

The Latest Case of Vaccine Alarmism | The New York Times

By David Leonhardt

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It's the latest case of vaccine alarmism.

Many Americans are worried that Johnson & Johnson's Covid-19 vaccine is an inferior product that may not be worth getting. Gov. Doug Burgum of North Dakota recently told The Washington Post that he was now seeing not only "vaccine hesitancy" but also "the potential for brand hesitancy."

The perception stems from the headline rates of effectiveness of the three vaccines: 72 percent for Johnson & Johnson, compared with 94 percent for Moderna and 95 percent for Pfizer. But those headline rates can be misleading in a few ways.

[...]

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