

From: CT Department of Public Health <noreply-dphimmunizations@ct.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:23 AM
To:
Subject: CoVP Provider Bulletin, Week of March 1, 2021



Department of Public Health

Dear Connecticut COVID-19 Vaccine Providers,
This bulletin is sent to key contacts at provider organizations administering COVID-19 vaccine. Please share it with others in your organization who may benefit from the update. Note that all of our communications are archived on our [web site](#).

Johnson & Johnson (J&J) Janssen Vaccine – No orders next week

We just received word that there will be no – or very limited – further allocation of J&J vaccine for the next 2 weeks, so providers should not count on any allocation for the week ahead. We will update you if this changes. For now, providers should plan to order Pfizer and Moderna through the usual ordering portal as usual.

Reminder – maintain waitlists!

We want to remind all providers to maintain waitlists of eligible individuals who can be called at the end of the day to use excess doses. This is especially important for education clinics, where there may be a risk of over-estimates of the population who will accept vaccine because some educators may have opted to access vaccine through a public (e.g., pharmacy, mass vax) channel. Please ensure that you maintain a waitlist and continue to use all doses in a timely manner with the eligible population.

Johnson & Johnson (J&J) Janssen Vaccine – Clinical and handling information

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) [voted to recommend the J&J vaccine on February 28](#). The [new ACIP recommendation](#) is expected to be published in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report tomorrow.

Providers using 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, [What Clinicians Need to Know About Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine](#) 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.

An infographic with talking points on the J&J vaccine that can be posted at your clinics will be available [here](#) under the March 1 weekly bulletin.

Clinician Resources are available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) General information about COVID-19 vaccine products for clinicians and healthcare professionals who will be storing and administer vaccine can be found on the [COVID-19 Vaccination webpage](#).

- Clinical information including FAQs, Contraindications and Precautions as well as Administrative resources can be found for each vaccine on their own product specific webpage: [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine](#) and [Moderna COVID-19 vaccine](#). Scrolling to the bottom of each vaccine specific webpage will bring you to a list of Storage and Handling Resources.
- The new [Transport Temperature Log](#) can be found in the Storage and Handling Resources section of both the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine webpage and the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine webpage.
- There is also a new [Preparation Infographic](#) poster which highlights how to withdraw 6 doses of vaccine from a Pfizer vaccine vial.
- [Clinical Care Considerations for COVID-19 Vaccination](#)
- [Understanding and Explaining Viral Vector COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

Spotlight: Best Practices When Transporting mRNA Vaccines

Follow general guidance and best practices when transporting vaccines outlined in CDC's [Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit](#). In addition, protect vaccines as much as possible from drops, shocks, and vibration. To minimize movement, transport vials in the carton whenever possible.

- Transport vaccine vials in their carton, if possible.
- If individual vials must be transported: Place vials with padding material like bubble wrap or similar materials to prevent breaking.
- Secure storage containers during transport.
- Keep vaccine vials upright whenever possible.
- Secure vaccine container during transport.

[Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines](#) CDC page for patients—updated

Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are effective at keeping you from getting COVID-19. Experts also think that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19. But while COVID-19 vaccines can keep you from getting sick, scientists are still learning how well vaccines prevent you from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to others. So even after vaccination, we need to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions. Although the vaccine supply is currently limited, the federal government is working toward making vaccines widely available.

[What Older Adults Need to Know about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

[Communication Resources for COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

[How COVID-19 Vaccines Get to You](#)

[Checklist for Jurisdictions Accounting for 6 Doses of Pfizer Vaccine_VF for Distribution 2.8.2021.pdf \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

[Guidance for vaccinating older adults and people with disabilities at vaccination clinics](#)

VAMS Support/Trainings

Visit [VAMS Training \(ct.gov\)](#) or click on a link below to register or join a session. Under 'Latest News' review the VAMS Enhancements to help you utilize NEW functionality.

- VAMS Live Helpdesk Office Hours for Clinics: Tuesdays & Thursday 9:30am-12:00pm. Click here: [VAMS Live Helpdesk Office Hours](#).
- VAMS Clinic Administrator and Inventory Manager Training with Q&A: Wednesdays 12:00pm - 1:00pm – 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31 sessions provide VAMS Clinic Administrators and/or Inventory Managers in VAMS the most up-to-date information on system functionality and enhancements, as well as Q&A. Register: [VAMS Clinic Administrator and Inventory Manager Training with Q&A](#).
- VAMS - Front Desk and Healthcare Professional Clinic Roles Training with Q&A: Fridays 9:00am - 10:00am – 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26 sessions provide VAMS clinic staff with Front Desk and Healthcare Professional roles in VAMS, the most up-to-date information on system functionality and enhancements, as well as Q&A. Register: [VAMS - Front Desk and Healthcare Professional Clinic Roles Training with Q&A](#).



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