

‘Plausible’ Link Between J&J Vaccine and Blood Clots, CDC Says After Confirming 28 Cases, Including 3 Deaths

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed 28 cases of blood clots, three of which resulted in death, associated with Johnson & Johnson’s COVID vaccine, yet officials claim the benefits outweigh the risks.

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Officials with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [said Wednesday](#) they see a “plausible causal association” between the Johnson & Johnson COVID vaccine and potentially life-threatening blood clot disorders after identifying 28 cases — including three deaths — among people who received the vaccine.

Dr. Tom Shimabukuro, deputy director of the CDC’s immunization safety office, presented the new cases at a Wednesday meeting of CDC panel advisers, The New York Times [reported](#).

Shimabukuro’s [presentation](#) identified 28 cases of [thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome](#) (TTS) among people vaccinated with the J&J shot. The cases were based on reports submitted to the CDC’s [Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System](#), known as VAERS. TTS involves blood clots accompanied by a low level of platelets.

Shimabukuro [said](#) four of the 28 people with TTS remained in the hospital as of May 7, one of whom was in the ICU. Two were discharged to a post-acute care facility, 19 patients were discharged and three resulted in deaths.

Current evidence “suggests a plausible causal association” with the J&J vaccine and cases of TTS, [Shimabukuro said](#).

[Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis](#) (CVST) is one form of TTS [reported](#) with J&J’s vaccine where clots form in the veins that drain blood from the brain, putting patients at risk for a stroke. The condition appears similar to what is being observed following administration of the [AstraZeneca COVID shots](#) in Europe, [Shimabukuro said](#).

Most of the J&J cases in the U.S. were among women ages 18 to 49, and six cases were in

men, the CDC said. Rates among women 30 to 39 years old and 40 to 49 were particularly high — 12.4 cases per million and 9.4 cases per million — [according to the presentation](#).

Of the 28 TTS cases, 19 affected the brain, with 10 of those patients suffering from a cerebral hemorrhage, [Shimabukuro said](#). The other clots [formed](#) in the lower extremities, pulmonary arteries or other areas of the body.

All of the patients received the J&J vaccine before the vaccine was [temporarily paused](#) on April 13.

The CDC's [Dr. Sara Oliver said](#) the benefits of the vaccine still outweigh the risk and no updates to vaccine policy are needed at this time.

As of April 25, the CDC had [acknowledged](#) only 17 cases of clotting among nearly 8 million people given J&J vaccines.

[Children's Health Defense](#) queried the [VAERS data](#) for adverse events associated with blood clotting disorders between Dec.14, 2020 and April 30, and found [2,808 reports](#) associated with all three vaccines authorized for emergency use in the U.S.

Of the 2,808 cases reported, [1,043 reports](#) were attributed to Pfizer, [893 reports](#) to Moderna and [860 reports](#) to J&J — 832 cases more than the 28 cases [reported](#) by the CDC Wednesday.

According to [Shimabukuro's presentation](#), the CDC and U.S. Food and Drug Administration search VAERS daily for blood clotting disorders associated with vaccines, including rare thromboses (like [cerebral venous thrombosis](#)), [deep vein thrombosis](#), [pulmonary thromboembolism](#), [ischemic stroke](#) and [myocardial infarction](#).

Using only the CDC's search criteria, VAERS revealed [1,082 cases](#) of blood clotting disorders associated with all three vaccines, including [315 reports](#) attributed to J&J, [437 reports](#) attributed to Pfizer and [328 cases](#) to Moderna.

Yet according to the CDC, there were only 28 cases of blood clotting disorders associated with J&J's vaccine and no confirmed cases of TTS [associated](#) with Moderna or Pfizer.

As The Defender [reported](#) May 10, a Utah teen remains hospitalized with blood clots in his brain after receiving his first dose of Pfizer's COVID vaccine.

Everest Romney, 17, received the vaccine April 21 and one day later began experiencing neck pain, fever and severe headaches. After more than a week of symptoms and being unable to freely move his neck, he was diagnosed with two blood clots inside his brain, and one outside.

The Utah Department of Health told [FOX 13](#) the CDC is tasked with investigating possible vaccine side effects. After administering nearly 100 million doses of Pfizer's vaccine, the CDC reported there hasn't been a single related case of a blood clot forming in the brain as of April 12.

The CDC's April 12 statement contradicts numerous [news reports](#), [studies](#), [scientists](#) and the [agency's own system](#) for monitoring adverse reactions.

As [reported Tuesday](#), The Defender contacted the CDC March 8 with a list of questions about reported deaths and injuries related to [COVID](#) vaccines to discern how the CDC conducts its investigations, whether it is investigating blood clots associated with [mRNA vaccines](#) like Pfizer and [Moderna](#) and where the public can access the findings of various investigations reported in the media. It has been 66 days with no response.

The CDC [said](#) it is committed to open and transparent communication of vaccine safety information.

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