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## COVID-19 Response Efforts - April 13, 2021

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The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy is committed to protecting the health and safety of Ohioans during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board posted a document on its website that provides COVID-19 guidance and response efforts, including the issuance of waivers to assist licensees in addressing operational needs. **Waivers can be found starting on page 5 of this document:** [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVID](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVID).

For more information on the state's efforts to address coronavirus, visit [www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov) or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.

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### Ohio Advises Temporary Pause for Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine

Today Governor Mike DeWine, Ohio Department of Health Director Stephanie McCloud, and Ohio Department of Health Chief Medical Officer Bruce Vanderhoff, M.D., are advising all Ohio vaccine providers to temporarily pause using the Johnson and Johnson (Janssen) vaccine.

This is in response to a statement by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommending a pause in the use of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine following extremely rare blood-clotting events of six people in the U.S. after receiving the vaccine.

Later today the FDA and the CDC will hold a media briefing. In addition, the CDC will convene a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices tomorrow to further review these cases.

Officials with the Ohio Department of Health are following this situation closely.

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### Workplace Vaccinations

Governor DeWine announced that Ohio will begin working with employers and other organizations to offer workplace vaccination clinics throughout Ohio. Beginning this week, vaccine providers can allot up to 25 percent of their vaccine allocation to be used to vaccinate their own employees or to partner with local employers, labor unions, and other organizations to vaccinate their employees at their work locations.

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### Condensed Health Order

Governor DeWine announced last week that the Ohio Department of Health issued a simplified health order that streamlines previous orders into a single order that underscores the most important tenants of infection prevention.

"Our understanding of this virus and how it spreads is much more advanced than it was when we first learned about coronavirus in early 2020," said Governor DeWine. "As we move to begin a new chapter in our fight against the pandemic, where more and more Ohioans are being vaccinated, this new order will focus on our best defense measures against COVID-19, such as wearing a mask, social distancing, limiting large gatherings, being outside, and practicing good hand hygiene."

- [Director's Order for Social Distancing, Facial Coverings, and Non-Congregating](#)
  - [Director's Order Rescinding Various Orders](#)
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