# JAB INJURIES AUSTRALIA PDF DOCUMENT

## **Reference:**

= Vax, Jab, Vaccine, Injection, Dose, Shot

Pfizer

■= Moderna

Astrazeneca

NOVA= Novavax

= Virus, Covid

Booster

### Note\*

It took us a while to perfect our format, hence the decline in detail, the further down the list you go. We are working hard to re-interview those who shared their stories with us in the beginning and anyone else who's stories we didn't add to this document from <a href="https://www.instagram.com/jab injuries australia">www.instagram.com/jab injuries australia</a>

Montana, 15/16yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CfapKpvJKY9/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/corrinasteele/

My name is Corrina, I'm telling the story of my now 16-year-old daughter Montana. Prior to the Montana was training heavily and playing AFL for the last 2.5 years. She then went on to study at a farming school which both of these areas require a high level of health and fitness and that is exactly what her life revolved around.

Montana got the because, her school gave us the impression that it was mandatory and had asked for proof of her status, not only that, I'm a healthcare worker myself and although I didn't believe it from the very beginning I was still questioning myself and whether or not I was doing the right thing as I didn't want to be "that" person that did the wrong thing by my daughter.. at the end of the day, I just wanted to do the right thing by her but now I have to live with a decision I will regret for the rest of my life. Montana got the on the 6th of October 2021 (left arm), she felt nothing immediately but later that night, she started experiencing a headache, we just thought it was a common symptom that everyone experienced so she took some Panadol and went to bed. Life continued on as normal for the next 7 weeks until her second on the 24th of

November 2021. After the Second, she experienced a very heavy arm and within days, she started experiencing dizzy spells/vertigo whilst walking which hasn't stopped since and has worsened to the point of her almost passing out at times.

Initially we didn't make the connection that this was from the (a), and this continued on for a couple months, the only things we were questioning were her diet and fluid intake. Her symptoms gradually worsened and it got to the point she couldn't bare it any longer, the feeling of dizziness and nausea just from walking A-B became quite tiring and apparent that something wasn't right.

However, we still didn't connect it to the , but we decided it was time to go to the GP. We presented Montana's symptoms and the doctor ran blood tests. The bloods came back that she was ok but the doctor insisted she take iron tablets for 3 months and to return for a check up.

Montana followed the doctors' orders and 2 months into taking the iron tablets, she was playing a football match (Saturday) when she started feeling sharp stabbing pains in her heart and shortness of breath. She almost collapsed and was taken off the field where she sat out for 1 Quarter which is not like her at all.

The next day (Sunday) we were out shopping and she started experiencing the sharp stabbing pains again, my response was just to tell her to take some deep breaths, but the pains persisted for the rest of the afternoon. She took some Panadol and it settled down overnight. Monday morning, Montana was at boarding school and she called home to tell me she has heart pains still. The school organised to take her to the hospital. They ran blood tests and put a cannula in her arm which she then passed out from. They commenced CPR on her because she stopped breathing and the only thing she remembers is waking up gasping for air during CPR. In the same day, the blood results came back and she was diagnosed with Pericarditis. None of this was reported to me or the school by the hospital, we only found out through Montana.

My husband and myself drove straight to pick Montana up 2.5 hours away and we took her straight to a different hospital, they acknowledged her and treated her with care and gave her the same verdict, suggesting that she goes home to rest and not to play any sports until the pain stops and to take Colchicine and pain killers.

It was only 2 days later that we ended up in emergency again, her pain level had gone from a 3 to a 6 and she was struggling to breathe just from being inactive. They ran tests, ECG, ultrasound of the heart, more bloods, chest X-ray and the Results were... go home, take the Colchicine and start taking Aspirin (975g 3 x a day) and this where it clicked to me and I said "this is from the isn't it?" The Doctor responded saying "yes" the hospital is full of people with myocarditis and pericarditis, but she wouldn't write it down on paper.

That was 2 weeks ago which now brings us to the current times. We returned home from the hospital that day and the pain increased in the first week. Montana stepped up her aspirin and the pain has subsided just a little bit, but if she doesn't take the Aspirin, she pays for it in pain.

This is an ongoing Issue for us, and She can't go back to AFL. We are waiting to see a cardiologist in the next two weeks, in the meantime we have allowed her to return to school but she is not to participate in any physical activities as she gets exhausted just from walking.

As you could imagine the impact that this would have on any healthy teenager, just trying to live her life, Montana is now battling with depression not knowing how long this will go on for as all she wants to do is play sport and live life like everyone else.

On top of all of this, I myself have been experiencing heart problems after having 3x which I've been investigating at the same time. I've had 2 ECG's which came back clear and I was told that I was just experiencing anxiety by my doctor, but I know that's not the case and I often experience heart palpitations and a racing heart late at night while laying down, which often leaves me wondering if I'm going to wake the next morning.

Not only that I also lost my mother, who had no health problems, yet passed away from a heart attack 2 months after having 2x . To say that this has been a nightmare, is an understatement and we don't wish this upon anyone, and by sharing this story, I hope we can spread awareness to the people who don't know that this is really happening.

Ramona, 55yrs, F Adelaide, SA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CfU3sMTPjt2/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/Ramboot/

P<u>#1</u>: FA5833 P<u>#2</u>: FF4222

I'm 55 and live in Adelaide SA. I'm have a son and daughter both in their 20's and am an Occupational Therapist.

When the was rolled out, I wasn't keen at the time, but there was pressure for health care workers to be . I knew that it would be mandated soon for community health workers (it was mandated a few months later). I had my 1st on the 11th of July 2021. I didn't feel right afterwards, I felt unwell but didn't have a temperature and was just "not right". 10 days later, I experienced a choking incident at work, the tiny bit of food was difficult to dislodge - I coughed for about an hour trying to clear it. This had never happened to me before. A few days later, it happened again, and my son informed me I had been coughing for 2 hours. After this incident I started to take down notes because this was very unusual.

After the 2 days of coughing, I noticed I was struggling to swallow, and my throat felt raw. I decided to go on a soup diet with fresh bread broken up and dunked in, but towards the end of that week, the softened bread was difficult to swallow. By the end of that week, I was only able to have pureed soup.

I saw a GP I hadn't seen before on 30/07/21 and explained what I was experiencing, she advised on getting an endoscopy done but I decided to wait a bit longer. I explained I was concerned about having the 2nd because of what was happening, but she said to go ahead. I wasn't totally comfortable with her response but went ahead anyway.

I had the 2nd (Pee) on the 1st of August 2021 and my lymph nodes swelled on my left side a few days later (it was administered in my left arm). After that, I was experiencing a daily feeling of 'fullness', especially with food. I'd have a couple of mouthfuls of soup after work and would feel full up to my neck. I had to sit upright in the evening, sometimes for a few hours, until the feeling of fullness settled even though I hadn't eaten much (I was only able to have smoothies, soups and custard/jelly at this time).

I went back to the GP on the 13/08/21 asking to see someone more senior and explained my situation, she referred me for an endoscopy privately but didn't prescribe anything as she didn't want it to interfere with the endoscopy results. I rang later that day asking for something to bring down the 'inflammation' as my symptoms were worsening throughout that day. She reluctantly prescribed Omeprazole, which I found out later was for reflux.

That same evening, I struggled to even swallow water so my son took me to ED where they admitted me (very reluctantly because I was not choking at the time, and only after I proved to them that I couldn't swallow water) and put me on a drip. I stayed 2 nights.

The Gastroenterologist who came the next day initially didn't believe me about my swallowing difficulty and thought I was panicking over one incident. I told him "No – that's not who I am. I'm level-headed and I'm an allied health professional". I had to tell him a few times that something was not right, and that I was scared, it was then that he listened. He did bloods and was thorough in what he looked for, including for neurological causes. I mentioned to him how it all started 10 days after the 1st  $\stackrel{\square}{=}$ ,

then followed it up with "not that I think they're connected", but he said he'd seen some unusual things following and maybe they were connected, so I considered it noting how I'd felt after the 1st one and that nothing else about my life had changed at that time. A Speech Pathologist assessed me and said to try minced food with gravy, as they were struggling to find foods for me in there. I had 2 spoonful's of dinner and it got stuck somewhere in my oesophagus (food tube). I panicked, though it wasn't stopping me breathing. After 15-20 minutes it went down as I stood talking to the nurse.

I underwent an endoscopy on 16/08/2021 which came back clear, and a Barium Swallow on 19/08/2021. The Barium Swallow is a video x-ray which shows how liquid moves down the food tube. I could feel the liquid Barium slowing down and could feel it staying in some spots and immediately knew something was not right. The Registrar and a junior doctor were about 1.5 metres away from me watching the screen and talking, the Registrar dropped his tone, and I could tell he didn't want me to hear something - I tried to listen but couldn't make out much. They moved to another computer checking everything had been captured. The technician showed me the video and told me the barium liquid had gone down. I pointed at where I could see on the screen it was stuck because I'd felt it during the procedure, she didn't confirm nor deny what I said was right.

On 01/09/21 I got an outpatient appt at the same public hospital, but with the wrong unit and specialist. To not waste my time, I asked for my Endoscopy and Barium Swallow results as I hadn't been provided anything yet and knew it was my opportunity to ask (public hospitals don't normally give results). He begrudgingly gave them to me. The Barium Swallow results confirmed the liquid was slowing down as it went down the oesophagus. He mentioned it was best to see the specialist who saw me in hospital.

On 11/09/21 I went to my GP as I still hadn't received an appt. I had done my research and asked to be referred to the Swallowing Disorders clinic to see that specific specialist. A few days later I was asked to come in on 17/09/21 for a Manometry - a diagnostic procedure which measures the pressure within our oesophagus as we swallow. The manometry showed I'd lost all function in my oesophagus (which explained my swallowing difficulty). I also had a delayed opening of the lower oesophageal sphincter (at the top of the stomach) and weak contractions just above the stomach. It's the co-ordinated effort of the wave-like contractions (peristalsis) in the oesophagus and the opening of this sphincter that helps to move the food into the stomach. I was at this stage taking Omeprazole which worked to reduce the feeling of fulness from the reflux, however, it made me very constipated, so bad that I had to have a suppository and stool softener. I was later prescribed Pantoprazole which also helped reduce the reflux, but without the negative effects. I now must take this daily.

My first outpatient appointment with the Swallowing Disorders clinic was on 23/09/21, where a Speech Pathologist wanted to try some soft foods with me. I found it traumatic. She also recommended I undergo a Modified Barium Swallow, where you eat small amounts of different texture food, and they take a video x-ray as it goes down. I felt extreme panic as I recalled the food getting stuck in hospital but agreed as I had been on a liquid diet for over 8 weeks now and was extremely weak and was steadily losing weight. Although I wasn't too concerned about the weight loss (I was quite a bit larger), it was unhealthy weight loss. Overall, I lost 22kg in about 6 months.

I then saw the Gastroenterologist at this clinic. As I hadn't received the results from the Manometry yet, I asked for it. He said he hadn't written it up because he didn't have a diagnosis. I then asked about the results from bloods done in hospital; he said it showed some autoimmune markers were up and consulted his colleague, a Rheumatologist, who said to run the tests again. The Gastroenterologist later posted the results to me (he called it oesophageal dis-motility). He also explained at the appt that this was so rare that he'd only seen one other person who had lost all motility (contractions) in his whole career (he was a senior specialist). The reflux was a direct result of the loss of function/tone in my oesophagus.

On 7/10/21 I underwent the Modified Barium Swallow. They gave me different foods (e.g. banana, wafer etc) checking what I could tolerate to try and get me off the liquid diet. The video x-ray showed the foods travelling back up the food tube due to the weak contractions in the lower part of the food tube. Afterwards the Speech Pathologist told me to eat soft moist foods, have a sip of water after each mouthful, and to eat little and often and they'd see me in two weeks. The next appt with the Swallowing Disorders clinic was on 21/10/21, I was still experimenting with different foods. I told the Speech Pathologist the guidelines did not work for me - they didn't know how to help me.

