



**COVID-19  
VACCINE**  
Public Health  
Advice

# COVID-19 vaccines

## Information about your **Janssen** vaccine

26 April 2023



**Rialtas na hÉireann**  
Government of Ireland

# COVID-19 vaccine Janssen – also called Jcovden®

The possible side effects and how often they occur are listed below, followed by when not to take this vaccine. If in any doubt, always ask a trusted healthcare professional.

Possible side effects:	
<b>Very common</b> More than 1 in 10 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● feeling tired</li><li>● pain where you had the vaccine injection</li><li>● headache</li><li>● muscle pain</li><li>● nausea</li></ul>
<b>Common</b> Up to 1 in 10 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● redness or swelling where you had the injection</li><li>● joint pain</li><li>● cough</li><li>● fever (temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or above) or chills</li></ul>
<b>Uncommon</b> Up to 1 in 100 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● back pain</li><li>● lack of energy</li><li>● feeling unwell</li><li>● muscle weakness</li><li>● pain in the limbs</li><li>● pain in the throat</li><li>● a rash</li><li>● sneezing</li><li>● excessive sweating</li><li>● a tremor</li><li>● diarrhoea</li><li>● unusual feeling in the skin, such as tingling or a crawling feeling (paraesthesia)</li><li>● dizziness</li></ul>
<b>Rare</b> Up to 1 in 1,000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● hives and hypersensitivity</li><li>● reduced sensation in a part of the body (hypoesthesia)</li><li>● swollen lymph glands</li><li>● vomiting</li><li>● persistent ringing in the ears (tinnitus)</li><li>● blood clots in the deep veins (such as deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolisms)</li><li>● Bell's palsy – temporary drooping on one side of the face</li></ul>

<p><b>Very rare</b> Up to 1 in 10,000 people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● very unusual blood clots with low platelets – see below for symptoms</li> <li>● Guillain-Barré Syndrome – a condition that affects the nerves in the body – see the next page for symptoms</li> </ul>
<p><b>Extremely rare</b> Frequency not known yet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● a severe allergic reaction</li> <li>● very low levels of blood platelets (immune thrombocytopenia)</li> <li>● a condition that causes fluid to leak from small blood vessels (capillary leak syndrome) – see the next page for symptoms</li> <li>● inflammation of the spinal cord (transverse myelitis)</li> <li>● cutaneous small vessel vasculitis (inflammation of blood vessels in the skin)</li> </ul>

### Symptoms of very rare and unusual blood clots

Even though the risk of blood clots with low platelets is extremely low, you should know the signs to watch for. Get urgent medical help if you get any of these symptoms after this vaccine:

- breathlessness
- pain in the chest or stomach
- swelling or coldness in a leg
- severe or worsening headache, blurred vision, confusion or seizures
- persistent bleeding under the skin where there was no previous injury
- multiple small bruises, reddish or purplish spots, or blood blisters under the skin

People reported very rare blood clots with low platelets within 14 days of getting this vaccine. Watch out for these symptoms in the weeks after your vaccination.

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## **Symptoms of capillary leak syndrome**

Capillary leak syndrome causes fluid to leak from small blood vessels. Even though the risk of the condition is extremely low, you should know the signs to watch for.

Get urgent medical help if you get any of these symptoms after the Janssen vaccine:

- rapid swelling of the limbs (arms and legs)
- sudden weight gain

You may also feel faint due to low blood pressure.

People usually reported capillary leak syndrome within 4 days of getting this vaccine. Watch out for these symptoms in the days after your vaccination.

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## **Symptoms of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)**

Guillain-Barré Syndrome is a condition that affects the nerves in the body. It causes nerve inflammation and can result in pain, numbness, muscle weakness and difficulty walking.

Get urgent medical attention if you:

- have double vision or difficulty moving your eyes
- have difficulty swallowing, speaking or chewing
- have coordination problems, feel unsteady or have difficulty walking
- feel weakness and paralysis in your arms, legs, chest or face
- have tingling sensations in your hands or feet
- have problems with bladder control and bowel function

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**You should NOT get the COVID-19 vaccine Janssen (Jcovden®) if:**

- You have had a severe allergic reaction to any of the ingredients in the vaccine (including polysorbate 80). Read the manufacturer's Patient Information Leaflet to see the list of ingredients.
- You have had a severe allergic reaction to a previous dose of this vaccine or the COVID-19 AstraZeneca vaccine (Vaxzevria).
- You had blood clots with low platelets after a previous dose of the COVID-19 AstraZeneca vaccine (Vaxzevria).
- You have a history of capillary leak syndrome (see the previous page).
- You have been told by a Doctor that you should not have the COVID-19 AstraZeneca vaccine (Vaxzevria) for medical reasons.

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**Talk to your Doctor before getting this COVID-19 vaccine if you:**

- had a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) in the past, including to any other vaccine or medication
- had thrombocytopenia (abnormally low level of platelets) in the past

You will need your platelet levels monitored after this vaccine if you have a history of immune thrombocytopenia.

If you have recently received the MPOX (formerly known as Monkeypox) vaccine (Imvanex or Jynneos) you need to wait 4 weeks before you get a COVID-19 vaccine because of the unknown risk of myocarditis.



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