**Vaping linked to mysterious lung illnesses Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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(by Erika Edwards, NBC’s Today) – At least [215 people from 25] states have fallen seriously ill with lung damage and difficulty breathing this year, confounding doctors struggling to diagnose and treat these patients.

The only thing linking the cases is that the patients all reported using vaping products that contain either nicotine or THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.

NBC News reached out to state health departments and physicians nationwide, and found that cases of the mystery illness now stretch from coast to coast. …

…Some patients have developed severe, progressive lung disease, and have required ongoing mechanical breathing assistance. [NOTE: This article was written on Aug. 21 and noted that “no deaths have been reported.”  However, on Aug. 23, CBS News reported that an Illinois man who vaped and went to the hospital with the same symptoms of the other lung illness patients died of a respiratory illness.]

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is working with states to try to pinpoint an e-cigarette ingredient, e-liquid, device or purchase method linking all of the cases.  …

Patients have typically arrived in the emergency department or hospital with cough, shortness of breath, fatigue and chest pain. The illness initially looks like a bad respiratory infection, but does not get better with usual treatment, like antibiotics.

This can delay a diagnosis and lead disease detectives down the wrong path.

Further muddling the investigation is that hospitals don’t have a good way of tracking cases, because there is no specific **diagnostic code\*** for either vaping or the emerging disease. [**\***In health care, diagnosis codes are used as a tool to group and identify diseases, disorders, symptoms, poisonings, adverse effects of drugs and chemicals, injuries and other reasons for patient encounters.]

“Since this is so new, physicians may miss the association with vaping,” said **Dr. Humberto Choi**, a pulmonologist and critical care specialist at the Cleveland Clinic.

Choi has been treating some of the patients in the hospital’s intensive care unit in recent days and weeks.

“Suspected cases should be reported to the CDC, but at this point, it’s difficult to track,” Choi said. “As more cases are confirmed, we will be better able to characterize the disease and determine the best treatment for patients.”

Dr. Choi has also seen people with similar but less severe disease in an ***outpatient*** setting.

“People with a history of recent vaping are coming in with abnormal CT scans,” Choi told NBC News. “The only treatment is just to stop vaping.”

**Answer the following questions. Highlight the answer in the text of the article.**

1. The first paragraph of a news article should answer the questions who, what, where and when. Below, write in the information for each.

List who:

what:

where

when

2. What one thing did all of those hospitalized have in common?

3. What symptoms do patients exhibit upon arriving at the hospital?

4 What problem do the patients experience with the treatment they receive for these symptoms?

5. What has been the longer-term effect for these patients?

6. What is the CDC working with states to determine about the cases?

7. Why might doctors still miss an association with vaping when treating these patients?

8. What is the only effective treatment for this concerning illness, according to Dr. Humberto Choi?

9. The governor of Michigan has banned all sales of flavored vaping products. The surgeon general has issued a warning to stop all e-cigarette use.

Do you think that these actions will stop people from vaping? Why or why not?