The results from the 2nd blood test came in and continued to show a weak positive to some autoimmune markers. They then said they'd see me in 3 months' time and redo the bloods then. The next few months were terrible. I was experiencing psychological distress because food often stayed for long times somewhere in my oesophagus and it would eventually clear, but I could not control this, and my body was constantly going into a panic mode when it happened. I had stopped going out with friends and my kids and Christmas was a disaster. I was often hungry. Eating wasn't a pleasurable experience anymore; mealtimes were in fact a scary prospect.

Trying to have regular small meals when working in the community started impacting my work and I would end up skipping meals. My energy flagged further as a result. Standing to eat and moving around a little helped the food go down. I had been



continuing working for 4 days per week because work gave me some structure and it took the focus off my issues for a time, but when I came home, I would struggle and get overwhelmed about my life.

During this time, the was mandated for healthcare workers and I tried to get an exemption. I had a GP appt on 1/02/22 and she told me I'd be fine to have the we and that "my condition would not worsen"! I could not believe what I was hearing. Thankfully, my Gastroenterologist assisted me as if I lose anymore function, I will have to have a feeding tube inserted. I was given a 6-month exemption (after 2 attempts).

In mid-late January, I started having difficulty with thicker yoghurts and even my treats of Crème Caramel had become hard to swallow. I was concerned but didn't mention it at the Swallowing Disorders clinic appt on 10/02/22 as I was still monitoring it.

I lost 3 kilos over a few days so went back to my GP on 25/02/22 requesting to go back to the clinic earlier than my April scheduled appt. I was also desperate and spoke to my GP about quitting my job as I was totally exhausted as I had little energy from my mostly liquid diet and the weight loss. I ended up taking a month off work from 25th February.

The appt was bought forward to 24/03/22, my Specialist wasn't too concerned when I told him what I was experiencing, but my Speech Pathologist recommended a 2nd Modified Barium Swallow, which I had on 31/03/22. I took in foods I'd been struggling with, including ripe banana. The video x-ray showed that food was now getting stuck just below the upper oesophageal sphincter (at the top of the food tube). It was validating when the Speech Pathologist could see it happening on screen and so I knew I wasn't going mad. She said to only eat very moist soft foods (what I call sloppy, baby food) and not cough (as that what my body wants to reflexively do) as that can cause food to go back up and into the airways) but to wash it down with water if it does get stuck – the joys of it all...

I then had a phone consult with my Gastroenterologist on 7/4/22 and he confirmed it was not looking good. He had already referred me to a Rheumatologist by this time (upon my insistence). I was told the wait would be 12-15 months. Thankfully, I received an appt for 2/6/22 – I found out recently my Gastroenterologist had spoken to the Rheumatologist again. The Rheumatologist confirmed I don't have an autoimmune disorder and wants to rule out myositis, although I don't have any of other symptoms. I was told that if it's not myositis, I would just "have to live with this". My Gastroenterologist had started talking to me about "living with it" - that was hard to hear.

I still don't have any answers from the medical community. They say if they can find the cause, they can work on the problem. It's messed with my head as my mind keeps saying "something's not right" continuously and I've been affected psychologically. I have not given up seeking medical input as my swallowing disorder continues to impact my life.

Nothing about food/eating is straight forward; I am wary of 'new' foods and need to think hard about my social life as so much of our socialising is around food. I live in a strange world, I eat foods a 9–10-month-old baby eats, usually without issue, sloppy/very soft food, however, can only have smoothies for dinner. There have been many eating incidents that have been overwhelming and traumatic. People can't see it and don't understand why it's not "getting better". And because I'm not 80 or 90 years old, many people don't understand why I can't eat what's on the menu, and it's hard to explain, without coming close to tears.

In the first few months my family, friends and colleagues would regularly ask me, "are you better now?". Some continue to ask. Those conversations are draining and hard because I am constantly repeating myself, and no one understands. I finally managed to connect with a couple of people internationally, one who has what I have after the , she is in Canada, it's good not to have to justify myself and have someone who understands. Although my energy levels are slightly better, I've recently had to quit my job. I am going to work on a casual basis as the flexibility will help me manage my energy levels. And if I don't get another exemption from the (now legislated in SA for healthcare workers), I will be unable to work after the end of August when my current exemption runs out

Tegan, 29yrs Newcastle, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CfTJJgBpZ5a/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/tegan\_anne\_/

**P**#1: FE7051

Prior to the liver I worked full time in an office setting and part-time as personal trainer & yoga instructor, my lifestyle was all about health and fitness and I never had any health problems whatsoever.

I didn't want the end from day one and although my gut instinct was right I got the because my work made it mandatory. I got the end on the 9th of September 2021 (left arm). 5 minutes after the end was still at the clinic when I started to experience my first adverse reaction. I started to get pins and needles in my arms and my muscles started twitching in my left arm. Initially I thought that I was paranoid and overthinking it.

I got my at 730pm, so I just went home and put myself to bed, when I lay down my heart was racing so much that I messaged my friend telling her I felt like I was going to have a heart attack. I slept a little but I was awake for most of the night, by the time the next morning came, the muscle twitching had turned into full body tremors.

At this stage I was in complete denial that anything like this could happen to me even though I felt like I'd just run a marathon and my legs were giving way from me. I still continued as I would normally and left for work. As the day went on my body became weaker. When I got home, I had then started to seriously question the and decided to call the reaction hotline. They told me it was normal and I might be having a mild reaction that should just go away in a few day's time. I took some Panadol and Nurofen that night and I put myself to bed early as I was extremely exhausted and feeling a bit of a temperature coming on.

I didn't get much sleep that night and woke up the next day with extreme brain fog and numbness on the right side of my face, I got up and made breakfast and when I started eating my tongue went numb and I started freaking out. My partner drove me to the hospital right away and on arrival I said straight up that I was having a reaction to the  $\bigcirc$ .

The triage nurses noted it down but didn't say anything. I waited for 2-3 hours before I was seen by a doctor to tell me this was stress related. He kept asking me if I was hesitant to get the and similar questions. he basically wanted me to answer yes to questions that would frame me as an anti-. Despite this, he ran ECG, and I was discharged when it came back all clear. He just said it was a mild side effect and would disappear in a few weeks.

I went home and the next day I started presenting with stabbing heart pain and the inability to string a sentence together, but because I had been gaslit the previous day, I didn't want to return to the hospital and I took a few sick days from work and rested as much as possible, 3 days later I returned to ED. They did bloods and ECG, and the results were all clear and they discharged me even though I was begging the doctors to do more tests. They just continued to gaslight me and sent me home empty handed. I was disgusted at the way I was being treated by the hospital, I felt defeated and like the only thing I could do was cry myself to sleep. I did not want to return to the hospital ever again. As the days passed, I would wake up with a new symptom that would change every day, it was like it was travelling around in my body and the symptoms were worsening.

On the 23rd of November I was at work and the chest pains were so excruciating that I went home, When I got home, I called the ambulance out of the chance that they would take me more seriously. The ambulance turned up and they gave me morphine and took me to the hospital. I got in to see a doctor quickly. Again, they did bloods, ECG and chest X-ray and all came back fine. I was begging them in tears to do an MRI on my heart, I wanted them to check me for pericarditis, but they sent me home and on the discharge sheet wrote down that "I agreed that the best option going forward was to see my GP" which I

didn't say at all. I was in pain, asking for immediate treatment and to admit me. They basically threw me out in the gutter while I was still vomiting in a brown paper bag.

I threw up all the way home, all night long and passed out in my bed. I spent the entire next day in bed and then I just adapted to my symptoms for the next few months. I was trying to go to work as much as I could with my condition, but I was taking at least 1 day off a week just to keep my head above water.

I had given up on the conventional medical system and started to look elsewhere with kinesiology and a naturopath who had me on a long list of supplements and a clean, vegan, gluten free diet, I didn't start to see improvements until I started doing hyperbaric oxygen therapy twice week and in total had 10 sessions. I went from 10% of myself to 80% on a good day. At this stage I had also figured out what was triggering my symptoms and I had to give up exercise, coffee and alcohol.

My next step was to see an immunologist who I saw for the first time in April. He was amazing and believed everything that I had said as he had already seen others that had been going through the same thing. He was shocked that more tests hadn't been done on me and he sent me off for bloods (auto immune panel), MRI of my brain and spinal cord and X-ray of my hands and ankles, Bloods came back low in Iron and positive for auto immune disease, The X-rays came back clear, and the MRI showed a very rare condition called syringomyelia. It's where a cyst forms within the spinal cord which creates a blockage of spinal fluid. Once there is blockage it causes inflammation of the spinal cord which can be responsible for neurological symptoms which would explain all the numbness and weakness from my waist down.

The first treatment was to get an iron infusion, 2nd, he put me on hydroxychloroquine, and I've been on that for the last 2 months and I can definitely say that I am improving, running at about 95% on a good day but every now and then I have a day which sets me back to square one, with severe joint and heart pain, to the point I can't even open my hands. I get stabbing pains all around my body, especially in my chest, sometimes the numbness in my face comes back and weakness in my legs comes back but it's less frequent and the flare ups last 24 hours rather than 48 hours at a time.

The one thing I have learned is not to let doctors push you around, I've now learned that there are many doctors starting to speak and want to help people like myself.

Rhys, 31yrs, M Adelaide, SA



Source: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CfKwNgRJopg/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CfKwNgRJopg/</a> Contact: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/thatdickbij/">https://www.instagram.com/thatdickbij/</a>

I'm 31 years old, I work full-time as a client service coordinator. I'm extremely active doing Brazilian Jiu jitsu 5 times a week as well as strength and conditioning every day. I was extremely fit and healthy, the fittest I'd ever been in my life. I haven't been sick in years.

I got the P on the 8th of November 2021 because I was living in Alice Springs at the time, and I needed to relocate to South Australia which wouldn't allow me to enter unless I had the . It was all about following my dreams of taking my BJJ to higher levels in competition.



After I had the first ! I had the standard sore arm and lethargy, life went on as usual. I got the second !! on the 29th of November 2021. Immediately I started feeling nauseous so I went home as quickly as I could. From there I was bedridden for the next week with chills, nausea and body aches that felt like my bones were made from glass. It was extreme pain all over my body. Especially my chest and my muscles.

I didn't think that it was going to lead to anything serious, so I was under the impression that everything was going to be fine after a week and I didn't feel the need to raise the alarm at this point.

I recovered to the point of being able to somewhat function in my day to day like, but I felt like trash. I was still extremely fatigued with body pain and heavy brain fog. I still thought it was just a matter of time till it would pass over.

This went on for about 3 weeks until I injured my knee which put me in a position of having to recover at home again. I noticed that my heart rate just from standing up would shoot to 150bpm which then sounded the alarm bells from me.

I went to a local GP 3 times over the next few days. The first GP brushed me off as soon as I had mentioned the He was saying that it was a normal reaction to the and to just wait it out, he didn't want to see any of the data I had gathered from my heart monitor and sent me on my way with nothing. The second GP I saw twice which he gave me a referral to a cardiologist.

