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Commissioner

December 16, 2021

**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 Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Usage

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**On December 16, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) adopted the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendation that the mRNA vaccines (e.g. Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna) are preferred over the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine for prevention of COVID-19 in adults.**

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

This memo serves to alert you to the continued use of the Janssen vaccine in New Jersey's COVID-19 vaccination effort. **Please share this information with 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 Tuesday, December 14 the FDA issued revised EUAs with updated fact sheets for the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine:

- FDA statement: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-december-14-2021>
- For Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine:
  - Updated EUA: <https://www.fda.gov/media/154870/download>
  - 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>
- Frequently Asked Questions on the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine:  
<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/janssen-covid-19-vaccine-frequently-asked-questions>
- Translations of the Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers:  
<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/janssen-covid-19-vaccine>

On December 16, the CDC adopted recommendations:

- CDC statement: <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1216-covid-19-vaccines.html>



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