

No 'significant impact' from J&J vaccine pause: W.House

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The White House on Tuesday played down the impact of a decision to pause the rollout of Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine on the

wider US vaccination effort.

"This announcement will not have a significant impact on our vaccination plan: Johnson & Johnson [vaccine](#) makes up less than five percent of the recorded shots in arms in the United States to date," said Jeff Zients, President Joe Biden's COVID-19 response coordinator, in a statement.

Zients said the huge surplus in supplies of two other vaccines—Pfizer and Moderna—meant the United States could easily take up the slack after Johnson & Johnson was forced to suspend due to safety concerns.

"Over the last few weeks, we have made available more than 25 million doses of Pfizer and Moderna each week," Zients said.

"This is more than enough supply to continue the current pace of vaccinations of three million shots per day and meet the president's goal of 200 million shots by his 100th day in office."

However, with swaths of the population—especially Republican men—already hesitant to take vaccines, the J&J setback could further threaten the public relations campaign.

The White House announced that Zients and Biden's chief medical advisor, [infectious diseases](#) specialist Anthony Fauci, would be joining Press Secretary Jen Psaki for her daily press briefing a 12:45 pm (1645 GMT).

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