



Manitowoc County Health Department

Mission: To Protect and Promote the Health of Manitowoc County in Partnership with our Community

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Manitowoc County Health Department cancels appointments for Johnson and Johnson vaccine

Yesterday, the CDC and FDA issued a joint statement recommending a pause to vaccinations with Johnson and Johnson. This is out of an abundance of caution.

Manitowoc County Public Health Department is following the recommendations of the FDA and CDC to pause the use of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine out of an abundance of caution. **All Johnson and Johnson appointments scheduled for Friday, April 16th have been cancelled.**

Of nearly 7 million doses given, 6 people developed a rare type of blood clot. All 6 recipients were women between the ages of 18-48. One person did not survive. All clots occurred between days 6-13.

An event that occurs in less than 1 in a million people was detected, identified, and followed by swift action. This is a sign that our safety surveillance systems are working, and should reassure people that the vaccines are indeed safe and effective. No adverse events of concern have been identified among the almost 200 million Pfizer or Moderna vaccines administered in the US.

We will continue following this guidance until further information becomes available. While this blood clotting side effect appears to be extremely rare, we want to make sure that everyone who receives this life-saving vaccine is safe.

People who have received the J&J vaccine and develop any of the following symptoms within 3 weeks of vaccination should contact their healthcare providers as soon as possible for evaluation.

- Severe headache
- Abdominal pain
- Leg pain
- Shortness of breath

If your appointment has been cancelled, the MCHD encourages you to schedule a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine with local providers as soon as possible.

Please call the Manitowoc County Health Department at (920) 683-4155 with any questions or concerns.

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"Better Choices, Better Health"