



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™



COVID-19



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GET A VACCINE

Information About Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine

Updated Mar. 31, 2021

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General information

Name: JNJ-78436735

Manufacturer: Janssen Pharmaceuticals Companies of Johnson & Johnson

Type of vaccine: Viral vector

Learn more about [how COVID-19 vaccines work](#) and get a better [understanding of COVID-19 viral vector vaccines](#).

Number of shots: 1 shot

How given: Shot in the muscle of the upper arm

Does not contain:


- Eggs
- Preservatives
- Latex

For a full list of ingredients, see the [Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers for the J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine](#). [124 KB, 6 pages] [↗](#)

Who should get vaccinated

- The J&J/Janssen vaccine is recommended for people aged 18 years and older. Learn more about [how CDC is making COVID-19 vaccine recommendations](#) and [CDC's vaccine rollout recommendations](#)

Who should not get vaccinated

- If you have had a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) or an immediate allergic reaction—even if it was not severe—to any [ingredient](#)  in the J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine (such as polysorbate), you should not get the J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.
- An allergic reaction is considered severe when a person needs to be treated with epinephrine or EpiPen® or if they must go to the hospital. Experts refer to severe allergic reactions as anaphylaxis. Learn about [common side effects of COVID-19 vaccines](#) and when to call a doctor.
- An immediate allergic reaction means a reaction within 4 hours of getting vaccinated, including symptoms such as hives, swelling, or wheezing (respiratory distress).

If you aren't able to get the J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine, you may still be able to get a different type of COVID-19 vaccine. Learn more [information for people with allergies](#).

Side effects and safety information

Most common side effects

In the arm where you got the shot:

- Pain
- Redness
- Swelling

Throughout the rest of your body:

- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills
- Fever
- Nausea

These side effects usually start within a day or two of getting the vaccine. Side effects might affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. [Get tips on what to expect after getting vaccinated.](#)

Summary of safety data

- In clinical trials, side effects were common within 7 days of getting vaccinated but were mostly mild to moderate.
- Side effects were more common in people 18–59 years old compared to people 60 years and older.
- CDC will continue to provide updates as we learn more about the safety of the J&J/Janssen vaccine in real-world conditions. [Learn more about vaccine safety monitoring after a vaccine is authorized or approved for use.](#)

[Learn more about safety and reactogenicity data from the clinical trials.](#)

Information on how well the vaccine works

- The J&J/Janssen vaccine was 66.3% effective in [clinical trials](#) (efficacy) at preventing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 illness in people who had no evidence of prior infection 2 weeks after receiving the vaccine. People had the most protection 2 weeks after getting vaccinated.
- The vaccine had high efficacy at preventing hospitalization and death in people who did get sick. No one who got COVID-19 at least 4 weeks after receiving the J&J/Janssen vaccine had to be hospitalized.
- Early evidence suggests that the J&J/Janssen vaccine might provide protection against asymptomatic infection, which is when a person is infected by the virus that causes COVID-19 but does not get sick.
- CDC will continue to provide updates as we learn more about how well the J&J/Janssen vaccine works in real-world conditions.

Demographic information from clinical trials

Clinical trials for the J&J/Janssen vaccine included people from the following racial and ethnic categories:

- 62.1% White
- 17.2% Black or African American
- 8.3% American Indian or Alaska Native
- 5.4% Multiple races
- 3.5% Asian
- 0.3% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

Ethnicity:

- 45.1% Hispanic or Latino
- 52.4% Not Hispanic or Latino
- 2.5% Unknown

Sex breakdown:

- 55.5% Male
- 44.5% Female
- <0.1% Undifferentiated or unknown sex

Age breakdown:

- 66.5% 18–59 years
- 33.5% 60 years and older
 - 19.6% 65 years and older
 - 3.5% 75 years and older

[Learn more about demographic information for people who participated in the trials.](#) 



For Healthcare Workers

[Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine](#): General information, schedule, and administration overview.

Related Pages

- › [What to Expect After Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- › [Learn more about how federal partners are ensuring the safety of COVID-19 vaccines](#)
- › [Learn more about the benefits of getting a COVID-19 vaccine](#)

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Content source: [National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases \(NCIRD\)](#), Division of Viral Diseases