

UNIFIED COMMAND WALLA WALLA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WALLA WALLA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 4/13/2021

Contact: Walla Walla County PIO, 509-524-2916, EOCPIO@co.walla-walla.wa.us

Walla Walla County Vaccine Update Reminder to Stay Healthy, Get Vaccinated, Keep our Community Safe

WALLA WALLA, WA – The Walla Walla County Department of Community Health (DCH) is following the guidance of the Washington State Department of Health, FDA and CDC, and is pausing the usage of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine.

Per a <u>statement released by the CDC and FDA</u>, "This action is being taken out of an abundance of caution based on the appearance of a rare but serious side effect including serious brain blood clots (<u>CVST</u>) combined with low platelet counts in six patients, all women under 50. The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will review these cases in the days ahead and will recommend guidance going forward."

Anyone that received the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine should pay close attention to post-vaccine side effects and contact their healthcare provider if they experience severe headaches, abdominal pain, leg pain, or shortness of breath within three weeks of receiving the vaccine.

The mass vaccine clinic at the Walla Walla County Fairgrounds will continue Wednesday between 4-6 p.m. but will instead offer the Pfizer vaccine. Those who initially registered for the Johnson & Johnson vaccine are invited to get a Pfizer vaccine at their already scheduled appointment time.

For those who do not have an appointment for Wednesday's clinic, there are appointments available. Please register via the <u>PrepMod scheduling link</u> or visit <u>www.covidwwc.com/clinics</u> to schedule an appointment.

We will continue to monitor and update information on our website <u>www.covidwwc.com</u> regarding the Johnson & Johnson vaccine as well as all matters related to the COVID-19 pandemic response.

We encourage all residents to visit County COVID <u>website</u> or text COVIDWW to 888777 for information on upcoming vaccination clinics.

###

Always working for a safer, healthier and thriving Walla Walla County