

July 20, 2021

COVID-19 Updates for Providers

Actions Requested

- Be aware the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) updated the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) fact sheets to include possible risks of thrombosis with https://www.fda.gov/media/150723/download) following vaccination:
 - Fact sheet for healthcare providers (https://www.fda.gov/media/146304/download)
 - <u>Fact sheet for patients</u> (https://www.fda.gov/media/146305/download)
- Be aware the FDA <u>extended the shelf life of J&J COVID-19 vaccine</u> (https://www.fda.gov/media/150064/download) from 3 months to 4 ½ months. Visit Janssen's <u>lot expiry checker</u> (https://vaxcheck.jnj/) to determine the updated expiration of your vaccine.
- Continue to report myocarditis or pericarditis in people who got COVID-19 mRNA vaccine within the last 2 weeks.
 - Promptly report cases to the U.S. <u>Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS)</u> (https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html)
 - Report cases to the Health District 24-hour reporting line, (360) 728-2235. Include vaccine manufacturer, vaccine lot number, vaccination date, dose number, patient gender, age, and history of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection.
- Be aware that Washington State Department of Health (DOH) launched the <u>Power of Providers initiative</u> (POP)
 (https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/VaccineInformation/PowerofProvidersInitiative), to motivate and support providers to ask patients' vaccination status, offer education, give vaccine or a referral, and empower patients to share their vaccination status with others they know. <u>Sign up here to join the campaign</u> (https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/opinio/s?s=POP).
 - Watch the recording of the <u>POP initiative launch</u> with Governor Jay Inslee and Secretary of Health Umair Shah. (http://tinyurl.com/45evvv57)
 - Review the "Dear Health Care Providers" letter regarding the POP initiative (attached)
- Vaccinate everyone 12 years or older against COVID-19.
 - Make COVID-19 vaccination a new vital sign. Review all patients' vaccination records to help them get up to date with all vaccines. You can administer COVID-19 vaccine simultaneous with, or within any number of days of, other vaccines.
 - o If you do not give vaccine, your patients can call the Health District, (360) 728-2235, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. We can provide them with a list of places offering the COVID-19 vaccine.
 - Refer patients who can't easily leave home and need COVID-19 vaccine to us at (360) 728-2235, 8 a.m. to
 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. We can coordinate with the Dept. of Health to bring the vaccine to them.
 - If you need to order smaller quantities of vaccine, please email your request to <u>COVIDvaccine@kitsappublichealth.org.</u>

Background

COVID-19 vaccine

As of July 13, nearly 150,000 Kitsap County residents have initiated COVID-19 vaccination. For details, see <u>our COVID-19 vaccine data page</u> (https://kitsappublichealth.org/communityHealth/EpiData/EpiDataCOVID19Vaccinations.php).



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Risk of Guillain-Barre Syndrome after Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccination

On July 8, the <u>FDA updated its J&J EUA fact sheet</u> (https://www.fda.gov/media/150723/download) to reflect an increased risk of GBS, a rare neurological complication, during the 42 days following J&J vaccination. GBS is a neurological disorder in which the body's immune system damages nerve cells, causing muscle weakness and sometimes paralysis. VAERS received roughly 100 suspected cases of GBS among J&J vaccine recipients. Most cases were reported 2 weeks after vaccination among mostly men over 50. To date, 12.8 million doses of J&J vaccine have been administered in the U.S., suggesting a rate of 1 case per 128,000 people. The FDA lists the chance of getting this syndrome as "very rare." So far, most cases reported have already recovered.

The FDA concluded that the "benefits of the vaccine in preventing severe COVID-19 and death much outweigh any danger." The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup continue to recommend all 3 COVID-19 vaccines equally. This is an evolving situation, and we expect to hear more from the FDA and CDC. We will update you if anything changes. We expect the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will review the data on this rare occurrence at their next meeting on July 22. Given increasing COVID-19 variant infections and higher risk for virus spread, continued vaccination is critical to prevent increased disease.

Clinical guidance

If a patient refuses J&J vaccine, <u>offer Moderna or Pfizer</u>. It is important to continue protecting people against COVID-19. (https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/HealthcareProviders/VaccineInformationforHealthcareProviders/Toolkita ndResources#JJcounseling).

People who previously had GBS may receive any of the COVID-19 vaccines.

Discard outdated J&J EUA fact sheets. When vaccinating patients with J&J, make sure you give them the most up to date EUA fact sheet for patients (https://www.fda.gov/media/146305/download), which includes a description of what symptoms they should watch for. If patients call you with any of the following symptoms within 42 days of receiving J&J vaccine, advise them to seek medical attention right away:

- Weakness or tingling, especially in the legs or arms, that worsens and spreads 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



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Vaccine Resources

- COVID-19 vaccine locator (https://vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov/), WA State Dept of Health
- <u>COVID-19 vaccine for providers</u> (https://providers.kitsappublichealth.org/covid-19-vaccine-information-for-providers/), Kitsap Public Health District
- COVID-19 vaccine provider toolkit and resources
 (https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/HealthcareProviders/VaccineInformationforHealthcareProviders/ToolkitandResources), WA State Dept of Health
- COVID-19 vaccination for providers (https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/hcp/index.html), CDC
- <u>Clinical considerations for COVID-19 vaccination</u> (https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/index.html) and <u>guidance for managing anaphylaxis</u> (https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/managing-anaphylaxis.html), CDC
- <u>COVID-19 vaccine quick reference guide for healthcare professionals</u> (https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/covid19-vaccine-quick-reference-guide-poster.pdf), CDC
- COVID-19 vaccine training module on best practices for providers (https://www2.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/covid19/),CDC
- Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) health alert (https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2021/han00442.asp), CDC
- Association of J&J COVID-19 vaccine with thrombotic thrombocytopenia after vaccination:
 - <u>Vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia frequently asked questions</u>
 (https://www.hematology.org/covid-19/vaccine-induced-immune-thrombotic-thrombocytopenia),
 American Society of Hematology (ASH).
 - Diagnosis and management of vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia webinar
 (https://www.zoomgov.com/rec/play/oR5HKnBH4gcbSXrqLVQ2n2Kn5OeF6MHbtC2Xlgzrqyf7XtRRQfrmL7L4 vPqUVDPeKeFI-J0QixaDtDpv.Qlyo2rdJ91viNR40?continueMode=true), ASH and CDC.
 - April 15, 2021 Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) call: J&J COVID-19 vaccine and cerebral venous sinus thrombosis with thrombocytopenia update for clinicians on early detection and treatment (https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_041521.asp), CDC
- Association of mRNA vaccines with myocarditis and pericarditis after vaccination:
 - Information for healthcare providers: myocarditis and mRNA vaccines
 (https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/348-828MyocarditisInformationForClinicians.pdf), DOH
 - Follow-up of patients with myocarditis, consult recommendations
 (https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/CIR.000000000000239?url_ver=Z39.88-2003&rfr_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rfr_dat=cr_pub%20%200pubmed), American Heart Association and the American College of Cardiology.
 - Clinical considerations: Myocarditis and pericarditis after receipt of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines among adolescents and young adults (https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinicalconsiderations/myocarditis.html), CDC.
 - COVID-19 subcommittee of the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine
 Safety reviews cases of mild myocarditis reported with COVID-19 mRNA vaccines
 (https://www.who.int/news/item/26-05-2021-gacvs-myocarditis-reported-with-covid-19-mrna-vaccines),
 WHO news release, May 26, 2021.



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- Myocarditis and pericarditis following mRNA COVID-19 vaccination (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/myocarditis.html), CDC.
- <u>Selected adverse events reported after COVID-19 vaccination</u> (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/adverse-events.html), CDC.
- Myocarditis and pericarditis resources for the public (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/myocarditis.html), CDC.

COVID-19 situation update

As of July 19, Kitsap County has had 9,055 COVID-19 cases and 122 deaths. For the week ending July 10, we added 62 cases; for the week ending July 17 we added 114. You can see case data on our data overview dashboard (https://kitsappublichealth.org/CommunityHealth/EpiData/EpiDataCOVID19OverView.php).