The cardiologist was standoffish when I told him I thought it was an adverse reaction but when he tested my heart and blood pressure, he saw for himself that there was something not right and diagnosed me with POTS. He said that this was due to the the first time I seen him but didn't put it on paper. The second time he wasn't as willing to acknowledge that it was from the and tried to twist his own words which didn't make any sense at all. I was trying to get an exemption which he was clearly not willing to do for me, trying to emotionally manipulate me into saying his parents had died from and he wasn't willing to give me an exemption as I'm at much higher risk of getting. The last time I saw the cardiologist was on the 4th of March 2022. He relayed to me again that my diagnosis was POTS and put me on heart medication for tachycardia and blood pressure and basically said it could be for the rest of my life. In the most recent weeks, I have now gained a new symptom of the tremors, I've lost 12kgs in the last 3 months, I have constant 6-7 out of 10 body aches which feel like I've been going hard at the gym every day. I've lost my strength completely, I'm constantly brain fogged and dizzy, I have noise and light sensitivity, extreme fatigue and insomnia from having to go to the toilet all night long due to the blood flow not pumping to my kidneys properly and just my general blood flow issues all over.

#### **PART TWO**

It's now end of June, 7 months after my first side effects and 5 months after my POTS diagnosis. For the 5 months after receiving my POTS diagnosis I took the prescribed medication, which increases blood pressure. I also followed the direction to increase salt intake (10 salt tablets per day) and drink at least 4L water a day. I was also instructed to undertake daily exercise. All this was to counter the POTS. During this time, I asked my cardiologist for an MRI on my heart as I suspected myocarditis due to my raised troponin levels. He said there is no reason to do that and that the echocardiogram already showed that there was nothing wrong with my heart. When I pushed back saying that echocardiograms aren't always fully accurate in diagnosing myocarditis (or absence of), he fobbed me off as though I didn't know what I was talking about. I felt concerned, because the medication and directives given to me for POTS would be very dangerous if I did in fact have myocarditis.

On the 4th of April I had to call an ambulance due to 9/10 chest pains, shortness of breath and what I can only describe as heart attack symptoms. The paramedics said that the reading on their machine indicated that I had had a heart attack. Arriving at Flinders Hospital, I was admitted to the cardiac care unit for what ended up being 5 days. The nurse at the front desk told me that she had witnessed an increase in patients exhibiting similar symptoms to mine. The doctors initially thought I had pericarditis due to my raised troponin level. They did all the same tests that the cardiologist had already done, and they came back clear. I asked for an MRI forcefully this time and they agreed to it. The MRI showed that I had myocarditis. This is the test that I had asked my GP and my cardiologist for back in January and again in March. I had undiagnosed myocarditis all this time. Worse, I had been taking medication and following directives from the cardiologist that are life threatening to a person with myocarditis (salt tablets, increased exercise, increasing blood pressure).

I wanted the cause of my myocarditis documented. The hospital cardiologists said they couldn't put it down to the because they couldn't rule out that it wasn't long even though I had been exhibiting these symptoms for 3 months before I got (in late February), and my test results from January showed raised troponin levels a full month before I pushed back as

myocarditis is a well-known and documented side effect of the and they indicated verbally that it was more likely to be the but they were unwilling to put it in writing. I also requested to be referred to the injury team within the hospital (yes the nurse told me there is a whole hospital unit dedicated to this) and to the hyperbaric oxygen chamber for oxygen therapy, which I had been paying to have privately at \$180/week. Immediately after this conversation I was discharged in a rush, made to sit in the waiting room for 3 hours for my medication list as they said they "needed the bed". They didn't give me any documentation or discharge forms so there was no formal documented record of my myocarditis diagnosis, but they told me they would forward the paperwork onto my GP.

The medication and direction I was prescribed were the complete opposite to what I had previously been given. I am on blood pressure dropping medication, I've been instructed to avoid exercise altogether and I'm on a zero-salt diet. I still have to take the beta blockers and the tachycardia medicine. All this medication costs me around \$250 per month. None of it is on the PBS scheme, it all comes out of my pocket.

I called my GP 4-5 times after my hospital discharge to follow up on getting discharge records. The GP's office kept saying they had nothing. Eventually, after calling the hospital 3 times I was able to obtain a copy of my discharge documentation. Diagnosis: acute myocarditis. Past diagnosis: POTS caused by the ...

I have been referred to the post-clinic and the hyperbaric oxygen chamber at Royal Adelaide Hospital, but I am still waiting for them to contact me. I am also waiting for a follow up cardiologist date to be set. I am going to see the head cardiologist at Flinders Hospital due to the negligence of my previous cardiologist in refusing to get an MRI and failing to diagnose my myocarditis. I'm waiting to take another MRI in August to see whether my heart swelling will go down.

At the moment I can't exercise at all - as a Jiu jitsu athlete this is devastating. I moved to Adelaide to compete, now I can't even go for a leisurely walk around the block without being at risk of a cardiac event. I'm only just able to work - the fatigue and the brain fog is too extreme. I was dismissed from my job early this year because I just couldn't manage and am now on a low paying job that's only just doable for me in this state. My partner has had to make up the short fall by working more hours, which has impacted our family (we have a young child). I'm trying to stay positive, but there's not end in sight. The list of symptoms seems to continually grow - my latest new symptom is burning nerve pain in my back If anyone else out there is suffering too, please reach out. I can share information and support. We must support each other because no one else is at this stage.

Tony, 45yrs, M Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cflkv8\_JLzP/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/tonyrose76/

<u>₩1</u>: 000031A

I'm a 45yr old single dad of 2 teenagers. Before the  $\stackrel{\square}{=}$  I was fit, healthy and a boxing/martial arts enthusiast and a hard working, fast paced construction manager.

I never wanted the 🤐 from the get-go. I'm not anti 🤐 but I felt that something wasn't right with the 🗰 data. I truly believed with the very low serious illness rate that I would be fine if I caught 🗰 and was willing to trust my immune system to take it on.



But, as with all of us in Australia, that decision was taken out my hands with the forced segregation of those who did not take the poison.

I held out until early October 2021. Then I was proposed an exciting interstate work opportunity. That combined with the constant rejection from shops, doctors and a difficult everyday life here being un , I decided last minute that I would just get it. What a terrible mistake.

I received the 1st  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{\longrightarrow}$  of  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{\mathbb{W}}$  8 October 2021. I felt fine until the following day. I then started getting sharp stabbing pains in my chest. I also had shortness of breath and erratic heart rate which lasted for 4 hrs. The symptoms then suddenly stopped completely. However, the day after they returned again, but much more intense sharp pains which jolted me up from my seat. I went to hospital as it felt like something bad was happening. I was treated ok in hospital - they took bloods, did an ECG and advised that there was no significant damage. I was sent home that evening with pain killers.

The following fortnight things progressively escalated from the sharp chest pains to spikey headaches that would stop me in my tracks, followed by massive fatigue dumps, complete instability and mental vagueness all day every day. Around the 2-week mark where I was hit with a new swelling type headache which literally bulged my temples out a few millimetres (this is still slightly evident). I also had severe chest pains that put me in hospital again. This time the hospital checked me in overnight doing all sorts of brain, chest, spinal MRI, CTS tests etc. The results all came back ok with no diagnosis other than "possible pericarditis due to the existing the same part of the sa

I was prescribed Endone, Panadol and ibuprofen 3 times per day and sent home with the instructions in writing to get the esap and not the formy 2nd . I was totally deflated as I was still getting massive spikes in my symptoms and zero help from doctors - yet they still pushed me to get another. These horrible symptoms kept on for the following few weeks. The main symptom being consistent rotating between severe headaches, chest pain and fatigue.

In early November I finally got in to see a cardiac clinic who looked at me and said I was too crook to do the stress tests and could only have a heart ultrasound. My blood pressure was bouncing around with 3 separate checks in 1hr, I had blurry vision, was completely weak and unstable on my feet, collapsing in my seat the whole time. All the cardiac doctor could offer was gout medication and to say that he is "sorry, I am seeing countless unexplained cases identical to yours but can't do anything about it as it is new explained to say the technology and we don't know what's causing it". Once again, I left deflated and really struggled to find direction.

I was referred to an immunology specialist and to receive a heart CT. I left with no answers other than gout meds, 3 different pain killers and a terrible debilitating condition with zero diagnosis. My symptoms continued on the same with the addition of burning nerve pain, constant instability on my feet, micro pass-outs happening most days, inability to think or function for more than 5mins on anything, blurred vision and arthritis type joint pain.

My symptoms to this day continue and I have scary days of complete cognitive decline and real problems walking, focusing and functioning at any decent level. I have trialled all sorts of treatments and have seen endless doctors, had countless tests, scans, you name it. The doctors then all then tell me that I'm 100% and nothing is wrong. This is devastating to hear as everything is wrong.

I have had 5 hospital visits in total, GP's constantly, naturopaths, etc plus the immunology professor at St Vincent's gave me an exemption for life from anymore . He prescribed prednisone, chronic fatigue clinics, 1 year open ended medical certificate, but I still I have no real direction on what to do or a diagnosis. The health care workers are trying all options to not acknowledge this as the cause of this condition.

Occasionally, I do have small windows of feeling quite good, especially on this new treatment, but that also has had relapses and is still early days. So, I am basically house bound, unemployed on \$360p/w Centrelink, not covered by any workers comp or any government compensation as these Doctors will not diagnose me and here I am, still fighting, still searching daily for the key to unlock this poison.

Still to this day I struggle with basic day to day function. After 8 months of tests, treatments, and assessments, unfortunately I am no closer to a cure or any improvement whatsoever. This MRNA technology has basically injected a cancer like reaction in the energy cells of my body. I have no idea why it affects some of us and not others, Western Drs, specialists are all at a loss and have no explanation, despite the multitude of random anomalies in many of my tests there has been no answers or treatment other than pain killers and attending a chronic fatigue clinic.

A naturopath has helped me a lot and it seems the has removed my ability to convert energy from food to drive my body's function. All the initial severe heart and head pains, palpitations, limb & speech failure, tremors, tinnitus etc is all attributed to the energy levels in my body not being able to sustain proper function.

My words will never do justice to how horrific this truly is. Sadly, a growing number of previously healthy people know exactly what I mean. The best way I can describe it is to be literally dying 22hrs a day - it truly is a pain I've never experienced before.

I can function on average for a 2hr window every 24hrs. It's a daily roller-coaster not knowing the severity of flare ups. Some days I get a good light 2-3hrs in, whether that's doing some gardening, household duties, light exercise or gently riding the dog to the park. Other days I'm in complete functional decline unable to make it around the block on the bike or staying on my feet more than a few minutes. It has now settled to this endless daily cycle of being bed bound between short attempts to keep my body active.

As you can imagine this brings a whole world of pain beyond the physical, my whole existence has been altered. I can't do anything that makes me who I am. I cannot socialise, exercise, travel, work, engage in anything whatsoever without completely crashing. This has destroyed my mental health and put me in a dire financial situation. I was forced to sell all my assets to cover medical expenses and living expenses, on top of my unknown illness. It is quite confronting to accept.

I have recently come to terms that I will potentially be like this forever, at best it will be a long road to a full recovery, or equally as possible it could be a shorter road to my final decline. Doctors are at a dead end too and my ability to support myself and family has been taken away from me. I'm at the end of my savings defaulting on all my loans, drained of all my assets and now facing the reality of surviving on \$360 pw with no end in sight.

All of this is something I try not to focus on often as it simply drains my mood and energy which sends me into a massive decline, but unfortunately, I cannot ignore it any longer. In recent weeks I have been forced to reach out and accept money from family members and it is something that is not sustainable, it also pains me deeply to do so. The government compensation is a complete disgrace with zero advice on when and if they will ever help. My kids are the driving force behind this fight back to life, they are my everything and I must survive and rebuild for them, I need to see them become men and help them all I can.

I have had many days broken, I have written my last words to my son's and family, got my affairs in order, all with the real threat that any day could be my last with this poisoning. I am slowly moving past that real concern of death, but the truth is it still could escalate just that little bit extra any minute. I am a fighter and will fight this every second. Please stay strong all of you in my situation - this is real, you're not alone and I will certainly share any advice or success that I have in healing.

