

ACP COVID-19 Update: J&J Vaccine

4/15/2021

As you're aware, the CDC released a <u>Health Alert</u> regarding cases of Cerebral Venous Sinus Thrombosis (CVST) with thrombocytopenia after receipt of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) COVID-19 Vaccine. While these cases are extremely rare, the CDC and the FDA are reviewing safety data regarding the J&J COVID-19 vaccine and are recommending a pause in use of the vaccine out of an abundance of caution.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) met yesterday and supported a continued pause in administration of the J&J vaccine until more data are collected to better investigate the safety signals. ACIP will reconvene in the next week to 10 days to review and discuss the situation.

This is a robust safety monitoring system working as it should, and ACP applauds how well the system has worked to identify and respond to this issue quickly. In the meantime, as we await further information:

- Please report adverse events through the <u>Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System</u> (VAERS), and check the CDC's <u>Health Alert Network</u>.
- If a patient presents with thrombotic events or thrombocytopenia following receipt of the J&J COVID-19 vaccine, do not treat with heparin, unless HIT testing is negative.
- The <u>ACP COVID-19 Physician's Guide</u> has been updated and will continue to be updated with the latest information, and we encourage you to check that resource regularly.
- Please continue to recommend and encourage COVID-19 vaccination with mRNA vaccines.

ACP will continue to monitor this situation and look to the ACIP for guidance.