



# Update on Johnson & Johnson Vaccine

On 4/23/21, the CDC and FDA lifted an 11-day pause on the use of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine and recommended restarting its use in the U.S.

At the J&J safety review, 15 cases of rare blood clots with low platelets were identified out of almost 8 million doses given in the U.S.

These rare blood clots with low platelets are now listed as a potential risk on the vaccine label and fact sheets.

The risk for these rare blood clots with low platelets is about 2 out of every million people vaccinated with J&J.

Vaccine safety is a priority for everyone. The pause showed how the FDA and the CDC are carefully monitoring the vaccines. It also proved how quickly they investigated serious events.

Federal, state and local health officials are confident that J&J is safe and effective in preventing COVID-19. J&J's benefits outweigh its known and potential risks in anyone 18 years of age and older.

To date, we have given more than 33,000 doses of J&J to SF residents.

The City will make clear on [sf.gov/vaccine-sites](https://www.sfgov.org/vaccine-sites) which vaccines are available at City-run vaccine sites. If you are at a location giving J&J, you will receive information and can ask questions.

Although the risk is low, if you received the J&J vaccine in the last 3-4 weeks, look out for the possible symptoms of blood clots with low platelets. Seek medical care right away if you develop one or more of these symptoms:

- Severe or persistent headaches or blurred vision
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain
- Back pain
- Leg pain or swelling
- Persistent abdominal pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Easy bruising or tiny blood spots under the skin beyond the injection site

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.

