



**To: CAHAN San Diego Participants**

**Date: April 26, 2021**

**From: Public Health Services**

**Health Advisory Update #32: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccine Update**

#### **Key Messages**

- Resume vaccination with Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine with informed consent on benefits and risks of this product.
- A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) on the [Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine and Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome](#) is scheduled for April 27, 2021, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm (PST).

#### **Situation**

After additional review of available data on the risk of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) presenting with Cerebral Venous Sinus Thrombosis (CVST), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to [lift the pause on the Janssen vaccine](#). Subsequently, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and CDC have issued a [recommendation to lift pause on the Janssen vaccine](#). [The Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup consensus](#) was also that the risk of severe COVID-19 outweighed the risk of this rare complication at this point in the pandemic. For additional clinical information about the cases of TTS/CVST, please see the full CDC [Health Alert](#). A CDC sponsored Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) on this topic is scheduled for April 27, 2021, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm (PST): [Call details \(and later, the recording\) are here](#).

#### **Actions Requested**

1. Resume vaccinations with the Janssen vaccine; providers should use the current version of the [Janssen Vaccination Fact Sheet](#) (CDPH version [here](#)) and discuss the benefits and risks of vaccination with their patients. The CDC has provided responses to frequently asked questions from the general public on the pause [here](#).
2. Maintain suspicion for thrombosis with TTS in patients who present with [signs and symptoms consistent with CVST](#) or other thrombotic events and inquire about recent (within 3 weeks) vaccination for COVID-19.
3. Do not treat thrombotic thrombocytopenia with heparin unless an enzyme-linked immunosorbent (ELISA) assay for PF4 antibodies (heparin-induced thrombocytopenia or HIT test) is negative. Instead, consider non-heparin anticoagulants and high-dose intravenous immune globulin. [See CAHAN #31 for additional information](#).
4. Report vaccine-related adverse events and deaths and vaccine administration errors to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#), and to the County Immunization Program at [IZINFO.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:IZINFO.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov) or Fax: (619) 692-5677.

Thank you for your participation.

#### **CAHAN San Diego**

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