

## With questions regarding COVID vaccines, please refer to:

<https://www.lakecountyil.gov/DocumentCenter/View/38291/COVID-19-Vaccine-FAQs-English>

### Is the COVID-19 vaccine effective?

All three vaccines authorized in the United States have been studied in clinical trials and found to be safe and extremely effective. The long-term effectiveness of the vaccine is not yet known. For more information, visit the CDC's website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/effectiveness.html>

**Is the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine available in Lake County?** At first, doses of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine will be limited. Twenty million doses are expected to be available in the U.S. by end of March, and 100 million doses total by end of June. Lake County expects to receive a limited amount of doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine in early March, and additional vaccine shipments soon. The Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine will be provided at Lake County vaccination sites and also distributed to vaccinating partners as supply becomes available. The right vaccine is the first vaccine that is made available to you. Residents are urged to take whatever vaccine is available to them to protect themselves and others. All three authorized COVID-19 vaccines are safe and extremely effective.

### How does the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine differ from other vaccines?

The Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine is an adenovirus vaccine. This type of technology is used in other vaccines, such as the Ebola vaccine.

- The vaccine has an inactivated virus to deliver important instructions (in the form of a gene) to your cells. The cells then produce a coronavirus antigen called the spike protein. This triggers the body to produce antibodies and an immune response, training the immune system to fight off an infection if the body encounters the coronavirus.
- An adenovirus is a type of virus that causes the common cold, but this vaccine cannot give you a cold.
- The vaccine cannot cause disease. It does not contain a live virus and cannot give you COVID-19.

Unlike the other available vaccines, the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine is a single dose vaccine that can be stored in refrigeration temperatures for 3 months and frozen for 2 years. The Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine has been shown to be safe and effective in preventing severe COVID-19 illness, hospitalization, and death. Learn more at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/janssen.html>

### Can I request the Johnson & Johnson vaccine if I have specific allergies?

No. The vaccine you receive is based on CDC guidance and availability. You cannot make a request for a specific type of vaccine. If you are unsure if you should get the COVID-19 vaccine due to allergies, please consult your healthcare provider before scheduling an appointment.

### Who will get the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine in Lake County?

Residents are urged to take whatever vaccine is available to them to protect themselves and others. All three authorized COVID-19 vaccines are safe and extremely effective. Lake County Health Department | 3010 Grand Ave., Waukegan, IL 60085 | [health.lakecountyil.gov](http://health.lakecountyil.gov) 20 The vaccine is not yet authorized for use in persons under age 18 years old. People who have a history of allergic reactions to an ingredient in the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine should not get the vaccine. Because vaccine supply continues to be limited, people cannot choose which vaccine is offered to them. The Lake County Health Department provides information on all three authorized vaccines for those who schedule a vaccination appointment. If a person refuses the available brand of vaccine at their appointment, their appointment will be cancelled and they may reschedule for a later date.