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**Sent:** Friday, December 17, 2021 1:20 PM

**Subject:** ACIP recommends mRNA COVID-19 vaccines preferred over the J&J Janssen



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**December 17, 2021**

*This communication is being sent to all key contacts at provider organizations administering COVID-19 vaccine— please read this message in its entirety. Please feel free to 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](#).*

Dear Connecticut COVID-19 Vaccine Providers,

The [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\) met yesterday, December 16, to discuss and vote on updated recommendations for the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine](#). The members heard presentations about thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS), COVID-19 vaccine safety surveillance in children 5 through 11 years of age, and the Omicron variant. The presentations included an update to the benefit and risk assessment in the [Evidence to Recommendations Frameworks](#) for the Janssen COVID-19 vaccines. The TTS case reporting rate following Janssen COVID-19 vaccination is higher than previous estimates in a wide range of ages for both men and women. Recent investigations have provided additional evidence for a relationship between Janssen COVID-19 vaccination and TTS and associated severe outcomes.

### **Updated Recommendation**

The ACIP recommended that mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are preferred over the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19 for persons  $\geq 18$  years of age.

### **CDC endorses ACIP's updated COVID-19 vaccine recommendations**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has endorsed the ACIP's updated COVID-19 vaccine recommendations. Given the current state of the pandemic both here and around the world, the ACIP reaffirmed that receiving any vaccine is better than being unvaccinated. Individuals who are unable or unwilling to receive an mRNA vaccine will continue to have access to Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine. For full statement click [here](#).

## **CDC COCA Call**

There will be a COCA call on J&J is at 2 pm today. The call will present the latest evidence on TTS after administration of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine. Presenters will discuss TTS and updated vaccine recommendations.

Find the info at this link. [https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo\\_121721.asp](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_121721.asp)

We will share more information as it becomes available. Thank you for everything you are doing to keep Connecticut residents safe and healthy!

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