

## Instructions for Vaping Sample Submissions to the NSYM Public Health Laboratory (1/29/2020)

The use of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) as vaping has been linked to severe breathing problems, lung damage, and even death. Although cases appear to be decreasing, new cases continue to be evaluated by state health departments, with samples being submitted to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and Food & Drug Administration (FDA) for testing. Current laboratory data show that vitamin E acetate, an additive in some THC-containing e-cigarette, or vaping, products, is linked to the E-cigarette, or Vaping, Product Use Associated Lung Injury (EVALI) outbreak.

If a patient experiences lung-injury symptoms related to vaping use, please follow the guidance below:

1. Submitters should contact their local health department or communicable disease group to report a new case.
  - a. [https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/ph/bureaus/laboratory/communicable\\_disease\\_contacts/default.asp](https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/ph/bureaus/laboratory/communicable_disease_contacts/default.asp)
2. Local health departments and communicable disease groups will then report the case or direct the inquiry to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Duty Officer at **dutyofficer@cdph.ca.gov** or **(916) 328-3605**. The CDPH Duty Officer is also contacted when any vaping devices or supplies have been collected from a patient and can be submitted to CDPH for testing.
  - a. The CDPH will assign a case identification number for the specimens, and this number will be provided to the submitter.
3. Once a case identification number has been assigned, a **“Biospecimen Request Form for EVALI outbreak”** should be completed with all the patient information and specimen details by the submitter.
  - a. See request form at the end of this document.
4. Upon completion of the biospecimen request form and collection of specimens, submitters can contact their local public health laboratory for specimen pick-up.
  - a. For Napa, Solano, Yolo, Marin counties: (707) 784-4410
5. Clinical Specimen Collection, Storage, and Shipping:
  - a. Acceptable specimens are **blood, urine, and BAL** specimens obtained from patients during evaluation for VAPI.
  - b. Specimens are sent to the local public health laboratory, where they are stored for future analysis by the CDPH or CDC. Plans for this testing are underway, but not yet finalized.
    - i. Until further guidance is available, the laboratory will store the biospecimens according to their existing protocols.

6. More detailed information on sample collection, storage and handling are available on the CDPH and CDC websites.
  - a. [www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov)
    - i. Contact information for the LRN C Coordinator at the CDPH:
      1. Kayla Thomas, phone: (510) 412-1693, email: LRN-C@cdph.ca.gov
  - b. [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)



## BIOSPECIMEN REQUEST FORM

### for E-cigarette or Vaping-Associated Pulmonary Injury (EVALI) Outbreak



This form is intended to serve as a formal request to gather existing VAPI-related biospecimens from local public health labs/hospitals. Please fill out the details below and send form via secure fax to **916-636-6710**, as well as paper copies attached with the shipment. Per CDC, these existing biospecimens will be de-identified at CDPH, and then transferred to CDC in support of Public Health investigation of lung injury associated with e-cigarette use. Likewise, per CDC, clinical signatory authorization is waived.

**Testing of biospecimens and reporting of results (back to the submitters) is not guaranteed.**

#### SUBMITTER INFORMATION

Organization Name:

Contact:

Phone:

Email Address:

#### FACILITY SAMPLES RECEIVED FROM

Organization Name:

Contact:

Phone:

Email Address:

#### CDPH Shipping Information

Shipping address:

Contact:   
 Phone:

Email Address:

#### SAMPLE INFORMATION

CA Case ID	Accession Number	Patient name/ DOB	Collection Date/Time	Sample Matrix	Comments/ Notes (i.e. specimen volume)

Shipped By:

Shipment Date:

Carrier:

*CDPH use only*

Received By:

Date Received: