



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

**Texas Department of State
Health Services**

Investigation of Vaping-related Lung Injury

October 3, 2019



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Texas Department of State
Health Services

Agenda

11:00am – 11:15am	Welcome & Background
11:15am – 11:35am	Texas and National Updates
11:35am – 11:40am	Product Samples & Clinical Specimen Collection
11:40am – 11:55am	Q&A
11:55am – Noon	Next Call

Background and Process

DSHS notified of first national and state cases in August 2019.

CDC/CSTE and states develop case definition for classifying cases.

DSHS based on case definition begins medical abstraction and case interviews.

DSHS initiates standing calls with local health departments to support their investigation activities.

DSHS begins posting information and statewide reports on vaping and severe lung illness to DSHS' website.



Texas Updates

As of September 30, 2019:

- 129 possible cases reported in Texas
 - 39 confirmed
 - 36 probable
 - 20 are not cases
 - The remainder are still being investigated



Texas Updates

Of the 75 confirmed or probable cases in Texas:

- 31% are under 20 years of age.
- Cases range in age from 13 through 75 years old, with a median age of 22 years.
- 76% are male.
- 87% cases interviewed by DSHS have reported vaping products containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the primary psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.



Texas Updates

Additional Information and Updates:

<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/tobacco/E-Cigarettes/>

[Update on Investigation of Vaping-Related Pulmonary Illness](#) (NOTE: This report is updated weekly.)



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National Updates

As of September 24, 2019, CDC reports:

- 805 confirmed and probable cases reported from 46 states and 1 U.S. territory.
- 12 deaths confirmed in 10 states.
- Cause of lung injuries is still unknown.
- The latest findings from the investigation suggest products containing THC play a role in the outbreak.



Vape Product Samples

- FDA is working with CDC and states to collect vaping products for testing at Forensic Chemistry Center (FCC).
“Only final, verified results will be released on specific samples.”
<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/public-health-focus/lung-illnesses-associated-use-vaping-products#State>
- Please contact DSHS with questions about sample submission.



Vape Product Samples

- FDA has opened a criminal investigation related to the outbreak.
 - Focus of investigation is on what is making people sick, as well as the supply chain.

Clinical Specimen Collection

- CDC is now accepting biological specimens from state and local health departments, including BAL, urine, and blood.
- On 9/27/2019, CDC released updated guidance on collection and storage of clinical specimens.

Questions?

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Thank you!