

Two UK Residents Died of Blood-Clotting Disorders Linked to AstraZeneca Vaccine, Coroners Confirm

By [Dr. David Charbonneau](#)

Global Research, March 18, 2022

[Children's Health Defense](#) 17 March 2022

Region: [Europe](#)

Theme: [Science and Medicine](#)

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UK coroners in two separate cases this week concluded individuals who received AstraZeneca’s COVID-19 vaccine died from blood-clotting disorders caused by the vaccine, which uses the same adenovirus technology as the Johnson & Johnson COVID vaccine authorized for emergency use in the U.S.

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Kim Lockwood, a 34-year-old mother from South Yorkshire, [died](#) in March 2021 of a catastrophic brain bleed nine days after getting the [AstraZeneca](#) shot.

Lockwood complained of an excruciating headache eight days after getting the vaccine. Her condition quickly deteriorated and she was pronounced dead 17 hours after being admitted to the hospital.

South Yorkshire Coroner Nicola Mundy, calling Lockwood “extremely unlucky,” recorded the cause of death as [vaccine-induced thrombotic thrombocytopenia](#) (VITT).

Separately, a Sheffield County inquest on Monday [concluded](#) Tom Dudley, a 31-year old father of two who received the Astra-Zeneca vaccine on April 27, 2021, died of a vaccine-induced brain hemorrhage on May 14, 2021.

The UK’s National Health Service on May 7, 2021, [changed the guidance](#) for the AstraZeneca vaccine, suggesting healthy individuals under 40 should avoid it due to possible blood-clotting complications.

Assistant coroner Tanyka Rawden said that at the time of Dudley’s death the potentially fatal blood-clotting issue “was not a known and recognized complication of this vaccine. It seems to me that the guidelines have been changed,” she said. “They were changed very,

very quickly after Tom had his vaccination.”

For both Lockwood and Dudley, the change in recommendations came just weeks too late.

UK Government figures show [437 reported cases and 78 deaths](#) from blood-clotting conditions after an estimated 24.9 million first doses and 24.2 million second doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

In April 2021, many European countries, including Germany, France, Italy, and Spain, [suspended](#) the use of the AstraZeneca vaccine after experts found dangerous blood clots in some vaccine recipients, according to various news sources.

Research published May 5, 2021, in [The BMJ confirmed](#) evidence of blood clotting and found a small risk after receiving just one dose of AstraZeneca’s vaccine.

The researchers wrote:

“We did, however, observe an increased rate of venous thromboembolic events, corresponding to 11 excess venous thromboembolic events per 100,000 vaccinations and including a clearly increased rate of cerebral venous thrombosis with 7 observed events versus 0.3 expected events among the 282,572 vaccine recipients.”

An AstraZeneca executive today [said](#) the British drugmaker won’t consider submitting its vaccine for approval in the U.S. if the regulatory process takes too long. A company official said the company would instead focus on selling the vaccine in other countries, though it will continue talks with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

In U.S., J&J vaccine singled out for blood-clotting disorders

Although the AstraZeneca vaccine is not offered in the U.S., it uses the same [adenovirus technology](#) as the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) COVID vaccine authorized for emergency use in the U.S.

On Dec. 16, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) made a “[preferential recommendation](#)” that people 18 and older get the [Pfizer-BioNTech](#) or [Moderna](#) mRNA vaccines instead of the J&J shot.

Two days earlier, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration [updated its fact sheets](#) for [Emergency Use Authorization](#) of the J&J vaccine, adding a contraindication to the shot for adults with a history of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) following the J&J or any other adenovirus-vectored vaccine.

The agency did not add a contraindication for people with pre-existing conditions, including coagulation disorders, or for those who may have experienced blood clots after receiving an mRNA vaccine.

The [FDA said](#) TTS was reported in men and women, in a wide range of ages, with the highest rate in women aged 30 to 49. The agency noted approximately 15% of TTS cases were fatal.

According to [analysis](#) of data from the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), between Dec. 14, 2020, and March 4, 2022, there were [2,607 reports](#) of blood-clotting

disorders after administration of the [J&J shot](#).

The Defender has [reported](#) on numerous deaths from blood-clotting disorders after the J&J vaccine, including that of Jessica Berg Wilson, a 37-year-old stay-at-home mother from Washington, who died suddenly on Sept. 7, 2021.

According to [Wilson's obituary](#), doctors diagnosed her with VITT.

Pfizer, Moderna mRNA vaccines also linked to blood clots

The FDA and CDC have not issued warnings about blood-clotting disorders specific to the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, despite studies showing the mRNA vaccines can cause similar conditions.

For example, a [study](#) published in April 2021 by Oxford University [found](#) the number of people who developed [cerebral venous sinus thrombosis](#) (CVST) after COVID vaccines were about the same for Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca vaccines. (J&J is not approved for use in the EU, where the study originated.)

According to the study, 4 in 1 million people experienced CVST during the two weeks following vaccination with the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, versus 5 in 1 million people for the AstraZeneca vaccine.

Although [researchers](#) found a significantly higher incidence of blood clots in people who were infected with COVID, the incidence of blood clots following vaccines was still much higher than the background incidence of 0.41, a strong signal that the vaccines pose this specific risk.

Another study, published in February 2021 in the [Journal of Hematology](#), examined thrombocytopenia following Pfizer and Moderna vaccination in response to the death of a [56-year-old Florida physician](#) — the first identified patient who died from a brain hemorrhage after receiving Pfizer's vaccine.

Researchers examined 20 case reports of patients with immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) following vaccination, including 17 without pre-existing thrombocytopenia, using data from the CDC, FDA, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (VAERS), published reports and communications with patients and treating providers.

The researchers [could not exclude](#) the possibility that the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines had the potential to trigger ITP and recommended additional surveillance to determine the incidence of thrombocytopenia post-vaccination.

“While the main concern associated with ITP is bleeding, it may come as a surprise that ITP is also associated with a 20% increased risk for blood clots,” said Lyn Redwood, RN, MSN, former president emeritus of [Children's Health Defense](#), citing a [March 8 article](#) by Dr. Robert Bird, director of hematology at Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane, Australia.

According to the latest available VAERS data, between Dec. 14, 2020, and March 4, 2022, there were [5,992 reports](#) of blood-clotting disorders after the Pfizer vaccine, and [4,784 reports](#) following the Moderna vaccine.

Of the total reports of blood-clotting disorders during that time period, [22%](#) of the total number of reports ([13,428](#), including J&J, Pfizer and Moderna) were among individuals 17 to 43 years old; 34.8% among individuals 44 to 64 years old; and 32% among individuals 65 years or older, suggesting the issue is not limited to adults under 40.

The J&J shot remains [available](#) in the U.S. and in October 2021, the FDA [granted](#) Emergency Use Authorization for the J&J booster shot for adults 18 and older.

The New York Times [on Tuesday reported](#) “mounting evidence” the Janssen vaccine is showing levels of efficacy on par with the mRNA vaccines.

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David Charbonneau, Ph.D. is a fellow for The Defender.

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