



Southeastern Idaho Public Health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 13, 2021

Contact: Tracy McCulloch

(208)239-5250

Southeastern Idaho Public Health Advises Providers to Follow Federal Pause on Use of Johnson and Johnson Vaccine During Review

Southeastern Idaho Public Health (SIPH) this morning sent a message to health care providers around the area advising that they follow the federal recommendation to pause use of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine while the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) review data about an extremely rare type of blood clot that has been reported in six people who received that vaccine in the United States.

As of April 12, more than 6.8 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine have been administered in the U.S. CDC and FDA are reviewing data involving a rare and severe type of blood clot that was reported in six people after receiving the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. All six cases occurred among women between the ages of 18 and 48, and symptoms occurred six to 13 days after vaccination.

“While we are not aware of any cases occurring among those who have received this vaccine in southeast Idaho, people who have received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine who develop severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain or shortness of breath within the 3 weeks after vaccination should contact their health care provider immediately,” said Maggie Mann, Southeastern Idaho Public Health Director.

CDC will convene a meeting of its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) on April 14 to further review these cases and assess their potential significance. FDA will review that analysis as it also investigates the cases. “Until that process is complete, SIPH has advised a pause in the use of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine out of an abundance of caution. While this issue appears to be extremely rare, CDC and FDA are acting in a very cautious manner that underscores our commitment to vaccine safety,” Mann said. “We will be closely monitoring the federal review process and use that information to help guide our efforts here in southeast Idaho in the days ahead.”

Anyone who currently has an appointment to receive the Johnson & Johnson vaccine should reach out to their provider to discuss rescheduling the appointment for a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine. On-line appointments can be made at <https://app.acuityscheduling.com/schedule.php?owner=21742581>.

For more information on the COVID vaccine, how to schedule an appointment, what to expect at your appointment, and vaccine safety and efficacy information, please go to our website at www.siphidaho.org/coronavirus.php.

SIPH has a call center to field questions from the community and is open Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can reach the hotline at (208) 234-5875.

For southeast Idaho specific information about the novel coronavirus, please visit <https://siphidaho.org/coronavirus.php>. For Idaho-specific information about the novel coronavirus, please visit <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/>.

Join us Monday-Friday at 11 am for Facebook Live at <https://facebook.com/siphidaho>.