

Germany lifts priority limits to offer J&J jobs to all

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Germany on Monday opened access to Johnson & Johnson's coronavirus vaccines to all adults, lifting a priority system determining who gets the jobs first.

With the majority of people over 60 expected to be already vaccinated by June, Health Minister Jens Spahn said authorities decided not to restrict the jobs to older people over very rare thrombosis risks.

Rather, [younger people](#) can choose to take the [vaccine](#), which only requires one shot, after consultation with their doctors, he said.

Spahn noted that some 10 million doses of Johnson & Johnson vaccines would be delivered over June and July—when older people who want the jobs would already have been vaccinated.

"So we are lifting prioritisation for Johnson & Johnson, like we have done for AstraZeneca... so that everyone can have the possibility of getting vaccinated after clarifications with their doctors and

based on their individual decisions," said Spahn.

The move would allow Germany "to work on this vaccination campaign with greater speed, in a pragmatic manner".

Germany had initially recommended AstraZeneca vaccines only for older people following concerns over several blood clotting cases among younger recipients of the vaccine.

But it has since opened the jobs up to all adults who want them after consultations with doctors.

The European Medicines Agency has said that [blood clots](#) should be listed as a rare side effect of both the Johnson & Johnson and AstraZeneca jobs but that the benefits continue to outweigh risks.

Both vaccines use the same adenovirus vector technology, unlike jobs made by BioNTech/Pfizer or Moderna, which are messenger RNA vaccines.

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