Finally, I don't say this out loud often, if ever. But here it goes - I need help! After battling for 8 months now I have conceded that I am not able to control this outcome as easily as I would have hoped. I am physically and financially ruined, I am genuinely in a fight for survival. It has taken me many months to accept this as fact but is time to acknowledge that without help I can no longer support myself nor my children.

Julita, 42yrs, F Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CfDwicUpAZ2/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/julitababs/

P<u>#1</u>: NA P<u>#2</u>: FK0892

I'm 42, I'm a youth justice worker and I'm very passionate about the work that I do. I was fairly healthy before the . I went to Zumba regularly, walking outdoors, the usual things. I had no health complaints.

I didn't want the because I thought the whole process had been rushed and I wanted to wait for more long-term safety data to be released. However, my job was mandated by the government, so I had to get it to keep my job. I did try to push back at work, but it was out of their hands. I took some leave while I figured out what to do, but I so badly wanted to get back work and I had a mortgage to pay, so on 21st December 2021 I got my first (left arm). I didn't have any reaction other than a sore arm for a couple of days. I felt relieved - maybe I was overthinking this and everything will be ok.

I had my 2nd Pe on 05 Janus 2022 (left arm). Initially I felt fine. About a week after the less I started to experience extreme dizziness. I also started to experience pain running from my right arm into my chest. By 19th of January, I couldn't even walk in a straight line from the dizziness and I had chest pain for over a week. I was concerned, so I went to the GP and he took my blood pressure. It was 170, and he told me to go to Emergency immediately.

On arrival at Footscray Hospital ED, I was so disorientated that I struggle to recollect exactly what happened, but piecing it together, I remember that they put a cannula in, and I remember telling the doctors and nurses that I hadn't felt right since the second . The hospital notes from that visit say, I had 3/7 dizziness, which I thought was odd because to me it was much more extreme than that, I could barely walk. They also said that I had 'white coat hypertension', which means your blood pressure reading goes up when you're around doctors. My sister is a nurse and she explained to me that basically they were saying that my symptoms were in my head. I was upset, because I know my body, and I felt that my symptoms were being minimised. There are no tests documented from that day and they didn't give me any prescriptions. They sent me home after a few hours with no advice.

The next day I booked in to see my GP. I showed him the hospital notes and told him that I was concerned, because I knew something wasn't right. My GP organised a 24-hour blood pressure test, which showed that my blood pressure was still very high. I was diagnosed with hypertension and my GP prescribed Olmesartan, which I have been taking ever since. The pain in my arm and chest subsided and the dizziness lessened to moderate.

Even though the dizziness and pain were now lessened, I started experiencing nausea and heart palpitations. The heart palpitations were concerning, so in late March I took myself to ED again, this time at Royal Melbourne Hospital. I waited for about 2 hours, but they were so busy and I felt so unwell that I gave up and went home to rest.

The nausea and palpitations were persistent that a few days later on 01 April I went to another GP (my regular GP was away) and he listened to my heartbeat. He identified an irregularity and sent me to hospital. I went back to Royal Melbourne Hospital ED. This time I waited a few hours and was eventually seen by a doctor. She checked my heart, did an echocardiogram and kept me in observation. A couple of hours later the doctor told me that the echocardiogram had shown ventricular ectopic heartbeat, which is a form of arrhythmia. She gave me a management plan of magnesium and potassium supplementation, followed by electrolytes. She told me to follow up with a holter monitor test for 24 hours as well as an echo ultrasound of the heart and referred me to a cardiologist. There was no discussion about the cause of my symptoms.

I followed the treatment plan as well as still taking my blood pressure medication. I did the holter monitor test and ultrasound. I picked up the holter monitor test results to take them to the cardiologist, and that's when I saw in the report that I had had 20 'events' in my heart within 24 hours. My maximum heart rate was 124, which is higher than it should be. I felt like "what's going on here?!". I just wanted answers.

While I was waiting for my cardiologist appointment to come around, I went to see the GP again to get some help with treating my nausea. He prescribed nausea medication, which I take frequently, as I need it. I also asked him for my echo ultrasound results. He told me that they showed an enlarged valve, but he assured me that I need not worry. I expressed concern that I was still experiencing daily symptoms and he said to discuss it further with the cardiologist.

I was really struggling every day with dizziness, nausea, lethargy and heart palpitations by this point. I was working from home a lot because I struggled to physically manage full days at work with the dizziness and lethargy. I'm extremely lucky that my workplace has been very supportive throughout this experience.

My first appointment with the cardiologist was 21st of May. It was quite brief. I mentioned that these symptoms had started after my second . He didn't respond. The cardiologist said I needed further tests and sent me for another holter monitor test and a stress test. He also gave me a prescription for beta blockers. I did the holter monitor test earlier this month and am booked for the stress test next month.

The beta blockers have been hard to adjust to because I get faint, but apparently this will settle after I'm used to them. At this stage, everyone is still trying to figure out what's wrong with me. None of the health professionals I have seen have been willing to discuss WHY this is happening to me.

I feel so tired all the time. Sometimes I feel despondent, losing hope. I can only walk for 10 mins; I get extremely dizzy and nauseous. I'm lucky that my workplace has been very supportive, but I don't know how much longer I can manage pushing through. I'm worried that I will have to live with this long term.

I have joined a class action lawsuit and have reported my symptoms to the TGA. This looks like it will be a long-term project. I'm not ready to give up yet. I keep hoping that the symptoms will resolve, and I'll be able to have a normal life again one day. I wish I had listened to my internal voice and never got the ...

Kieran, 27yrsm M Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Ce-wbOZJH96/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/p/Ce-wbOZJH96/

Before the , I was recovering from a major car accident that almost took my life about two years ago. A meth and alcohol affected driver ran a red light and T-boned me at 100kmph, breaking seven of my ribs, severing the tendons and ligaments in my left ankle. I also suffered a 15cm internal diaphragm tear, a broken pelvis, multiple lacerations to my arm and head and had bruising on most of my internal organs. After all this I was 1.5 years into recovery and back playing soccer at WA's third highest level. In the first season back, I won the top goal scorer award, so it's safe to say things were looking up for me finally.

I was extremely hesitant to get the due to not trusting the science completely and not knowing about the side effects for young men in my age group – I'm 27 years-old. In the end I decided to get it so I could attend a close friend's wedding and so it didn't affect my car accident claim when it came time to return to work. I wasn't even checked for the certificate of at the wedding and the mandates have now been dropped three weeks before I start working again. Knowing this now, regret would be an understatement for getting the ...

through my jog, I would have to hunch over immediately with 10/10 pains, almost what I would imagine an active heart attack would feel like.

Because I had pre-existing injuries from the accident, I tried to push through the pain thinking it was nerve damage or still pains from where I broke my ribs. After mentioning this to my GP who I see regularly due to the accident, she advised that I went and had an ECG, but nothing showed as abnormal. She then referred me for an echocardiogram and exercise ECG. This is when I received a call from my GP saying that my exercise ECG was showing I am borderline heart attack and needed to go to Emergency ASAP.

On the day I received the news to go to ED, I luckily had a friend staying around, so he took me to Joondalup Health Campus on the 4th of April 2022 where I spent hours undergoing ECG monitoring and X-rays. After five hours, I was discharged with a diagnosis of pericarditis and ischaemic angina as side effects from the . This was documented and sent off from the hospital as the official diagnosis – it was caused by the ...

The hospital experience was fine but left me concerned with the lack of further direction. I was told "if you have any further heart pains or if they get worse, please come back to ED". This concerned me as I explained I was actively having them as they were saying this, but because my ECG was fine, I was discharged minutes after this discussion.

I tried to explain "this little annoyance" has had more of a mental impact on me even over the huge car accident that I am still recovering from nearly two years later. Overall, the experience was not pleasant as it left me feeling that the healthcare professionals, we rely on have no idea where to go from here once the scans come back with no obvious abnormalities and furthermore, who to hold accountable for this if something even worse is to come from this forced .

Since the medication and diagnosis, I have had some relief from the Colchicine, Pantoprazole and Ibuprofen, but have noticed when I have run out for even a day, the symptoms of resting and exertion heart pains come straight back. I can't see this being fixed in 1.5 months as predicted by the cardiologist, but we will see. Overall, it's been about 3.5 months experiencing resting pains mainly on my back. I have not yet tried to exert myself for anything more than a 1.5km walk. I can no longer play soccer or even continue my physio rehabilitation to further my recovery from the car accident. It has put my life on hold and has me worrying about every heart pain I have, never knowing if it could be the last. It is truly terrifying. I'm truly grateful to have my girlfriend who has been by my side through my car accident and now this.

Josh, 15yrs, M Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Ce3DIDxJpa0/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/thisisme.kb/

My name is Kate. I'll be speaking for my 15-year-old son Josh who, Prior to the was always a very fit, healthy and happy kid. Josh was footy mad and played in a club, he also did athletics. He was a normal 15-year-old boy which you would expect to be healthy, just like everyone else his age.

Josh got the mainly due to peer pressure and the mainstream threats of not being able to participate in his sports, which was his life. As the parent I know that I have the last say but Josh had informed me that he would have done it anyway. Not only that it was out of my control due to personal reasons within my family situation. If it were up to me, I would have done everything in my power to stop it happening. I now have to live with consequences daily of my son no longer being able to function as a normal teenager.

Josh got the  $\bigcirc$  on the 20th of September 2021. Immediately he felt nothing at all. He came home and went to sleep just like any other night, and he continued on with life as normal. He got the second  $\bigcirc$  on the 11th of October. Once again, he felt nothing immediate and just continued on with life as normal. 2 weeks post 2nd  $\bigcirc$  he came to me and said that he had been experiencing chest pains, shortness of breath and not sleeping well since a week ago but just hadn't said anything.

Later that night, the chest pains got so severe that we had to take him to hospital. On arrival they tested him for , and we waited a couple hours before they took him in. I wasn't 100% sure but I mentioned that this could be from the and they said it was possible because it was very common that they see a rise in teenagers coming through with the same symptoms and then ran tests, ECG and Bloods. ECG returned abnormal and they said that could be common amongst younger children, they didn't tell me the result of the bloods but said he was perfectly fine and sent him home with Nurofen.

We went home and the symptoms stayed for the following week, he didn't go to school because of how much pain he was in and being unable to breathe properly. He followed instructions to take Nurofen, but nothing helped. It got to the point he was unable to sleep due to the increasing pressure in his chest, so I booked him in with my GP and Josh was sent off immediately for bloods and another ECG. We got a call within a couple of hours and were told to take him straight to emergency because his troponin levels were through the roof.

We went straight to ED and had the exact repeat of what happened the previous week but with one extra test being the echocardiogram, which happened the next day and came back completely normal. It was evident that there was something wrong, yet we weren't getting any answers which was extremely frustrating. No one would give us a diagnosis even though it was brought up through conversation that this could be from the

After a few days of not hearing from anyone, we went back to my GP and I demanded that Josh see a cardiologist, who we saw within 2 weeks. In this time Josh still had not returned to school and his symptoms remained the same with some days being unbearable.

The cardiologist appointment came, and she said that he had myocarditis and pericarditis and that we would never know this was from the on not. Even though this is the only explanation that could have caused this kind of reaction to a perfectly healthy kid.

She gave of a list of steps to follow based on his symptoms which was to stop everything physical, rest as much as possible and to take Nurofen for pain management. Given my own research, I asked if it was a concern, 8 weeks on since the and Josh is still experiencing the symptoms with no end in sight. She responded to say that it was mostly anxiety which was caused by the parent (myself) being under a lot of stress which then flows down on to Josh. That was her explanation for Josh's symptoms.

