



Investigation Notice

TEENS AT RISK

Severe Lung Illness in People Who Vape

The Texas Department of State Health Services and local health departments are investigating cases of severe lung illness in people with a recent history of vaping.

Most of the affected people are adolescents and young adults.

Vaping is the use of an electronic device to inhale substances like nicotine, marijuana, THC or flavorings.

Vape devices can look like everyday items like pens, flash drives, highlighters—even candy.

Ongoing Investigation

DSHS health officials have not yet identified a common cause, but all patients reported recent use of vaping products containing nicotine and/or THC.

Many patients developed severe respiratory illness and required hospitalization. Some patients had to be put on ventilators to be able to breathe.

What You Need to Know

Regardless of this investigation, teens, young adults, and women who are pregnant should not vape.

While the investigation continues, everyone else should consider not using e-cigarettes or other vaping devices.

If you or someone you know use a vaping device and experience symptoms, seek medical care immediately.

Symptoms

Symptoms of patients with Severe Lung Illness include:

- Cough, shortness of breath, or chest pain
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Fatigue, fever, or weight loss