

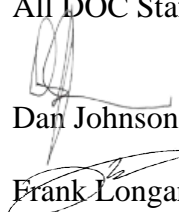


STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

April 6, 2021

**TO:** All DOC Staff

**FROM:** Dan Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Health Services

  
Frank Longano, Deputy Chief Medical Officer

**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Vaccine Survey/Upcoming Vaccine Opportunities

On March 22, 2021, [we shared](#) updated phase information and information about the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen (J&J) vaccine. All department staff and all incarcerated individuals are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, which means the department will be preparing to offer vaccine doses to those who wish to become vaccinated.

Health services needs your help to be sure that enough doses are available for those wish to receive them. You can support this effort by completing one last [COVID-19 vaccine survey](#) to indicate your willingness to receive the vaccine. Please complete the [survey](#) by April 12, 2021.

As efforts are made to provide even more opportunities for COVID-19 vaccination, both Moderna and J&J may be available at your site. Where both are available, you will be able to choose between the two vaccines. While our goal is to offer both vaccines at every location, many sites may only have one option available at any given time.

In order to assist you in making the best possible decision for your health when both vaccines are an option, we are providing a brief comparison of the two vaccines DOC will be able to offer. The following information is based on published clinical trial data and United States' [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) COVID-19 vaccine clinical guidance. The two vaccines are not directly comparable as different factors would have been included in each trial. However, we do know that both vaccines have extremely high efficacy in the most important outcome: preventing severe disease, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19. In fact, none of the clinical trial patients who were fully vaccinated with either vaccine (defined as 28 days after a single dose of J&J or 14 days after the second dose of Moderna) died or were hospitalized for COVID-19 disease. Therefore, you may not want to delay vaccination while waiting for the other option to become available.

The chart below simplifies some differences and similarities between the two vaccines that may assist in your decision making:

***“Working Together for SAFER Communities”***

**COVID-19 vaccine comparison: Moderna and Johnson & Johnson**

	<b>Moderna</b>	<b>Johnson and Johnson</b>
<b>Vaccine type</b>	mRNA	Viral vector
<b>Number of patients in clinical trial</b>	30,420	39,058
<b>Overall efficacy</b>	94.1%	66.9%
<b>Effectiveness against severe disease and hospitalization</b>	100% and 100%	85.4% and 100%
<b>Deaths from COVID-19 in vaccinated trial patients</b>	NONE	NONE
<b>Number of doses</b>	2 doses 28 days apart	1 dose
<b>Side Effects</b>	90% Local <sup>*</sup> , 80% Systemic <sup>**</sup>	50% Local <sup>*</sup> , 55% Systemic <sup>**</sup>

\*Local side effects were similar for both vaccines: pain, swelling, or redness at the injection site

\*\*Systemic symptoms were similar for both vaccines: fever, chills, muscle aches, headache

We want to support all DOC staff and incarcerated individuals around vaccination decision making in the coming months. We hope this information is helpful to you in making the best choice for the health of you and your family. For more information on COVID-19 vaccines, please view DOC’s Frequently Asked Questions which can be found [here](#). We will continue to provide relevant information as more guidance is made available.

Thank you for all you are doing to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Please continue to wear your mask, stay six feet apart from others whenever possible and perform hand hygiene frequently.