

Health officials investigating purported vaccine death

**(KAIR)--An investigation is underway regarding the death of an Effingham woman whose obituary cited the COVID-19 vaccination as the cause of death.**

**Jeanie Evans died Wednesday, with the obituary from Atchison's Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home saying Evans died unexpectedly at the age of 68 at Topeka's Stormont-Vail Hospital.**

**Following an inquiry from MSC News, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, late Thursday morning, issued a statement confirming the death, saying the agency became aware Thursday morning of the death of a 68-year-old Atchison County resident who had been vaccinated in Jefferson County. The statement says that "according to the Local Health Department, appropriate CDC guidelines were followed."**

**The statement explains that during the waiting period following receipt of the vaccine, "the individual began experiencing anaphylaxis and medical treatment was provided," prior to transport for hospital treatment.**

**Adding that "the death will be fully investigated in accordance with standard protocol," the statement says that "until the investigation is complete, it is premature to assign a specific cause of death."**

**The Centers for Disease Control [website](#) offers information related both to potential severe allergic reactions, or anaphylaxis, and non-severe allergic reactions, for those receiving the vaccine. The CDC has also "learned of reports that some people have experienced a red, itchy, swollen, or painful rash where they got the shot." Among the posted information is that pertaining to safeguards in place for vaccine recipients, including on-site monitoring, as cited in the KDHE release.**

**According to the release, "the Local Health Department entered the death into the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, a national vaccine safety surveillance program, as required "anytime a death or any adverse event occurs post vaccination."**

**The program, run by the CDC and the FDA, allows those two agencies "to monitor adverse events that could be related to the vaccination."**

**Evans, cited in her obituary as a member of the Effingham City Council, will be remembered during a memorial service 2:00 Monday afternoon at the funeral home.**

**Among her survivors are three sons and two daughters.**

***Previously reported: (KAIR)--An Effingham woman has died from a reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine. That's according to the [obituary](#) for Jeanie Evans, who died Wednesday at Topeka's Stormont-Vail Hospital. The obituary, posted Wednesday night by Atchison's Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home, says Evans died unexpectedly at the age of 68.***

**Evans, cited in the obituary as a member of the Effingham City Council, will be remembered during a memorial service Monday afternoon at the funeral home. Among her survivors are three sons and two daughters.**

**The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, following an inquiry made by MSC News, issued the following statement late Thursday morning:**

KDHE became aware this morning of a death of a 68-year-old Atchison County resident. The resident was vaccinated in Jefferson County, and according to the Local Health Department, appropriate CDC guidelines were followed. During the waiting period following the vaccine administration, the individual began experiencing anaphylaxis and medical treatment was provided. The resident was transported to a local hospital where the individual later passed away. The death will be fully investigated in accordance with standard protocol. **Until the investigation is complete, it is premature to assign a specific cause of death.**

The Local Health Department entered the death into VAERS, the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, a national vaccine safety surveillance program run by Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Anytime a death or any adverse event occurs post vaccination, the case must be reported into VAERS. This process allows the CDC and FDA to monitor adverse events that could be related to the vaccination. As is standard protocol for any death reported in VAERS, it will be fully reviewed. The VAERS report will help to inform a more thorough investigation that can conclusively identify the specific cause of death of the individual.

Our thoughts and condolences go out to the individual's family.

**The Centers for Disease Control [website](#) offers information related both to potential severe allergic reactions, known as anaphylaxis, and non-severe allergic reactions, to those receiving the vaccine. The CDC has also “learned of reports that some people have experienced a red, itchy, swollen, or painful rash where they got the shot.” Among the posted information is that pertaining to safeguards in place for vaccine recipients, including on site monitoring. Those with past vaccine-related reactions are to be monitored for at least 30 minutes, with all others to be monitored for at least 15 minutes after receiving the COVID-19**

**vaccine.**

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