

Johnson & Johnson and Guillain Barre Syndrome

The FDA updated their information for providers and the public to include information on a rare increased risk of Guillain Barre syndrome following vaccination with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

- Guillain Barre syndrome has not been associated with the mRNA vaccines (Moderna and Pfizer).
- The risk of this occurring is low. The benefits of vaccination outweigh the slight risk of this side effect. We continue to recommend that people get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as they are able. There is plenty of the Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines available across the state. Talk to your health care provider if you have questions about any of the available vaccines.
- Guillain Barre syndrome is a neurological disorder that causes muscle weakness and sometimes paralysis.
- Symptoms typically began within 42 days of receiving the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Most people fully recover.
- If you get the Johnson & Johnson vaccine and have any of the following symptoms, contact your health care provider right away:
 - Weakness or tingling sensations, especially in the legs or arms, that's worsening and spreading to other parts of the body
 - Difficulty walking
 - Difficulty with facial movements, including speaking, chewing, or swallowing
 - Double vision or inability to move eyes
 - Difficulty with bladder control or bowel function