How does the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine work?

All COVID-19 vaccines cause the immune system to respond against the virus that causes COVID-19. The Janssen vaccine is a viral vector vaccine.

Viral vector vaccines use a modified version of a virus (a vector) to deliver important instructions to our cells. The vector used in the Janssen vaccine is not the virus that causes COVID-19, but a different, harmless virus.

- The vector enters a cell in our body and delivers a gene that instructs our cells to produce a spike protein. The spike protein is a harmless piece of the virus that causes COVID-19. It is only found on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19.

- The spike protein triggers our immune system to begin producing antibodies and activates other immune cells to fight off what it thinks is an infection.
The FDA approved 2 other vaccines against COVID-19. Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are mRNA vaccines. All 3 vaccines effectively prevent serious illness and death from COVID-19 and have similar potential side effects. To learn more visit: https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-vaccines

How safe is the viral vector?

The viral vector is not capable of causing illness in humans because it has been genetically modified. It cannot multiply in humans and cannot cause disease.

The viral vector does not affect or interact with our DNA in any way. The genetic material delivered by the viral vector does not integrate into a person's DNA.

How many shots am I going to need?

1 dose (shot) in the muscle of the upper arm is needed.

Who should get vaccinated?

The Janssen vaccine is recommended for people aged 18 years and older.

What You Need to Know About the COVID-19 Vaccine (Arabic)

واقفت إدارة الغذاء والدواء الأمريكية على لقاحين آخرين ضد كوفيد-19. لقاحات فايزر و موديرنا هي لقاحات مرسال الحمض النووي الرئيسي. جميع اللقاحات الثلاثة تمنع بشكل فعال المرض الخطير والوفاة من كوفيد-19 ولها آثار جانبية محتملة مماثلة.


ما مدى أمان الناقل الفيروسي؟

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كم عدد الحقن التي سأحتاجها؟

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من يجب تطعيمه؟

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Who should not get vaccinated?

If you have had a severe or an immediate allergic reaction to any ingredient in the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine (such as polysorbate), you should not get it. To see a list of ingredients visit: https://www.fda.gov/media/146305/download.

- A severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) is when a person needs to be treated with epinephrine or EpiPen© or if they must go to the hospital.
- An immediate allergic reaction means a reaction within 4 hours of exposure, including symptoms such as hives, swelling, or wheezing (respiratory distress).

How effective is the vaccine?

In clinical trials, the vaccine was 85% effective in preventing moderate to severe/critical COVID-19, 28 days or more after vaccination. Additionally, the vaccine was 100% effective in preventing hospitalization and death caused by COVID-19 infection.

How do we know if COVID-19 vaccines are safe?

In clinical trials, vaccines were tested in thousands of people to ensure they were safe. The trials included people of different ages, ethnicities, and health statuses. The results showed that the vaccines were safe and effective.

https://www.fda.gov/media/146456/download
COVID-19 vaccines were tested in large clinical trials that included tens of thousands of people. This is done to make sure they meet safety standards and see how the vaccines offer protection to people of different ages, races, and ethnicities, as well as those with different medical conditions. No significant safety concerns were identified in the clinical trials. At least 8 weeks of safety data were gathered in the trials. It is unusual for side effects to appear more than 8 weeks after vaccination.

**Important note:** The development of these vaccines has been accelerated while maintaining all safety standards. Rather than eliminating steps from traditional vaccine development timelines, steps were happening at the same time, such as scaling up manufacturing while safety and efficacy data are collected.

What are the side effects of the vaccine?

In the vaccine clinical trials, most people did not have serious problems after being vaccinated. The symptoms usually went away on their own within a week. General side effects such as fever, headache, and muscle aches are signs that your immune system is doing exactly what it is supposed to do. It is working to build up protection against disease. If you do not experience any side effects, be assured that the vaccine is just as effective.

**ما هي الآثار الجانبية لللقاح؟**

فِي التجارب السريرية لللقاح، لم يكن لدى معظم الناس مشاكل خطيرة بعد التطعيم. الأعراض عادة اختفت من تلقاء نفسها في غضون أسبوع. تعتبر الآثار الجانبية العامة مثل الحمى والصداع والآلام العضلات علامات على أن جهازك المناعي يقوم بما يفترض أنه يفعل بالضبط. إنها تعمل على بناء الحماية من المرض. إذا لم تواجه أي آثار جانبية، فكن على ثقة أن اللقاح فعال بنفس القدر.

 هل اللقاح آمن للنساء الحوامل والأشخاص الذين يعانون من أمراض أو يتناولون أدوية يمكن أن تضعف جهاز المناعة؟
Is the vaccine safe for pregnant women and people who have conditions or take medications that can weaken the immune system?

The early clinical trials did not test the vaccines in these populations. Based on the current data, the benefit of receiving the COVID-19 vaccine is greater than the risks of getting COVID-19. Talk to your health care provider about the potential risks and benefits of the vaccine in your specific situation.

I already had COVID-19 and recovered. Do I still need to get vaccinated?

Yes, you should be vaccinated regardless of whether you already had COVID-19. That’s because experts do not yet know how long you are protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. If you were treated for COVID-19 with monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma, you should wait 90 days before getting a COVID-19 vaccine. Talk to your health care provider if you are unsure what treatments you received or if you have more questions about getting a COVID-19 vaccine.
Do I need to wear a mask and avoid close contact with others if I have received the vaccine?

You are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after the second dose in a 2-dose series like the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or 2 weeks after the single-dose vaccine like the Janssen vaccine. People who have been fully vaccinated can start to do some things that they had stopped doing because of the pandemic. While experts learn more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide under real-life conditions, the CDC will update its guidelines frequently. Please visit: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html to see the most current guidelines about what fully-vaccinated people can do.

أين يمكنني معرفة المزيد عن لقاحات كوفيد-19؟

للحصول على معلومات حديثة ودقيقة حول لقاحات كوفيد-19 قم بزيارة:


إدارة الغذاء والدواء. الأسئلة المتكررة حول لقاح جانسن كوفيد-19: https://tinyurl.com/4fzvrkrw

Where can I learn more about the COVID-19 Vaccines?

For current and accurate information about the COVID-19 vaccines visit:

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by Michigan Medicine for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by Michigan Medicine and for which Michigan Medicine does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.


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