From: CT Department of Public Health < noreply-dphimmunizations@ct.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 11:28 AM

To:

Subject: Week 1 Johnson & Johnson Vaccine Ordering – requests due tomorrow

Ct.gov



Connecticut

Department of Public Health

Dear Connecticut COVID-19 Vaccine Providers,

The Johnson & Johnson (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine is scheduled for review by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) this weekend. We anticipate that the J&J vaccine will be given Emergency Use Authorization and will be available for ordering shortly thereafter – potentially arriving as soon as Tuesday or Wednesday of next week.

At the bottom of this email is a link to an ordering form for Week 1 orders of J&J vaccine. Please note that only a limited supply of vaccine will be made available for general ordering in the first week. If you would like to be considered for a Week 1 J&J order, please read this note in its entirety and complete this form by 10am tomorrow, Saturday, February 27.

Given the fact that this is a <u>new COVID 19 vaccine</u> with a slightly different product profile from the existing mRNA vaccines, the choice to order and deploy this product should be carefully considered by ordering entities.

The following planning assumptions and guidance are offered:

- Trial data reported by J&J demonstrates that this is a highly effective vaccine. Vaccine efficacy (VE) against laboratory-confirmed moderate to severe COVID-19 was 67% and severe COVID is 85%. Further, there were 0 deaths in the trial arm of the J&J vaccine trial.
- Our public health guidance is that all eligible residents should receive whatever vaccine is available to them. Both the mRNA as well as the new J&J vaccine are critical tools in defeating the COVID pandemic. DPH does not recommend targeting specific populations with the J&J vaccine vis-à-vis other vaccines, but supply, availability, and operational considerations can guide when each vaccine is deployed
- Our planning assumption is that the J&J vaccine will be recommended for all adults. Some narrow contraindications may be published, but at this time, we believe this vaccine is for everyone 18-years-of-age and older.

 We will await further information from FDA as well as the CDC's ACIP to confirm orders as well as offer further information about J&J vaccine deployment. Submitting this order does not guarantee that you will receive J&J vaccine in week 1.

Providers who wish to order the J&J vaccine should be aware of the following:

- You need a refrigerator capable of maintaining temperatures between 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) with a configured datalogger meeting all of the standards described in the CoVP Provider Manual.
- You must attend or listen to the recorded CDC webinar, <u>What Clinicians Need to Know About Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine</u> on Tuesday, March 2, 2021,

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET. Clinicians will learn about vaccine characteristics and administration, vaccinating special populations, and contraindications. They will also get answers to a number of clinical questions CDC has received about this new vaccine.

- As with all COVID-19 vaccines, by ordering the vaccine, you are indicating you can use it within 9 days of receiving shipment.
- Providers who are administering other vaccines and preparing to receive J&J should plan to manage a supply mix. Although public health guidance is that individuals should receive whatever vaccine is available to them, individuals should be made aware what vaccine(s) will be available to them at the time of scheduling. As the J&J roll-out evolves, we will be in close touch with you about whether challenges are encountered because of differential preference, and DPH will make talking points and messaging available to all providers

<u>Please use this link to place a Week 1 order for J&J vaccine.</u> Please submit this form by 10a on Saturday morning (Feb 27).

Department of Public Health

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