Kitsap County COVID-19 data continue to show significant disparities by race and ethnicity, particularly affecting Black and Latinx communities. You can view this data on our <u>case demographics data dashboard</u> (https://kitsappublichealth.org/CommunityHealth/EpiData/EpiDataCOVID19Demographics.php).

COVID-19 vaccine is making a difference in our disease rates, but <u>some areas and communities still need support to increase vaccination rates</u> (https://kitsappublichealth.org/CommunityHealth/EpiData/EpiDataCOVID19VaccineDemographics.php).

Although more Washingtonians are getting vaccinated against COVID-19, a growing number of people are not getting the second dose necessary to complete their series. Getting the second dose of the vaccine ensures the highest level of protection against the virus and its variants. The Department of Health will be using information from the WA Immunization System (IIS) to contact people who are overdue for their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. A series of messages (in multiple languages) will be sent via SMS, e-mail and/or phone on Monday, July 19th. Please help this effort by scheduling appointments or directing people to a vaccine location where they can receive the appropriate dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, matching the same brand as their first dose. By entering and updating all vaccination information into the IIS in a timely manner, we can maintain an accurate list of those that are overdue.

COVID-19 testing

We have test kits for you! Abbott Laboratories extended all BinaxNOW tests' shelf life to 12 months, for new expiration dates by lot number see Ag Card Product Expiry Update
(https://www.health.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/Webpage%20Updates/COVID-

19_BinaxNOW_Product_Expiry_Extension.pdf)

For questions or test kit orders, call or email Anne Moen: Anne.Moen@kitsappublichealth.org or (360) 633-9629.



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COVID-19 test processing

Labs report varying amounts of time to process COVID-19 tests. To support faster turnaround, we encourage providers to use in-state labs. The table below shows COVID-19 test processing times for in-state private labs. If you have questions about Health District-facilitated antigen tests, contact Anne Moen at Anne.Moen@kitsappublichealth.org or (360) 633-9629.

LAB	TIME TO PROCESS TEST	TESTS PROCESSED DAILY
FidaLab	24-48 hours	500
Kaiser	24 hours	600-700
LabCorp	24-48 hours	Unknown
Northwest Pathology	24-48 hours	20,000
Quest	24-48 hours	700
UW Virology	18-24 hours	6,000–8,000
Atlas Genomic	16 hours	10,000

Patient education

Share the following materials with patients.

- What to do if you have COVID-19
 (https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/COVIDcasepositive.pdf).
- What to do if you may have been exposed to COVID-19
 (https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/COVIDexposed.pdf).
- What to do if you have COVID-19 symptoms and have not been tested or exposed (https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/COVIDconcerned.pdf).

Immediately report COVID-19: 24/7, call (360) 728-2235

- Cases in the following people:
 - Healthcare workers
 - Public safety workers
 - Live or work in a long-term care facility, senior living center, permanent housing or similar congregate setting (e.g., shelter, correction facility) housing people at high risk for severe outcomes.
 - Anyone who dies with COVID-19.
 - Anyone with suspected MIS-C.
 - Ordering facility.
- All other cases Fax the following to (360) 813-1168 or call (360) 728-2235.
 - Patient first name, last name, date of birth, gender, race, ethnicity, preferred language, phone number, address and zip code.
 - Specimen collection date and type (NP, nasal swab, blood, etc.).
 - o Test type (PCR, NAAT, antigen, antibody/serology) and result (detected, not detected, inconclusive).
- For all cases, report the person's race, ethnicity and preferred language.

