On 4/13/21, the CDC and FDA recommended a temporary pause in the use of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine to investigate rare blood clots.

However, the chances of this occurring are very low, less than 1 in a million. There have been almost 7 million doses of the J&J vaccine given in the U.S. and only 6 reported cases of this rare type of blood clot.

If you received a dose of the J&J vaccine in the last 3 weeks, please do not worry. The FDA and the CDC recommend to keep an eye on symptoms, and contact your doctor or seek medical care as soon as possible if you have severe unexplained headaches, leg pain, abdominal pain, or shortness of breath.

The vaccine pause is not because the vaccine does not work. All approved COVID vaccines — including J&J — have been shown to be extremely safe and effective at preventing COVID-19 illness, hospitalization and death.

During the pause, all SFDPH vaccine events and locations will offer a two-dose vaccine. For questions, please contact your vaccine provider.

The longer you wait to get vaccinated, the greater your risk of getting COVID-19. The risk of dying from COVID is still very real.

To check vaccine availability, visit: sf.gov/GetVaccinated

City & County of San Francisco

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