A week later we returned for a review. Josh was no different and she suggested a holter monitor for 24 hours. She didn't think it was necessary, but I insisted. The results came back that everything was normal, and she didn't feel the need for another review and told Josh to just follow her advice on resting and taking nurofen etc.

Another 3 weeks passed, and Josh had still not improved. I spoke to a girlfriend of mine (GP) who was shocked to hear that Josh was told by a cardiologist, that this was anxiety and she referred us off to a reputable paediatric cardiologist for a second opinion. We saw him 2 weeks later and he confirmed that Josh had myocarditis and pericarditis. Josh was atypical with his symptoms, he said that most teenagers who are presenting like this after the have high levels of troponin, but their symptoms were resolving in a matter of weeks. Josh's troponin levels weren't as high, but he is still experiencing severe

symptoms 3 months later. He basically said that he didn't have the answers and we don't know if it's the , but it's most likely, his symptoms are due to anxiety. He said that he could do an MRI, but he didn't feel the need to see Josh again. So, he organised the MRI through the royal children's hospital and noted that someone would be in touch with me over the coming weeks.

A few weeks later we had a phone call out of the blue from an immunologist who wanted to organise the MRI for Josh. it took us about 4 weeks to get in and we didn't hear back from anyone until Josh was admitted to hospital again, presenting with Severe jaw pain, numbness in his face, he couldn't move his mouth properly, Severe chest pains, shortness of breath and a feeling of overwhelming nausea. He was admitted for 3 nights, and this is where we finally got the results to the MRI which came back normal and there was no apparent long-term damage to the heart.

No doctor spoke to me the entire time I was in hospital but the minute I stepped away to attend to the rest of my family at home, a doctor decided that Josh was fine to go home, and he was discharged with a list of medications including Colgout and Nurofen. At no point did any doctor explain what was happening and what the medications were for. There was no follow up plan, and we had more questions that before.

A few days after we called up the paediatric cardiologist who we had seen previously, He recommended that Josh should be under the care of a paediatric cardiologist and unfortunately, he wasn't able to help us. Yes, you read that right. This brings us to the current day, 8, going on 9 months Josh has found no relief to his worsening symptoms and with no answers or solution presented to help him other than to take a list of medications which weren't explained to us what they are doing for him specifically. We are lost, confused, devastated. Mentally Josh is suffering, and we don't know what to do. We have tried everything in our power only to be dismissed time and time again. By sharing Josh's story, I hope that now we can be heard.

Logan, 31yrs, M Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CeP0MAPJ0\_u/

Contact: https://www.instagram.com/logan\_stapleton\_magicmen/

I'm 31, prior to the  $\bigcirc$  I was in peak health and fitness as my profession is in roof plumbing and stripping which requires me to be in tip top shape all the time. I had testicular cancer when I was 18 but after surgery, I was fine and never had any problems every again.

I got the expectation because of the mandates, my livelihood and everything that I worked for was on the line. It was either that or sit at home unable to pay the bills, so I got the expectation on the 26th of August 2021 (left arm). Immediately I felt nothing, not even a sore arm however, later that night I started to feel like I had Fever, headache and restlessness all over. For the next week I was bed ridden, I knew it was the expectation, but my symptoms started to slowly decrease, and I went back to life as normal but with fatigue which has stuck around ever since. I didn't think there was any significant issues, so I went ahead and got the 2nd expectation on the 7th of October 2021 (Right arm).

Immediately, the symptoms I had from the first ereturned and became severe as the day progressed. I put myself back to bed for the next week and the symptoms started to decrease once again and started to get back to my life as normal. It was 6 weeks after my second when after my training sessions I would start to get a very tight chest and shortness of breath.

On Christmas Day 2021 I was feeling pretty average and didn't make an appearance, I just rested on the couch all day. Boxing Day came and I woke up to severe chest pains that I hadn't felt anything like before. It was a sharp radiating pain in my left peck that was really tight down the centre of my sternum and underneath my peck as well. I called the ambulance unsure of what was happening but the amount of pain I was in was too much for me to handle.

When the ambulance arrived, they told me I had pericarditis on the spot. The ECG show SG elevations which is why they came to that conclusion, and they admitted me into hospital where I spent the next 2 weeks.

They ran tests, Ultrasound showed inflammation and fluid around the heart, Chest X-ray, Bloods which showed troponin level rises, ECG coming up with the pericarditis rhythms. I told them that I thought this was from the , but they didn't want to put 2 and 2 together and wouldn't write it on paper that this was an adverse reaction to the . The whole 2 weeks I was there, I was in severe pain that just wouldn't go away, I was on morphine and Ketamine, but nothing worked.

While I was in hospital, they put me on Colchicine and Celebrex which actually started to work for a couple of weeks, I was able to return to work, or at least I tried and the chest pain come back harder, hitting me like a tonne of bricks. I called the ambulance again and they picked me up from the job site, they took me to ED and treated me with painkillers and follow up tests. They were so busy they didn't have a bed for me and because the pain started to ease, they just discharged me.

Ever since then I have been in and out of hospital just to try and manage the pain having up to 29 trips in the ambulance and another 2-week stint on Good Friday. This time they did a heart MRI, nuclear test for white blood cells and a stress ultrasound, which all showed inflammation and fluid around the heart, so no changes and they just managed my pain with morphine and endone.

This brings me to the current day where I'm booked in to see a rheumatologist to get some stronger pain killers and anti-inflammatories which hopefully will help me manage my condition. There is no treatment to my condition other than to take drugs and rest in hope that the pain will go away.

I'm still experiencing chest pain daily, it's a constant 4/10 pain that doesn't go away ever and gets more painful with deeper breathing, which doesn't help with my shortness of breath. Between loss of wages and medical treatment it has now cost me 25k at least and it has affected my overall social life and mental health being unable to be active which is everything my life was prior to this.

Allan Died at 68yrs of age, M Townsville, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CeSofWBpkHS/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/maadbell/

My name is Margaret, I'm telling the story of my now deceased and very loved husband of 40 years. Allan was 68 years and passed away on New Years Day 2022.

Allan was diagnosed with stage 3b Adenocarcinoma in 2019 with a tumour in his left lower lung and the medial lymph nodes which is in the centre of his chest. He was treated with chemotherapy and radiation, his tumour and lymph nodes responded very well and he became stable. His right lung was clear and there were no health issues in any other area. His PDL1 test came back at 90% and he was able to carry out normal and physical activities up to early October 2021. We have documented evidence from friends and family who have witnessed this.

Allan got the Pe on the 11th of October 2021 (left arm) because I (Margaret) have dealt with cancer also, Allan believed that it would be protecting me due to the information received by the mainstream media, friends and family.

Immediately nothing was felt. 9 days later he presented at the GP with chest pain and difficulty breathing. He was given an ECG and sent home because the results came back clear. There was no given medical advice, just to go home and rest.

The next morning, I took Alan to the ED because his breathing had worsened significantly. They did numerous tests. D-dimer came back at 1.84 and scans showed that he had numerous blood clots in both lungs. He was then admitted, and a tube was inserted into his left lung. The fluid that was drained was over a 1000ml and what should have been straw coloured was severely blood stained. He also developed a severe infection which to this day they still don't know where it came from or where it was. Around this time, I went to the clinic where their procedure was done to report his deterioration, no details were taken down and I was handed a complaint form only.

The medical staff acknowledged that Allan had the but any ongoing conversation in regard to possible adverse events from the were dismissed by all medical staff at the hospital. They did an X-ray which showed all the fluids and clots in his lungs; however, he was discharged to go home under the care of PAC Nurses.

During this time, he developed minor infections (redness) around the site of the tube and continued to discharge up to 1000ml of fluid daily. His breathing deteriorated and we returned to ED numerous times. He was again admitted to hospital for review of his drain and on the 15th of November, which was his birthday, he was taken to theatre for surgery for the procedure to help seal the lung lining, a new drain was also inserted.

The next day the surgeon came and spoke to us, we asked if the procedure successful, he said there was just a little bit that they missed which we found out later, that was 30%. he said, "by the way you're stage 4 cancer". We asked for his oncologist to come in which to he was unavailable, so another oncology team came and spoke to us and could not give us any information. We were told to wait another week to see Allan's Oncologist. (Who at a later date admitted that he couldn't understand how it was possible for him to deteriorate so quickly from where his health was prior to the (a) Any further information on palliative cancer care I had to find out through the cancer council.

Allan was discharged a couple days later with absolutely nothing, Allan's biggest concern was oxygen to be able to breathe properly, his condition was deteriorating rapidly and we had to fight the hospital to be able to get oxygen here at home. We eventually got the oxygen delivered to us. His condition continued to worsen even with oxygen and his temperature spiked up to 39c. I took him back to the emergency apartment, he was seen by the surgeon who treated him, and was not given anything for infection control and sent home.

He rapidly deteriorated with sweats, temperatures, delirium, breathing difficulties and was in extreme pain by this stage, losing up to 800ml from his left lung still. I took him back to the hospital and went back to ED where he was reviewed and admitted, I said that he needed an X-ray before he came home, they removed his tube with no further testing and discharged him saying that he will be fine and doesn't need an X-ray.

Christmas evening came and he deteriorated even more rapidly and was admitted to ED the next day where they took a test because of his infection. We had to remain in emergency for 24 hours waiting for a negative result to come back. He was then admitted to palliative care where we thought they were going to insert a new tube and get his infection under control. We were advised to do an advanced medical directive and were informed that it was only to be used in the case of end of days. When he was admitted to palliative care, I was taken aside by the doctor, and I was informed that they had not been treating his infection because we had requested the advanced medical directive of no intervention but to make sure he was comfortable.

His condition rapidly deteriorated again a couple days later, we had to have the ICU crash unit to come down and attend to him, his oxygen status was down to 34%. I overheard the radiographer speaking to the Nurse. He said, "if this man doesn't get a tube in his left lung, he is going to die."

Allan was moved from palliative care to a 4-bed ward, and we were assured we would be getting better treatment. Basically, I was left alone with my husband for most of the night to the point I couldn't even get anyone to bring a urinal into him when I rang the bell. however, they would bring an in which they wouldn't tell me what it was and turned him to make him comfortable. We had barely any assistance all night, yet he was still spiking temperatures, having night sweats and at this stage they had put him on an air flow machine.

The next day when the palliative doctor finally came to see us, I demanded that we go back to palliative care. They said they are reviewing his case and considering another drain and trying to decide what to do regarding the infection. The specialist asked Allan, what he wanted and he replied "a bullet "I said to them he's had enough, this has taken far too long, he's had the infection for weeks and no one has done anything about his drain for days and I want him back in palliative care, to which the doctor responded he would make the arrangements immediately.

Allan was then transferred back to palliative care where he was made comfortable and placed on morphine and a catheter was inserted, he was much more rested finally. Allan was peaceful for about 2.5 days. I woke up on New Years Day next to Allan and he had passed away beside me.

Allan never received another tube because the cardiac surgeon refused to do it, the palliative doctor was considering approaching radiation or pulmonary specialists instead but there was no action soon enough that could save him.

Wendianne, 54yrs, F Ipswich, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CeQQvbrJc-W/

Contact: wendianne68@gmail.com

₩#1: 000045A
₩#2: B000046A

I am a healthy 54-year-old single woman and have had no real health issues other than an occasional headache. If I had a headache, I could take a Panadol and the next day wake up with no problems.

