

Public Health Notice About Severe Lung Disease Among Persons Who Report Vaping

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is investigating suspected cases of pulmonary disease among individuals who report vaping. Similar cases have occurred in multiple other states, some resulting in hospitalization. All suspect cases reported vaping with products including nicotine and/or tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Evaluation for infectious diseases was negative in all patients.

Recommendations for Clinicians:

Health care providers should:

- Ask patients presenting with respiratory symptoms about vaping history. If possible, inquire about the types of products used and methods of use.
- If vaping fluid commonly used by the patient is available, ask that it be set aside (not used) in case it is needed for testing.
- Be aware that some suspect cases have required high-level intensive care and respiratory support.

More information is in the DSHS public health notice link below.

<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/news/releases/2019/HealthAlert-08162019.aspx>