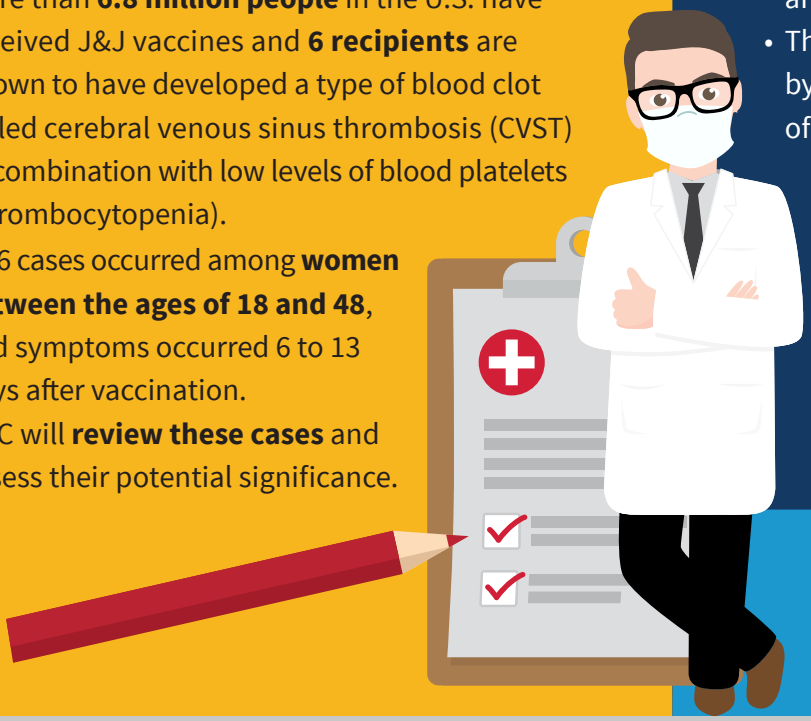
Why is the J&J vaccine on pause

On April 13, 2021, the FDA and CDC called for a pause on the use of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine after 6 recipients in the U.S. developed a **rare disorder involving blood clots** within about 2 weeks of vaccination.

Waiting for a CDC review

- This pause is being recommended out of an **abundance of caution**, as these adverse events appear to be extremely rare.
- More than **6.8 million people** in the U.S. have received J&J vaccines and **6 recipients** are known to have developed a type of blood clot called cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST) in combination with low levels of blood platelets (thrombocytopenia).
- All 6 cases occurred among **women between the ages of 18 and 48**, and symptoms occurred 6 to 13 days after vaccination.
- CDC will **review these cases** and assess their potential significance.



What about vaccines in Virginia?

- Virginia will stop using the J&J vaccine while safety issues are being examined.
- **Pfizer** and **Moderna** will be used as a **substitute** and appointments rescheduled as needed.
- This **will not impact Virginia's move to Phase 2** by April 18; however, it could impact the availability of appointments going forward.
  - People who have received the J&J vaccine and develop severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain, or shortness of breath **within 3 weeks** should contact their health care provider or call 911 if it's a medical emergency.
  - People who received the J&J vaccine **more than a month ago** are at **very low risk**.

Common side effects after any vaccine include lightheadedness, nausea, or fainting. Individuals should be observed for a minimum of 15 minutes following a COVID-19 vaccination.

Sign up for **v-safe**, a **smartphone-based tool** that provides health check-ins after a COVID-19 vaccine. Through v-safe, you can tell CDC about any **side effects**.

Sign up for **your** free COVID-19 vaccine at **Vaccinate.Virginia.gov** or call **877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682)**.

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH