

Johnson and Johnson Vaccine Update

Today, Pilgrim Rest and the rest of the country awoke to news concerning the Johnson & Johnson single dose Coronavirus vaccine, which announced that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) have temporary suspended the administering of the vaccine. In response to this revelation, Pilgrim Rest requested and received a statement from Dignity Health, who facilitated the vaccination event and administered the vaccines on the Pilgrim Rest campus on Thursday, April 8 through Saturday, April 10. The following statement is the response that was released and received from Dignity Health.

Holding Statement

Out of an abundance of caution and in accordance with FDA guidance, Dignity Health's Arizona Division has paused administration of the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine until further notice.

The adverse reaction to the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine remains rare. Individuals who have received the vaccine and have developed severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain, or shortness of breath should contact their health care provider or seek medical care per CDC recommendations. More information can be found at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

Individuals who had appointments to receive the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine can schedule an appointment for the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine online at azdhs.gov/findvaccine.

While the recent developments related to the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine are unfortunate, this adverse reaction is not relevant to the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines which remain safe and effective as determined by the FDA. We encourage everyone to be vaccinated for COVID-19 when they are eligible.

Heather J. James (Lorig), PhD, DBA, RN
Director of Nursing and Quality Assurance

Dignity Health Arizona & Nevada
Dignity Health Medical Group
3030 N. Central, Suite #1200
Phoenix, AZ 85013
602-406-4286 (O)