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UPDATES ON THE JOHNSON & JOHNSON JANSSEN VACCINE

April 26, 2021

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform the public that after further study to conduct a risk-benefit analysis, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) reaffirmed that the Johnson & Johnson Janssen COVID-19 vaccine is recommended for persons 18 years of age and older under the FDA's Emergency Use Authorization on April 23, 2021. The benefits of the vaccine far outweigh the risks. MOH will resume the administration of the J&J vaccine and provide comprehensive education at the vaccination site.

The US CDC and the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) had temporarily paused the administration of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine, out of abundance of caution, after six reported U.S. cases of cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST), a rare type of blood clot, in individuals after receiving the J&J vaccine. This recommendation came out on April 13, 2021 from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food & Drug Administration (FDA).

Of the 197 doses of the J&J vaccines administered in March to early April 2021 in Palau, no adverse reactions have been reported to the Ministry of Health or the vaccination team.

If you have any concerns, please contact your doctor or the MOH Chief Pharmacist at 775-1760. For general questions on COVID-19, please contact the MOH COVID-19 Hotline at 488-0555.

Thank you.