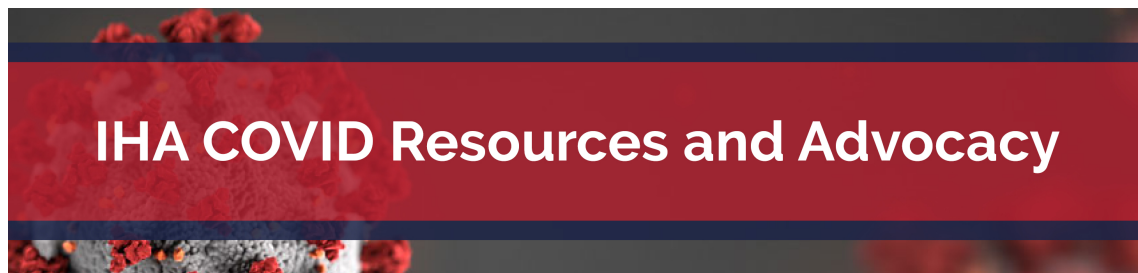


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Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Iowa's J&J vaccine allocation suspended

Following [guidance from the federal government](#), the Iowa Department of Public Health has advised Iowa vaccine providers to stop using the Johnson and Johnson vaccine after six women developed severe blood clots six to 13 days after receiving the vaccine. None of the six cases were in Iowa. The blood clotting appears to be consistent with an immune system reaction that could be related to the vaccine. Federal officials predict the pause will be in place at least a few days, but the exact timetable will depend on how long it takes to review available information and advise clinicians. More than 78,500 Iowans have received the Johnson and Johnson vaccine and more than 100,000 doses have been distributed to the state. The vaccine makes up about 4% of the total number of vaccine doses administered in the state. IDPH will work with vaccine providers to substitute other vaccines for Johnson and Johnson doses.

During her weekly news conference today, Gov. Kim Reynolds said next week's Johnson and Johnson vaccine allocation was already scheduled to be lower than this week and quantities of Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are increasing, so the immediate impact on the state's vaccine supply should be minimal. Gov. Reynolds also said updated recommendations for vaccine use were expected soon from the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

State schedules public vaccine information sessions

The Iowa Department of Public Health, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, and the University of Iowa are partnering to host a series of live, virtual information sessions for the public about COVID-19 vaccination. Health professionals from the Iowa Department of Public Health and the University of Iowa will speak and answer questions about vaccine creation, safety and efficacy, and the importance of getting vaccinated. The session schedule is:

- [10 am Saturday, April 17.](#)
- [6 pm Monday, April 19.](#)
- [10 am Saturday, April 24 \(Spanish\).](#)

Flyers to promote the sessions can be downloaded [HERE](#).

IDPH provides COVID-19 update

IDPH has updated their COVID-19 vaccine information on their webpage, under the [COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Providers](#) link. Health care provider questions about the COVID-19 vaccine

can be directed to the COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center at 800-831-6293, ext. 1, or emailed to COVID19Vaccine@idph.iowa.gov.

Hospital comments sought about potential initiative to provide vaccines at emergency departments

The White House COVID-19 response team is considering a new initiative to integrate vaccination into the routine care plan for patients at hospital emergency departments. Earlier this month, AHA emailed hospital CEOs or their designees to gather interest in participation. If you did not receive this communication, email surveysupport@aha.org. If you have other questions, email Dina Lindenberg, program manager, at dlindenberg@aha.org.

FDA recommends transition from use of decontaminated disposable respirators

The US Food and Drug Administration [is recommending](#) health care personnel and facilities transition from crisis-capacity conservation strategies, such as decontaminating disposable respirators for reuse. Based on the increased domestic supply of new respirators approved by the CDC, the FDA and CDC believe there is an adequate supply of respirators to transition from the use of decontamination and bioburden-reduction systems.

The FDA recommends health care personnel and facilities:

- Increase their inventories of National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health-approved respirators, including:
 - N95 and other filtering facepiece respirators.
 - Elastomeric respirators, including new elastomeric respirators without exhalation valves that can be used in operating rooms.
 - Powered air-purifying respirators.
- Limit decontamination of disposable respirators. Decontaminated respirators and respirators that have undergone bioburden reduction should be used only when there's an insufficient supply of new filtering facepiece respirators or if new respirators cannot be obtained.
- Obtain and use a new respirator of any make or model before decontaminating or bioburden-reducing a preferred disposable respirator.
- Transition from a crisis-capacity strategy for respirators, such as decontamination of N95 and other filtering facepiece respirators.

FEMA announces additional funding for reopening

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has announced [additional funding](#) under its public assistance program for eligible costs to safely reopen and operate certain private nonprofit organizations during the COVID-19 emergency, including private nonprofit medical facilities. Authorized by President Biden in January, the interim policy provides 100% federal funding for eligible costs and work conducted Jan. 21-Sept. 30, 2021, including:

- Certain personal protective equipment.
- Cleaning and disinfection.
- COVID-19 diagnostic testing.
- Screening and temperature scanning.
- Temporary physical barriers for social distancing.

Educational opportunity

[Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Webinar](#). Janssen is hosting **daily (Monday-Friday) educational webinars for COVID-19 vaccine administrators through the end of April**. The content of each webinar will be the same, so you only need to attend one session. Click the link above to register. Health care provider questions about the COVID-19 vaccine can be directed to the COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center at 800-831-6293, ext. 1, or emailed to COVID19Vaccine@idph.iowa.gov.



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