



Replace box
with your
organization's logo

Talking Points for Pharmacists

Safety

- The vaccines were tested in large clinical trials to make sure they meet safety standards. Clinical trial participants were recruited to see how the vaccines offer protection for people of different ages, races, and ethnicities, including those with different medical conditions.
- I trust the vaccines are safe and effective because of the data. The FDA-authorized vaccines prevent nearly 100% of hospitalizations and deaths due to COVID-19.
- The FDA carefully reviews all safety data from clinical trials and gives emergency use authorization (EUA) only when the expected benefits outweigh potential risks.
- FDA and CDC closely monitor vaccine safety after the public begins using a vaccine to watch for possible side effects. The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) allows anyone to submit a report, including parents, patients, and health care professionals. There's also the V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker which is a smartphone-based tool that sends text messages and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after you've been vaccinated.
- To speed the process, COVID-19 vaccines went into production while they were still being tested for safety and effectiveness in clinical trials. This kept the vaccines safe but also made them available more quickly.

SAFETY IS THE TOP PRIORITY

The FDA and CDC have the highest standards when it comes to ensuring the safety and effectiveness of vaccines. Their process includes the following procedures:

- ✓ Scientists must first test vaccines extensively in medical studies to ensure they are safe and effective.
- ✓ Before the FDA authorizes a vaccine for use among the public, it ensures its safety by independently:
 - Reviewing the data from the medical studies, and
 - Inspecting the manufacturing facilities.
- ✓ Even after a vaccine has been authorized, the FDA and CDC closely monitor vaccine administration to identify even rare side effects or reactions.
- ✓ The FDA and CDC closely review any reports of side effects or reactions and share these facts with the public.

The extremely rare cases of blood clotting following Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine—just a small number of cases out of millions of vaccinations—show that the FDA and CDC's vaccine safety monitoring systems work and catch even the rarest of reactions.

A thorough investigation has confirmed that Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine is safe and effective.

And doctors have been notified and trained to understand the signs to watch for and the proper course of treatment if blood clots occur.

- It is impossible to get COVID from any of the vaccines in use or in testing in the United States. None of these vaccines contains the live virus that causes COVID-19, so they cannot make you sick with the disease. The vaccines train our bodies to recognize the COVID virus and make cells that can destroy it, but they do not contain the virus.

Preventive Measures

- We need to do all we can to stop this pandemic, which means getting vaccinated, continuing to wear a mask when in public places, staying 6 feet apart from those who don't live with you and who may not be vaccinated, avoiding crowds, and washing your hands often.
- Vaccines are here now and everyone age 16 and older in the United States can get them. To stay safe, don't let your guard down yet—stopping a pandemic means using all the tools available to us.

Benefits

- It is much safer to take the vaccine and avoid contracting COVID-19. If you are infected, you may develop lifelong health problems. You can also pass COVID to others.

Recommending Vaccination

- I strongly recommend getting the vaccine to all my patients. I got/am getting mine because I trust the science that went into developing the vaccines and I trust the data from the clinical trials.
- I strongly recommend you get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can. It will reduce your risk of getting the disease and help protect you from getting seriously ill if you get COVID-19. Millions of people have already received the vaccines, so we're headed in the right direction.
- I strongly recommend getting the vaccine. I got/am getting it to protect myself, my friends, and my family. I'm doing it to get a step closer to being with the people I love.