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Commissioner

May 6, 2022

**TO:** Points of Dispensing participating in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program  
**FROM:** Judith M. Persichilli, R.N., B.S.N., M.A. Commissioner  
**SUBJECT:** Modification of Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 Vaccine Usage

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On May 5, 2022, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) limited the authorized use of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 Vaccine to:

1. Individuals 18 years of age and older for whom other authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccines are not accessible or clinically appropriate, and to
2. Individuals 18 years of age and older who elect to receive the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 Vaccine because they would otherwise not receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

The FDA's action builds on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) preferential recommendation in December 2021 for the use of the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines (e.g. Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna) over the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine for prevention of COVID-19 in adults.

Points of dispensing should continue making all authorized COVID-19 vaccines available to eligible individuals, but must use updated Food and Drug Administration (FDA) emergency use authorization (EUA) fact sheets for the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine.

This memo serves to alert you to the continued use of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine in New Jersey's COVID-19 vaccination effort. **Please share this information with the appropriate staff in your vaccination program.**

Thank you for your partnership in this initiative. This memo supplements the other materials circulated by NJDOH regarding the provision, delivery and administration of COVID-19 vaccines. [https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/covid2019\\_vaccination.shtml](https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/covid2019_vaccination.shtml). Points of dispensing may contact the New Jersey Department of Health Vaccine Operations Center at [Vax.Operations@doh.nj.gov](mailto:Vax.Operations@doh.nj.gov) with any further questions.

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### Federal recommendation

On Thursday, May 5, the FDA issued revised EUAs with updated fact sheets for Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine:

- FDA statement: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-limits-use-janssen-covid-19-vaccine-certain-individuals>
- For Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine:
  - Updated EUA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers: <https://www.fda.gov/media/146304/download>
  - Updated EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers: <https://www.fda.gov/media/146305/download>
  - Additional materials including updated EUA, fact sheet translations, and FAQ: <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/janssen-covid-19-vaccine>