

# *European nations resume using AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine*



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Berlin, March 19 (RHC)-- About a dozen nations, including Germany, France, Italy and Spain, have resumed use of Oxford's AstraZeneca vaccine, after Europe's top regulator declared the shots safe and effective.

The European Medicines Agency investigated 25 cases of rare blood clots among some 20 million people who've received AstraZeneca inoculations. It's not known whether the vaccine caused the blood clots, and health officials say its benefits far outweigh its risks.

Meanwhile, the Joe Biden administration said it plans to ship about four million doses of U.S.-made AstraZeneca vaccine to Mexico and Canada. The vaccine is not yet approved for use in the United States, and millions of vials have been piling up in U.S. warehouses, prompting criticism of "vaccine hoarding."

The White House says the vaccine shipments would have to be repaid, effectively making them a loan.

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