**KNOW THE FACTS**

**The Janssen Johnson and Johnson Vaccine**

*This Fact Sheet contains information to help you understand the risks and benefits of the Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine.*

* **What is the purpose of the vaccine?**

The Johnson and Johnson vaccine was produced as vaccine to help prevent COVID-19. To get the vaccine out, it had to ask approval for the emergency use of the vaccine. Because COVID-19 is so easily spread and potentially deadly, the government issued its approval so that it could get to the public as quickly as possible.

* **What was the approval process for the Johnson and Johnson vaccine?**

The Johnson and Johnson vaccine was tested through the same process as other drugs. Trials were held with people of all races and with various underlying conditions such as asthma and diabetes. The vaccine does not contain the live virus COVID 19, that means you will not get COVID 19 from the vaccine. The Federal Drug Administration (FDA) determined the vaccine was safe and effective and any risks with the vaccine are outweighed by the benefit of taking the vaccine. Data regarding the long term effects of the vaccine will continue to be studied by the FDA but typically long term side effects of a drug happen within two months following the vaccine being given to individuals.

* **How was the vaccine approved so quickly?**
* The technology used to make the vaccines has been well researched and used for over a decade.
* Approving drugs takes a long time because funding is sometimes an issue, however, with the COVID-19 vaccines, the government and private industries and others funded the vaccines being produced.
* Often it can be difficult to find volunteers, but since these drugs impacts everyone, there were many willing volunteers.
* **How does the vaccine work?**
* The vaccine work by teaching your immune system how to recognize and fight the virus

 that causes COVID-19, and this protects you from getting sick with COVID-19.

* **Before you get the vaccine, tell your vaccination provider about all of your medical conditions.**
* **You should NOT get the vaccine if you:**
* had a severe allergic reaction to any ingredient of this vaccine
* **What are the risks and what side effects have been reported with use of the vaccine?**
* Most side effects are mild and can include:
* Pain, redness where you received the shot
* General fatigue and cold-like symptoms
* On rare occasions, the vaccines could cause a severe allergic reaction; it usually happens within a few minutes to one hour after receiving the shot. Signs include:
* Difficulty breathing
* Swelling of face and throat
* Fast heartbeat
* Blood clots involving blood vessels in the brain, lungs, abdomen, and legs along with low levels of platelets (blood cells that help your body stop bleeding), have occurred in some people who have received the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine. In people who developed these blood clots and low levels of platelets, symptoms began approximately one to two-weeks following vaccination. Reporting of these blood clots and low levels of platelets has been highest in females ages 18 through 49 years. The chance of having this occur is remote.
* Guillain Barré Syndrome Guillain Barré syndrome (a neurological disorder in which the body’s immune system damages nerve cells, causing muscle weakness and sometimes paralysis) has occurred in some people who have received the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine. In most of these people, symptoms began within 42 days following receipt of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine. The chance of having this occur is very low. Signs of the syndrome include weakness or tingling, difficulty walking, difficulty with facial movements, vision problems, and difficulty with bladder function.
* Those who take blood thinners or who have a history of clotting should discuss the vaccine with their physician.
* These may not be all the possible side effects.
* **What is the vaccination schedule and approved age for vaccine?**
* The vaccination schedule is a single dose.
* The vaccine has emergency approval for those ages 18 and older.
* **What is in the vaccine?**
* The Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine includes the following ingredients: recombinant, replication-incompetent adenovirus type 26 expressing the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, citric acid monohydrate, trisodium citrate dihydrate, ethanol, 2-hydroxypropyl-β-cyclodextrin (HBCD), polysorbate-80, sodium chloride.
* The vaccine does not include eggs, latex or preservatives.
* **What is the overall effectiveness of the vaccine?**
* The vaccine is 75% effective in preventing moderate to severe COVID infections and is 85% effective against hospitalization and death.
* Effectiveness can be expected about two weeks after receiving the vaccine.
* **Where can I get more information about the Johnson and Johnson Vaccine?**
* Visit CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
* Visit FDA at <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/mcm-legalregulatory-and-policy-framework/emergency-use-authorization>
* For the most recent Fact Sheet, please visit [www.janssencovid19vaccine.com](http://www.janssencovid19vaccine.com)