

General Information and Opinion: **Janssen Biotech COVID-19 Vaccine**

(As of February 27, 2021)

General Information: ¹

Usage: Authorized under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) that circumstances exist to justify the emergency use of drugs and biological products during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Indication (reason for usage): To prevent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by SARS-CoV-2.

Active Ingredients: The vaccine contains a recombinant, replication-incompetent human adenovirus serotype 26 (Ad26) vector, encoding the SARS-CoV-2 viral spike (S) glycoprotein, stabilized in its pre-fusion form.

Inactive Ingredients: sodium chloride, citric acid monohydrate, trisodium citrate dihydrate, polysorbate-80, 2-hydroxypropyl- β -cyclodextrin, and ethanol.

Contraindication (reason to withhold usage): individuals with a known history of a severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to any component of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine.

Age: Individuals 18 years of age or older.

Route of Administration: Via injection into the muscle.

Vaccination Series: 1 dose.

Duration of Immunity: Currently unknown.

Alternative Vaccines: Currently, the Moderna COVID 19 vaccine and Pfizer-Biontech COVID 19 vaccine are the only alternative vaccine available for COVID-19 in the US. The Federal Drug Administration (FDA) may allow emergency use of other COVID-19 vaccines in future.

Adverse reactions reported in clinical trial: injection site pain, headache, fatigue, myalgia, nausea, fever, injection site erythema and injection site swelling. In clinical studies, severe allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis, have been reported following the administration of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine.

Note: The vaccine will not cause COVID-19 viral infection.

Opinion (Dr. Schuman Tam): ²

In my opinion, everybody should get the new COVID-19 vaccine, not only to reduce the risk of severe illness if they are infected with the virus, but also to reduce the spread of this deadly virus to friends, family members, and the general public. The vaccination is not only for each individual's own protection, but also to protect the people around them. This is the way to end the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have the rare chance of anaphylaxis to the vaccine or its components, in particular polysorbate, you should consult with your primary physicians to refer you to an allergy and immunology specialist to see if the vaccine can be administered safely, if so indicated.

¹ Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Letter of Authorization, Federal Drug Administration (<https://www.fda.gov/media/146303/download>); Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Federal Drug Administration (<https://www.fda.gov/media/146304/download>).

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