I only decided to have the because it was mandated by my work, and I was told I had to have it by the 1st of February 2022. On the day of the I wrote on the form that I was not taking it voluntarily, but no-one took any notice of that. Apparently, you need to consent and say you are volunteering. The pharmacy nurse empathised with me but gave me the anyway. I received the first O on the 2nd of January 2022 (left arm). I felt okay immediately after. Later that day my arm became sore, but it was nothing major. The next morning, I woke up with a headache, so I took a Panadol. The headache however did not ease at all



that I had had the as they were being so demanding, and I wanted to hold out. In the end 300 odd people were terminated from my workplace.

Unfortunately, the doctor agreed, and he rewrote the certificate, something that I regret to this day. It was a vital piece of evidence of a doctor making the connection between the and my symptoms, which is rare! The headaches never dissipated, and the doctor just told me to alternate Panadol with Nurofen, but that didn't help.

I work at a computer all day long and the continuous headaches were very hard to handle. I had periodic days off as well as the occasional couple of days off from my doctor.

I also had to finish work early on a few days during January when the headaches were unbearable. No one can see your headache as opposed to a physical injury, so it was difficult taking time off and I felt judged. The doctor recommended that I delay the 2nd and my workplace only approved this if I provided them with a definite date. I went in on the weekend to give myself some recovery time if needed. I felt apprehensive due to my continuous headaches persisting from the 1st and again stated that I was only getting this due to the mandates. I mentioned my symptoms after the first and the nurse stated that typically 'only one are gave anyone any issues'.

I received the 2nd 🗀 on the 12th of February 2022 and was immediately followed by an even worse headache. I took Panadol and on Monday was straight back into the doctor but saw a different one. He was the poster boy for and completely dismissed my headaches as being unrelated to the . He said that 'no way' was this related and that he had 'never' heard of anyone being sick from the . This was a blatant lie as the nurses at the clinic knew my circumstances and one of them said that her second . He had given her incredibly high blood pressure. She had to leave work at the clinic that day as a result and this doctor must have been aware of this.

I returned to the doctor repeatedly with continuous headaches and again had to take days off. I was still having to leave work early on certain days when the headaches became unbearable. He recommended I take Hydralyte for dehydration but I already regularly drank a lot of water. I continued to complain of a continual thumping headache. The doctor then recommended that I see a physio as he believed it was my neck that was causing the headaches.

After three or four sessions, the physio said nothing was helping me in this regard and he sent me back to the doctor with a letter stating that the doctor needed to investigate the issue further. This was when the doctor relented and sent me for a CAT scan but it came back normal. He was very vague and dismissive about it all and wanted me to continue with the physio exercises and some anti-inflammatories, even though the physio had stated that nothing he was doing was working.

In March my mental health took a dive as I wasn't getting anywhere with the headaches in terms of treatment. The continuous headaches impacted my mental state as well and work suggested that I have counselling. My memory was worsening as well. Even driving to a well-known location was difficult as I would forget the directions. One day I couldn't even remember the location of my friend's house, which was really upsetting. I now have to write lists and re-read information at work that I've known for years. It is affecting my outlook, personality and demeanour. I am struggling with other's reactions to me as well. Fortunately, my team leader gave me an easier task to do at work and this was really helpful. Her manager wasn't happy with this outcome though.

I waited to see the original doctor again, as the second poster boy was not helping me. This doctor recommended I stop taking the anti-inflammatories as they were not good for my stomach. I went onto anti-depressants then and began seeing a counsellor through work. This has helped my mental health and I am feeling better about my situation, even though the headaches have not stopped to this day. The second doctor gave me a referral to a neurologist and I was able to get to see him in April. I have new medication for the headaches for when they are really bad. I have a continual low level headache all the time. The neurologist sent me for an MRI but it came back normal. I have a high pain threshold and I don't like taking medication but I have had no answers after five months. I need to keep working as I am single and can't rely on anyone else. Work haven't pushed the booster and I won't be having it. Quite a few of my colleagues feel the same and are not going back for the third  $\Theta$ . I have further appointments yet with my neurologist.



Source: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CeN3SFUpqhL/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CeN3SFUpqhL/</a> Contact: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/taylor">https://www.instagram.com/p/CeN3SFUpqhL/</a> Contact: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/taylor">https://www.instagram.com/p/CeN3SFUpqhL/</a>

I'm 20 years old, I was 19 when I got the  $\stackrel{\square}{}$ , Prior to the  $\stackrel{\square}{}$  I was a very physically fit and healthy person. I was working 2 full-time rolls and studying as well. I had a few previous health issues the last few years, but no doctors could distinguish what was going on. They thought it was Crohns, but I decided to stop testing after 8 long months of being sick and try healing myself naturally. After 6 months, I had healed myself to the point where I felt generally pretty good.

I then got a new job when NSW went into the really long lockdown. We didn't have to get  $\stackrel{\text{\tiny (4)}}{=}$ , it wasn't mandatory until the government came out saying that's what was required to stay open and fines will be given.

I had never even considered it, it's always been a no for me, originally because my body just can't take much. And then I saw the reactions these were having. So, I went to every doctor around me but I couldn't get an exemption. My work was prolonging it trying to put it off, until it was time to open back up to propose. It was either I lose my job or I book in.

I decided to book in. I cared for and prepared my body as much as I could leading up to my appointment. I also decided the was the better one for me to get, if I were to get any, despite still not being okay with getting it.

I sat there crying, as she injected the  $\square$  on the 19th of October 2021. I instantly regretted it. Within 10 seconds, my whole body went hot and started to throb. My throat started to feel tingly as well and felt like it was swelling a bit. I told the nurse, and she advised me to take a deep breath as she was cleaning up the bench. After 20 minutes, my throat didn't feel as bad, but I was still hot and my joints started to ache. Everyone told me it was just in my head so I ignored it.

I went home and basically went straight to bed because I was so upset with myself that I got it. I woke up at 2am with the most uncontrollable shivers and fever I have ever had, it felt like I was nearly fitting. Everything inside and outside of my body was aching. I was like this, in and out of sleep for the next 5 hours. I then woke up the following morning at 10am. Exhausted, unable to move, I felt like I had been literally hit by a bus. I stayed in bed until the next day when I started getting a sore chest, dizzy and lightheaded.

I went into the doctor's centre I got the at and they did an ECG. The doctor told me to head to the hospital because I may have a blood clot. I went straight there with a letter from the doctor with my ECG results. They had me in the waiting area for 20 mins before seeing me, they did another ECG and did a blood test. They then put a cannula in my arm and sent me back to the waiting room. I was sitting there for another 5 hours, waiting by myself because they didn't let anyone come with me. They also didn't help me walk anywhere despite being dizzy, lightheaded and unable to even walk in a straight line. They then called me in to say nothing was wrong with me, and to go home.

I stayed in bed for another week. I was okay but felt generally unwell for the next month. After a month had gone by, my chest started to really hurt. I went to the gym for the first time since getting the but after 5 minutes, I had to leave with the feeling that my heart and lungs were being squeezed.

I Went back to the doctor, and he mentioned I did have a minor blood clot the first night I went to hospital, and thought it was weird no one told me. Instead just sending me home. So, he did another ECG, and referred me to a cardiologist and put me on anti-inflammatory steroids until I got into the cardiologist. These worked, I felt good as long as I was taking them. If I missed one, I was back feeling like I was having a heart attack.

Every hospital trip leading up to my cardiologist, they told me it wasn't the every time saying I had nothing wrong and just had anxiety. I eventually saw the cardiologist and he said I had either pericarditis

or myocarditis, as well as a heart murmur. He also mentioned it was quite common for him to see heart issues with both patients.

After doing an echocardiogram, he said I had pericarditis directly from the (4). He gave me more medication, and basically said if you are still sore after these, come back. I still never got anything on paper, and they insisted I then get the (1) because I had this reaction to the other...! Obviously I have refused to get another (2).

I couldn't even walk up the stairs in my house without having to stop halfway with an aching chest and lungs. So I felt like s\*\*\* every day, I was having pain between a 6 to a 9/10 at least once a day.

I ended up trying out a different route and I booked in to get some IV treatments at Ignite MediSpa, (@ignitemedispa) which is inside Wollongong private hospital. Dr Niro (@doctorniro) is the head doctor and undertakes the overall review, and he suggested what treatments I got done.

I got a vitamin drip first, which I felt okay after. Not much difference after that one, but a little. And then I went in for a second one to detox the heavy metals and toxins from my body. I felt like I was coming down with a cold for about 2 days after. But ever since that second IV treatment, I have been back up and feeling basically back to normal!!! I have a few days here and there that my heart gets sore, but it's once every few weeks now, instead of every second of every day!

Which is so crazy because I wasn't even able to go on a light walk, let alone exercise without my steroid puffer. I'm now able to go to the gym 3 times a week, and can do 1 full weights session as usual, but still easing back into going more intensive workouts more often.

#### Anonymous Post, 56yrs, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CeM-CggJLBM/

Contact: oakita93@outlook.com

I am a 56-year-old woman who is healthy and fit. I've only had your typical sporting injuries during my life. I run a business and live on a rural property. I am also a mother of twins and a grandmother.

I only received the because I felt peer pressure to be honest and I wanted my freedom. I didn't want to be looking over my shoulder or be fined. I felt like I was being blackmailed by the Government to take the and potentially be stuck at home.

I received the  $\bigcirc$  on the 18th of September 2021. (Left arm) I had no reaction and felt fine. At that time they changed the schedule so that you were automatically booked in for your second  $\bigcirc$  within three weeks, so I returned for my scheduled 2nd  $\bigcirc$  on the 10th October 2021. (Left arm) By that night one gland on my neck became swollen. It was on the opposite side of the  $\bigcirc$  site and almost looked like a boil. I brushed it aside as I had had a kick to the head from a horse four years prior and just thought it was a weakness on the right side of my head or due to nerve damage. The next morning, I remember having a constant headache as well and I messaged my daughter to compare how she felt after her  $\bigcirc$ . She had received the  $\bigcirc$  on the same day as me, but reported just feeling a bit off.

From then on I didn't quite feel myself, but I just tried to get over it and exercise to flush it out. The raised gland never went down however and I knew something wasn't right. It was hard like a pea. Three and a half weeks after the 2nd 😃 I went to the

doctor as I was genuinely concerned. The doctor looked at the lump and I mentioned that the gland came up immediately after the 2nd . He was very dismissive and stated, "I've had heaps of experience with seeing this and I can tell you its nothing, but if you really want I'll get an ultrasound for you." (He kept telling me it was nothing and couldn't get me out of the surgery quick enough).

I was angry and upset that I was dismissed, knowing full well that glands don't just come up like that and stay swollen for that long. I had the ultrasound, and the doctor rang me and said it came back clear. I asked him if that was all he was going to do for me. He responded that that was it. I was pretty upset with his response and I told him he didn't care as I still had the swollen gland and it was unchanged and that it obviously wasn't 'clear'. He offered to do a blood test in two weeks but again seemed disinterested. I told him not to bother and that I wouldn't waste my time with him and would go to someone who would listen.

I then went to another female doctor. Again, when I mentioned the and the lump appearing immediately afterwards, I could see she had a noticeable reaction. I have noticed that doctors will not mention the or relate your condition to the . It never surfaces in the conversation again.

However this doctor listened to me and I asked to go on a round of strong antibiotics for five days to reduce the swelling, in case it was due to an infection. She agreed, however nothing changed. I then revisited the doctor and insisted that she continue testing the lump until I knew what it was. I also had blood work done and there was a small increase in my white blood cell count. I then had a needle biopsy of the lump.

On the 14th December I received a call from the doctor's surgery to come in and discuss my results. I had a sinking feeling and knew something had come up, as well as that they were suddenly being friendly over the phone. The doctor told me I had Non-Hodgkins lymphoma which is a cancer of the lymphatic system. I was devastated and felt that the world had just swallowed me up. People are telling me that it is a good thing that this has brought on the condition now, rather than later. However I believe my immune system was coping fine and that potentially in my eighties I may have eventually contracted this cancer.

