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19-year-old hospitalized in ICU days after receiving second Pfizer vaccine

It has still not been confirmed with certainty that the inflammation was developed as a side-effect to the vaccination

By MAAVAN JAFFE-HOFFMAN FEBRUARY 1, 2021 22:01



A vial of the Pfizer vaccine against the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is seen as medical staff are vaccinated at Sheba Medical Center in Ramat Gan, Israel (photo credit: REUTERS/AMIR COHEN/FILE PHOTO)



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A 19-year-old was hospitalized with myocarditis – inflammation of the heart muscle – five days after receiving his second dose of the coronavirus [vaccine](#), Terem emergency medical clinic reported Monday.

According to the clinic, it has still not been confirmed that the inflammation was developed as a side effect of the vaccination. However, a number of [COVID-19-related](#) myocarditis cases have been reported, according to the US National Institutes of Health.

“The fact that the symptoms started immediately after the vaccination raises the suspicion that an immunological reaction may have caused the inflammation,” said Dr. Abdulhadi Farojeh, a Terem medical director.

The young man received treatment at a Terem center in Modi'in on Sunday night before being transferred for further treatment to Shamir Medical Center in Tzrifin.

From when he had received the second dose, he had experienced an accelerated heartbeat, along with shortness of breath and sharp pains that were radiating down his left arm, according to Terem's Dr. Badarnih Bahaa.

Terem took blood tests that revealed the heart inflammation.

Without treatment, myocarditis can lead to cardiac arrhythmia and even death.

The 19-year-old had no underlying medical conditions prior to the event.

In general, most people who are vaccinated have mild if any side effects, according to the Health Ministry. The ministry shared a report on Monday evening that showed only 6,575 reported side effects out of 2,768,200 people who had received a first dose of the Pfizer vaccine by January 27, and only 3,592 reported side effects out of 1,377,827 people who received a second dose.

“It should be emphasized that most of the symptoms were mild and fleeting,” the ministry said.