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To: Maine Immunization Providers
From: Maine Immunization Program
Subject: J&J Shelf Life Extension
Date: March 8, 2022

The Food & Drug Administration announced the approval of a shelf life extension for the [Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine](#) for **an additional three months**. The shelf life of this vaccine has been updated from 6 months to **9 months**. This decision is based on data from ongoing stability assessment studies, which have demonstrated that the vaccine is stable at 9 months when refrigerated at temperatures of 36° – 46° Fahrenheit (2° – 8° Celsius).

This shelf life extension applies to all **inventory dated to expire on March 7, 2022 or later**. Vaccine dated prior to March 7, 2022 should be disposed of according to state and local regulation and reported as waste according to your COVID-19 provider agreement. **Vaccine providers should visit the [Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Expiry Checker](#) webpage to confirm the expiration dates**. This shelf life extension applies to refrigerated vials of J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine that have been held in accordance with the manufacturer's storage conditions.

COVID-19 vaccines that are authorized under an EUA do not have fixed expiration dates, and expiration dates may be extended as we get more stability data. Always check the manufacturer's website to obtain the most up-to-date expiration dates for the COVID-19 vaccines you have on hand.