I also have a primary stage one cancer, not a secondary cancer - meaning that this condition came on after the and isn't evidence of a pre-existing cancer. I'm not a doctor but my own research has uncovered that Non-Hodgkins can be caused by outside inhibitors such as fertilisers and chemicals and that drug hypersensitivity reaction can also show as Non-Hodgkins.

I am a strong woman and a fighter so I tried to get on with it. The doctors decided to get a core biopsy to decide the best course of treatment. Every time I went for a scan or tests the radiologists stated that I wasn't the only one coming in with lumps and that it was a common thing. I would mention that the lump arose after the to test the waters and see if there was a reaction or agreement.

After the core biopsy the gland grew by 7mm and I then saw a haematologist who sent me on to an oncologist and I started radiation within two weeks. Again I didn't feel as though the was able to be mentioned and it had to be kept secret and this bothers me to this day. The radiation treatment was successful and after three months the lump has disappeared and I can't even feel it. This week I had a PET scan which was quite clear and we are just managing it now. I'm not on any medication at all and I just have to keep an eye on my body and occasionally visit the oncologist. I feel as though I had to push the doctors hard to get the tests done that I wanted and to get a diagnosis. So my advice to others is to continue pushing for a definite answer and find a doctor who will help you. I won't be lining up for the and neither will any of my family members.

Xavier, 14yrs, M Kyneton, VIC



Source: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CeDadhUGSf/Contact">https://www.instagram.com/p/CeDadhUGSf/Contact</a>: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/nadened14/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CeDadhUGSf/Contact</a>: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/nadened14/">https://www.instagram.com/nadened14/</a>

I'm writing this for my son Xavier who is 14 years old. Xavier has been playing rep basketball for the last 4 years and is also a runner, he trained extremely hard up to 8 hours a week with competitive matches on top. He was in prime health and fitness for his age.

As parents we believed it was the right thing to do, so we were ourselves. Contributing to what we thought was a good cause backed by the mainstream narrative that this was perfectly safe and effective. We also had the pressure of everyone around us who came off perfectly fine after having their which made us feel safe. Xavier was also in a position that wouldn't allow him to enter due to the stadiums adhering to government mandates at the time.

Xavier got the Pa on the 21st of October 2021 (left arm). It wasn't until 10 days post he came home from school and put himself to bed, he mentioned that he felt very lethargic and not himself which was unusual for him. Later that night, his temperature went up to 39c, he was feverish and his heart was racing. We gave him some ibuprofen and he went back to sleep to wake up with diarrhoea which continued for 3 days.

During these 3 days we made a trip to the GP, He said to us that it was more than likely food poisoning which didn't sound right because I do the cooking myself and none of the rest of my family was sick. He told Xavier to keep up his fluids and rest.

It kind of crossed our minds that it was a bit coincidental that he's just had the but it wasn't clear until the following weekend that this was an adverse reaction. Xavier had gone to basketball training and we later found out he started experiencing sharp chest pains which resulted in him being out of breath. He came off the courts and rested and then recovered to try again and had the same reactions.

When he got home he had told us what happened and we took him to the GP, The GP ran tests, ECG and Bloods. Everything came back normal. I mentioned to the doctor that I thought this was from the but the doctor said that he couldn't make the link even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the only thing that had changed was that he's had the even though the even th

Xavier tried to continue on with his very physical lifestyle trying to manage the pain himself but his symptoms worsened with increased chest pain, shortness of breath and erratic breathing due to high heart rate. He was also experiencing aching in his extremities. We took him back up to the GP who ordered an echocardiogram and a holter monitor to wear for the next 24 hours. The result came back with everything in "normal range"

At that point we went to a paediatric cardiologist in Melbourne to get advice on whether we should approve of Xavier getting the 2nd his advice was that everything looked normal and he felt confident that if there was an issue it would have shown up on the echocardiogram. He advised to wait 6 weeks instead of 3 weeks.

Xavier had the 2nd Pe on the 2nd of December 2021(left arm). Again, no instant reaction and at this time of the year there was no basketball for the next 4 weeks so he wasn't very active at all but once he got back into training all the symptoms came back harder. After a session of training he would be extremely fatigued. We knew we had take him back to the GP again and we presented him with all the same symptoms. The GP said that everything was fine with the results he received from the cardiologist but we were still concerned because there was obviously something not right and being missed.

On the 26th of March 2022, Xavier was playing a match of basketball and being the competitive nature that it is, he pushed himself to the point of collapse. He was conscious but his heart rate was through the roof and it sustained at 120bpm for a good half an hour. The ambulance arrived and gave him some fentanyl for the chest pain and put him on oxygen and took him to the hospital

On arrival, the doctors took him straight in , they ran ECG, Blood work, CT. The results came back that his bloods had high troponin levels and there was an irregularity of the heart and the CT came back clear. They kept Xavier overnight on obs and released him with a plan to have further testing at the children's hospital. We returned to the same paediatric cardiologist and recommended an MRI which was on the 11th of April. Everything came back clear and he advised Xavier to just stop playing basketball all together.

Over coming weeks Xavier progressively bit by bit started to incorporate light activity to then try and increase to the level he was at before without playing competitively. It was whilst running a relay that he suddenly collapsed again with a racing heart and sharp chest pain.

We went back to our GP as quick as we could, they did an ECG but result came back clear again. After presenting to the GP and having the results return normal, while in consultation with the cardiologist we pushed for stress testing as all his cardiac responses were under physical exertion and not a resting hear rate.

The next step was to wait for an appointment at the children's hospital, In the meantime we tried alternative therapies such as acupuncture. When it came time to the stress test he felt a sharp pain and they tried to feel around but came to the conclusion it was muscular skeletal and everything was fine... so we aren't sure if it is the acupuncture working or what it is but this brings us to the current day and he's doing okay. He has retuned to training this week and seemed to be fine but we are monitoring him closely as this is all still very fresh.

Elle, 31yrs, F Sunshine Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CeCi\_4Kv2yE/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/alittleofelle/

I'm a 31 year old mum of 3 who has always been relatively healthy, besides from Adenomyosis (female reproductive issues), I'm active, eat well, look after my body and run around after my kids. I got the 1st  $\bigcirc$  on the 21st of October 2021 mainly due to peer pressure, I went by myself and although I was worried, a lot of my family had already had theirs with no issue, I thought I would be the same. 2 seconds after the  $\bigcirc$  I began to feel dizzy and told the nurse, it then got instantly worse and I started seeing black. This happened for a while of going in and out of consciousness, although when I could see, I was unable to talk and was still very disorientated. I remember the nurse looking at me and calling my name, but not being able to respond. They got me into a wheelchair and took me to a bed where I was in this in-and-out haze for a while as they repeatedly checked my blood pressure. I had weird tingle/tightening sensations throughout my body, hands and legs. I remember a nurse coming and putting her hand on mine and I squeezed it so hard just so I felt I had a grip of reality. When it had eased a little, I began balling my eyes out & messaged my husband and family for help (maybe an hour after the  $\bigcirc$ ). They kept me there for a few hours to monitor me as I continued to feel not quite 'with it'. The nurse told me that it was most likely an immune system response and the reaction meant my immune system was good.

I was there for a few hours when my father and brother-in-law came to pick myself and my car up. Security escorted me to them in the car park once they arrived. My husband got my kids from school and my family monitored for me for a couple of

days. I continued to feel bouts of dizziness, mild chest pain that came and went and a few random palpitations. I told a couple of people but was assured it was most likely anxiety.

I was left feeling quite scared and confused about what had happened, although comments from others didn't help. I was called a 'wus' and laughed at by people assuming it was a vaso-vagal response (anxiety). I spoke to my GP about my experience and he told me the same thing, that when people are scared they faint, yet I have fainted out of stress before, and it never had the longevity and intensity of that experience.

I left it a long while before getting my second out of fear. I felt a lot of pressure to get it and was made to feel like an irresponsible parent if I didn't. So, on the 17th of December 2021, I got my second . I asked if perhaps I should get a different one due to the complications of the first one although I was told it was best to get the same one again and that I would be fine this time. As suggested to me, I drank coffee (to keep my heart rate up) and laid down and prayed.

There was no immediate reaction this time around. I noticed that I was very lethargic most days and could not get through the day without a sleep. I did again notice random chest pains and palpitations, although didn't think much of it as I am young and have never had heart problems before and didn't consider that to be the case.

Around three weeks after the explain I, I went for a nature walk and noticed the pain increasing, so I stopped and sat a few times and went home to rest. The week after that I had intense pains again, although this time it seemed to be getting increasingly worse, I stopped my car to buy nurofen and had a rest before continuing to my family's house. I was talking to my parents on the phone, watching my kids in the pool when I stood up and immediately collapsed. The chest pain was bad, my heart was beating like crazy and I felt once again like I wasn't quite 'with it' I waved my daughter to get out of the pool and get my sister and I called my husband. He stayed on the line until my sister came out. My parents had a blood pressure monitor which showed it had gone out of rhythm and was extremely low.

I was shaking, felt vague, cold and mottled on my extremities. My husband arrived soon after and took me to the hospital. I waited around 1.5 hours before they brought me in to be seen. They did lots of tests including chest x-ray, urine, check for blood clots, and heart attack. They also tested for pots (postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome) which I showed mild symptoms of. My temp was around 38.5c so they also tested me for then sent me home that evening and told me to rest for a few days. The test results came back negative and I had no raised white blood cells to show I wasn't fighting anything.

I did not bounce back quickly, I would often have bouts of breathlessness, heart palpitations, tachycardia and the chest pain remained almost constantly. I could barely make a flight of stairs and would struggle just to go to the bathroom (even crawling a couple of times). I was supposed to start a new job as a carer, although I knew I was in no position to support anyone and now I was the one who needed the support. I called and told them I could not commence. I also work as a freelance model and had to have time off from that.

Two weeks later and I found myself with the same extreme 'loosing consciousness' feelings again, except this time I had nerve pains through my whole body and head as well. I got my husband to take me back to the hospital where the front nurse noticed I had a mild temp again and an irregular heartbeat. They rushed me in and repeated the same tests to which they found everything clear. They repeated the test which came back negative again, and suggested I follow up with my GP with an echocardiogram and to check my thyroid. They also suggested that it may be anxiety and to not come back unless my symptoms worsened. At this stage I didn't understand how it could get worse, but I was made to feel it was all in my head.

The next week I made an appointment with my doctor but had to wait to see him so It was any doctor I could get into at my surgery before I saw him. She asked If I had the and asked me if it was . I said yes and she referred me to get an echocardiogram and bloods done.

I then went to my regular GP a few days later (my echo was booked in that afternoon but I wanted to still see him). He did an ECG which seemed clear, he said that I could go for the echocardiogram if I wanted but it probably wouldn't show much, I asked about my thyroid and he said it was checked 1.5 years ago so no need to do it again and then told me I had inflammation of the rib cage and gave me a print out about it. I still went to the echo that afternoon and then a few days later I had a call from the doctor who sent me. She said that I had pericarditis and that I should not get any of for the but maybe wait until NOVA came out.

I was still struggling with the inability to do much at all. As a mother of 3, who was used to being able to help whenever they required, my capacity was very minimal. My husband and family stepped in to help wherever they could. I went to a different doctor and he prescribed me colchicine and also looked into my thyroid. The bloods came back with suppressed TSH but everything else appeared normal, I was told to come back and check this in a month or so.

