We do not know whether any of the authorized COVID-19 vaccines will require a booster shot in the future.
6. **For Pfizer and Moderna, we do not have to quarantine two weeks after the second dose if we are exposed to anyone. Does the same hold for J&J?** New Jersey is awaiting guidance from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
7. **Can I get multiple vaccines of different types?** No. COVID-19 vaccines are not interchangeable with each other or with other COVID-19 vaccine products. The safety and efficacy of a mixed-product series has not been evaluated. Both doses, if required, of the series should be completed with the same product.