

October 15, 2019

## Reporting Vape-Related Lung Injury: Emergency Rule

### Actions Requested

- **Report individual cases of lung injury associated with the use of vapor products within three days to Kitsap Public Health.** Be sure to include:
  - Patient information - first and last name, physical address, date of birth, sex, best contact phone number
  - Health care provider information - name and phone number of the principal health care provider
  - Facility/reporter information - address where the patient received care, name and telephone number of the person providing the report
  - Medical records/history - the case diagnosis, pertinent laboratory data, pertinent lung imaging, patient history of vapor product use (including whether product(s) used were nicotine, marijuana, or both)
- **Use the following criteria for reporting:**
  - Any hospitalized patient who:
    - Reports vaping or "dabbing" (inhaling a vaporized cannabis concentrate off a heated surface) in the 90 days prior to symptom onset  
**AND**
    - Has a chest x-ray with pulmonary infiltrates or a chest CT scan with ground-glass opacities  
**AND**
    - Has no pulmonary infection (i.e., negative respiratory viral panel, negative flu test, and other clinically-indicated respiratory infectious disease testing negative) or an infection has been identified, but you feel this is not the sole cause of the lung injury or complete infectious disease testing was not performed, but you feel an infection is not the sole cause of the lung injury  
**AND**
    - There is no other alternative plausible diagnosis such as a cardiac, rheumatologic or neoplastic process
- **Attend the CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) call** on October 17, 2019 for updated guidance for health care providers. See link under "Resources" below for more information.

To report cases, or for questions, please call our Communicable Disease staff at 360-728-2235 or fax (360) 813-1168.

### Background

On October 9, 2019 the Washington State Board of Health adopted an emergency rule banning the sale of flavored vaping products, requiring vendors to post warning signs about the risk of lung disease associated with vaping products, and **requiring health care providers and health care facilities to report cases of lung injury associated with the use of vapor products to the local health jurisdiction within three business days.**

The Centers for Disease Control, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Washington State Department of Health, and many other state and local health departments are currently investigating a multistate outbreak of lung disease associated with vapor product use. As of October 9, 2019, more than one thousand cases have been reported across the United States, including eighteen deaths. Seven cases of lung injury have been reported in Washington state, and the number of cases is expected to grow. Approximately eighty percent of the cases nationwide have been reported in individuals under thirty-five years of age, with sixteen percent of the cases involving individuals under eighteen years of age and twenty-one percent of the cases involving individuals from eighteen to twenty years old. All reported patients have a history of using vapor products. The specific chemical exposure(s) causing the disease remains unknown, and no single product or substance has been linked to all lung injury cases.

### Resources

CDC COCA Call, October 17, 2019: [https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2019/callinfo\\_101719.asp](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2019/callinfo_101719.asp)

WA DOH Vaping Associated Lung Injury web page: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/VapingAssociatedLungInjury>