Contacting the Health District

 Contact Kitsap Public Health District Monday-Friday 8am – 4:30pm with questions or to report immediately notifiable conditions after hours, by calling 360-728-2235



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Additional resources

- Our COVID-19 page for healthcare providers (https://providers.kitsappublichealth.org/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/)
- <u>Washington COVID-19 risk assessment dashboard</u> (https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/covid-19-risk-assessment-dashboard)
- CDC guidance for healthcare providers and facilities (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/index.html)
- <u>DOH COVID-19 data dashboard</u>
 (https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/DataDashboard)
- DOH COVID-19 page
 (https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/HealthcareProviders)
- CDC COVID-19 page (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)
- <u>Kitsap County COVID-19 Updates and Resources page</u> (https://kitsappublichealth.org/communityHealth/Covid-19/CoronaVirus.php)
- <u>SARS-CoV-2 sequencing and variants in Washington</u>
 (https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/data-tables/420-316-SequencingAndVariantsReport.pdf)



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO Box 47890 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7890 Tel: 360-236-4030 • 711 Washington Relay Service

July 16, 2021

Dear Health Care Providers:

Since the beginning of last year, the COVID-19 pandemic has tested all of us personally and professionally. As we work together to combat this pandemic, we have immense gratitude for health care providers across the state who have worked to educate and vaccinate as many patients as they could. Like you, we are committed to our patients and community to elevate people's overall health and wellbeing and protect as many people against COVID-19 as possible.

In just over six months, working together, we have fully protected more than half of our state's population from COVID-19, leading Washington to be one of the top states for vaccinations. That is incredible, and we appreciate all of your contributions and helping our state be Washington Ready by June 30. Yet while we have saved many lives, as you know, our work is far from over.

More than three million Washingtonians, both adults and children, are still not protected by these lifesaving vaccines and we want to see more people vaccinated and ultimately protected. The last few miles of our journey to vaccinate as many people as quickly and equitably as possible will likely look different, and again we are asking for your help as a trusted source of health advice and counsel as we go forward.

Please Make the Commitment

Today, we are asking you—as fellow health care providers—to **please take the Power of Providers community vaccination commitment.** This means you agree to do four simple steps with each of your patients to help SAVE lives:

- **SEEK.** Proactively reach out to your patients (or clients) to find out if they have received COVID-19 vaccination and invite them to do so, if they have not. This may be verbally or by checking their immunization records.
- **ASK/EDUCATE**. Ask your patients at every visit if they are vaccinated or check their immunization records. If your patient is not vaccinated, provide information and education on the COVID-19 vaccine, recommend it, and offer it. To help, we have materials to assist with talking to your patients about COVID-19 vaccine at www.doh.wa.gov/Covid19VaccineProvider.
- **VACCINATE.** If your patients agree, vaccinate your patients right then or give them a referral to a COVID-19 vaccine location using vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov or by calling 833-VAX-HELP.
- **EMPOWER.** Empower your patients to share their vaccination status with friends, family, and others. Order free stickers and buttons from the Department of Health that you can give to your patients. And empower your staff to be persistent in continually talking about the importance of vaccines and sharing that they have been vaccinated, too!

Become a Power of Providers partner today by filling out the form here.

Once you commit, we will send you a certificate to display in your office, helpful social media messaging and graphics you can use. If you want to help in the fight against this pandemic but do not know how, this commitment is for you! Please note that though this initiative is aimed at health care providers, you do not have to be a COVID-19 vaccine provider to make this commitment.

Support vaccine equity

Whether you commit or not, remember "don't hesitate, vaccinate." This applies whether you offer vaccines to your patients or give them a referral! We also ask you to continue to support our efforts to ensure equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccine across Washington:

- Reach out to eligible patients, especially those from communities who have been highly impacted by COVID-19. Use our community-specific resources for outreach and engagement.
- Meet people where they are with the goal of "vaccines going to people, not people going to vaccines."
- Partner with local, trusted community organizations and groups and your local health department to coordinate vaccination events, or <u>request a Department of Health Care-a-Van visit</u>. Use our <u>Equitable Vaccine Site Placement Planning Tool</u>.
- Find more information on how to have a pro-equity vaccine practice here.

Gratitude

In closing, we want to thank you for all the work you do each and every day for the health of people in Washington, especially as it relates to fighting against COVID-19. Please join us in continuing this work and helping our state vaccinate as many Washingtonians as quickly and equitably as possible.

Remember, we are in this together – thank you!

Sincerely

Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH

Secretary of Health

Dennis Bradshaw, DDS
President
Washington State Dental Association

WASHINGTON STATE
DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Mark Seller

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