I was on colchicine for 1.5 months, I noticed that my body was very weak and I ended up getting really bad stomach issues from it, the doctor suggested stopping and seeing if it would stop the stomach issues- it did. I did not return to taking them and began taking nurofen only when I really needed it. At this point I noticed that I was slowly getting a bit stronger. The next check-up, the results of my thyroid bloods returned and it was the same as last time. I asked for an ultrasound of the thyroid which he agreed to. The ultrasound showed that it was very inflamed and had a nodule so was sent for a thyroid upkeep where they injected dye to see what was happening. Their initial thoughts were that it was the beginning of a 'toxic goitre' which is supposed to progressively get worse, so was referred to an endocrinologist. The specialist did another ultrasound and said it looked like it was thyroiditis (an inflammatory response of the thyroid which produces too much hormones leading to tachycardia and heart palpitations). He noted that my referral had mentioned the pericarditis from the and wondered if this was also a rare adverse affect of the although made a comment at the end saying I could have had without knowing. I also asked if the thyroiditis could have caused the pericarditis and he said no they were separate. There appeared to be two elements affecting my heart, heart-rate, pain and breathing.

He prescribed me with steroids, although at this time I have not taken it as so far it has been two for two of negative side effects from 'medicine'. I seem to be going okay at the moment, things are a bit easier, and I can get my kids ready for school without it feeling like a marathon and having to lie down throughout the day. I have slowly increased the amount that I can walk and I do a few light exercises at home that do not increase my heart-rate. I have removed coffee from my diet, along with alcohol and gluten and I have started taking NAC daily. I have also been able to take on a few more jobs freelance which I'm thankful for.

I have yet to do anything strenuous like running and I do notice a bit of a sore chest when I do too much and have had worsening symptoms with the flu. It has been the longest 4 (almost 5 months) and I still need to do follow up bloods and echo soon, but I'm happy there is progress.

Angus, 28yrs, M Brisbane, QLD



Source: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CeAi8uUpyMr/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CeAi8uUpyMr/</a> Contact: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/maher.angus/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CeAi8uUpyMr/</a>

I'm 28 years old, a single father of 1, full-time. Prior to the living a very physical lifestyle. My work as a painter was physically demanding and I did motocross on the weekends. I had no health issues, only a bit of asthma which has been managed my entire without any problems.

I got the because I believed I was doing the right thing with having asthma. At the time they were pushing statistics out in the mainstream that made me believe it was going to bulletproof me and help me in my fight against .

I rolled up my sleeve on the 11th of November 2021 and received the Pe (left arm). Immediately I felt a butterfly in my heart but I didn't think anything of it. I went home but I could feel something wasn't quite right in my chest. The only way I can describe it, is if my chest started to slowly tighten.



2 days later I hopped out of the shower and suddenly collapsed on the ground convulsing, unable to breathe properly and struggling to control what was happening to me. I managed to call the ambulance but they didn't categorise me as urgent and my father had to come pick me up and take me into emergency.

On arrival I told them straight up that I was having an adverse reaction to the , they took me in straight away and ran tests, X-ray, Bloods, ECG and all the tests came back clear.. they did however find that my white blood cell count started to raise which meant there was an infection somewhere. They kept me there over night and put me on slow release painkillers and antibiotics then discharged me early the next morning, I was hardly able to walk.

I went home and called my GP to organise to see him the next day so I could organise all the medication that was prescribed to me by the hospital. They put me on Colchicine, Targin and a strong course of antibiotics.

From this point on up until my next visit to the hospital, my symptoms increased. I was experiencing severe chest pain which felt like someone had lit a fire in my heart and was rubbing sand paper all around it, it was absolute hell. I was losing feeling in my left hand, My breath was shallow, headaches, noise and light sensitivity, tinnitus, Pins and needles in my left arm (mainly in my ring finger on my left hand, which feels like hot glue inside of me) and this feeling has not gone. Not sleeping, just passing out and waking up in more pain. Shaking.

On the 3rd of December I collapsed and I was convulsing again. This time I went to hospital in the ambulance, and I told them this was from the and they responded saying it was common. He said he even had issues himself. At the hospital they ran all the same tests as before and I received the same results. Infected lymph nodes. (infection causing inflammation and strangling my heart).

They kept me in over 2 nights. At this stage I was I was writing up my will. I was adamant I was going home to die. They released me with the advice to rest, keep my heart rate down and to keep on top of medications. They also said that I'd be better off at home because they said I would catch it I stayed there.

I called my doctor and he was furious as to why I was released from hospital. I felt pretty defeated at this stage, not knowing what to do, I did everything possible, listening to everyone's advice but I just kept getting turned away because of No one could help me.

I ended up in hospital again under my GP's request that they see me. They ran the same tests and gave me the same results and turned me away a couple days later. I brought it on myself to see a private cardiologist, I was able to get in pretty quickly, he ran echocardiogram, CT and he couldn't find anything wrong with my heart and sent me straight back to my doctor. In the report he wrote down that "some of his pain descriptions were bordering delusional". I legit broke down handing this to my doctor. my doctor shook his head....he was trying to help and I guess he felt just as helpless as I did and we cancelled my public cardiologist appointment for cat 3 because of the cardiologists remarks.

This brings me to the current day where I have no end in sight or answers to what is happening to me, I'm off the antibiotics and I have defeated the infection but everything is still inflamed and as the day gets older, I get worse. I'm on anti depressants to block the pain from the nerve damage which is making me numb to the world even more than I already am. I don't really want to take anti depressants but it's been advised. I'm not depressed, I just want to get back to work...I'm about 5% if that of my old self.. I can't even use my left hand because moving it attacks my heart. My arm is in a sling and has been ever since I had the  $\bigcirc$ , I can't do anything. I'm disabled at 28 and I've lost absolutely everything even to the point of relying on food hampers from churches.

My only hope is for the (alim but then I know that I'm signing my rights away, I don't know what else I can do? My doctor was trying to help but was also reluctant to sign off on my claim scheme even though he had written multiple times that this was an adverse reaction to the

Claudine, 42yrs F Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd q0SPejy/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/claudinecfitmum/

P#1: FF8222 A#2: 323179P

I'm 42 years old, I have 2 children and a husband of 17 years who has been a massive support for me through my whole ordeal. I've worked in pathology 21 years and I teach group fitness in a gym, I was also doing 5 -7 hours a week of intense bodybuilding myself prior to lockdowns (which closed the gym and prevented me from returning until I was double.). I've never been into drinking, smoking or drugs and I'd only take Panadol if I was desperate. A few years ago I was diagnosed with Menieres disease in the ear (which gave me vertigo and hearing loss in my right ear). This was managed with Serc, twice a day and I keep my daily sodium below 1500 mg. Other than that, I was hardly ever sick prior to the lock in I didn't want to get the locause I've been involved with the HPV in the past which took close to 10 years to be approved, so to see a so significant passed in so little time had me concerned.

I put it off as long as I could because around this time, there were lawyers doing legal work to remove the mandates, but after 5 weeks off, the financial strain came as I am the sole income earner of our household.

I got the Pe on the 29th of September, 2021 (left arm). Initially I had a sore arm but no other symptoms presented immediately. Two days later I suddenly had sharp chest pain and shortness of breath. I told my husband to take me straight to hospital because I knew that this was the Pe This was my first admission to Ryde hospital. I mentioned I had the e 2 days prior but they brushed me off. They did an ECG, chest X-ray and bloods. The results came back as normal and they said "it sounds like you have and made me do a swab, which I didn't want to do as I'd been at home for 5 weeks off work in lockdown. Once discharged, I had to go home and isolate for four more days until I got the results, which were negative. I followed up with my G.P, who is a supportive doctor. She admitted that the chest pain is from the and referred me to a cardiologist, so I could be cleared to have the second. Through the next 4 weeks, I felt like my symptoms were gradually getting better. So because of this my GP recommended I get the instead of the P. I got the on the 3rd of November 2021 (left arm).

Again I was fine with initially with just a sore arm but 3 days later, I was teaching a cycle class and started getting chest pains. My heart rate was high and I felt like it was skipping beats. My gym manager tested my oxygen (which was quite low) and told me my heart rate was quite high and said he would feel better if I admitted myself to the hospital.

At Concord hospital they took me more seriously. I explained to them what had happened. Their bedside manor was better and they were onto me straight away with an ECG, X-ray, blood tests and checked me for blood clots. All came back normal, but I was still tachycardia with chest pain. They asked the hospital cardiologist to come down and he did a beside echo. The doctor verbally diagnosed me with pericarditis and told me to take nurofen and my symptoms would resolve itself over a few weeks but this was not written in the discharge papers. for the next week I followed doctors orders but On the 13th of November, 2021, I started to get a bad pain in my right calf which immediately I thought I had a blood clot. I went back to Ryde hospital and they kept me overnight. They did all the same tests, then repeated them a couple of hours later. All this time they hadn't given anything to manage my pain and they left me in the waiting room with a cannula in and took me in and out for tests. At one point, I was feeling unwell so the nurse said to come into the consultation room and left me there all night long. No food, nothing to drink and no one came in to observe me. In the early hours of the morning they said that I was all clear and sent me home with nothing.

On Friday 19th of November, 2021, I was at work where I started to get severe 9/10 chest pains and convulsive shaking all over my body. The ambulance was called by my colleagues, whilst waiting I collapsed. The ambulance were lovely and sympathetic and I was taken back to Ryde hospital because it was the closest. I was there for 12 hours. The nurse was sympathetic but the

doctor was extremely rude and dismissive to it being erelated. He said if it was a reaction it would have happened straight away", even though I had initially told him it did start straight away. All tests were ran but the same results came back. All Clear... it was that night I met another lady in the bed opposite me who had 11 days prior and presenting similar symptoms to me. (if you see this please reach out to me whoever you are) On the 16th of December, 2021, I woke up in the middle of the night with shortness of breath and a racing heart (160 -180bpm). I told my husband that I couldn't breathe and he called the ambulance. While waiting, my whole body started violently shaking which I was unable to control it. The ambulance arrived in 10-15 minutes and I requested they take me to Concord hospital where they took observations and ran more tests.

I was put in the waiting room as they were overrun with patients in E.D and only took me into a room for testing, I then had to return back to the waiting room. The level of care at this hospital was much better and I had 3 nurses constantly keeping an eye on me. The tests came back negative to no surprise and once again the doctors didn't want to admit that it was related. I was discharged with papers to say I was all clear and to follow up with my GP. I followed up with a GP visit, where all he could say was to keep taking the same medication until my next cardiologist appointment. My cardiologist appointment was on the 20th of December, 2021. He did an echo and I was diagnosed with Pericarditis for the first time. I felt he was the first one to take me seriously and It was nice to have someone sympathetic to my situation. He said "those bloody , I've seen so many people like you in the last 12 months". He also said some of his other patients had recovered in 6 - 12 weeks, but I was in the group of people where it was an unresolved case. I was prescribed Colchicine tablets for 6 months and steroids for 7 days to help with the pain and a high prescription of ibuprofen for 3 weeks. He also booked me for a CT scan to check my capillaries and arteries at Macquarie University hospital to be done on January 13th, 2022.

I followed the protocol and after a few days on the steroids I thought I was slowly getting better, but on the 7th of January 2022, I was just going about my day and I suddenly felt like I was having a major heart attack with radiating pain down my arm, back and into my jaw. My husband called an ambulance. They arrived on the scene and looked after me, they have been wonderful, every time. The whole way to the hospital I had an irregular heartbeat which they kept me in control. When I arrived, I told the doctors I have pericarditis. They reacted in a dismissive way and questioned my diagnosis until I told them it was my cardiologist who made the pericarditis diagnosis. They ran more scans, ECG, echo, and they could hear a "crackling sound" in my heart, which was inflammation.

Every couple of weeks, I was constantly tachycardic (it was hard to keep my heart rate under 100). It was the 2nd of March, 2022, when I saw an immunologist, He didn't do any testing and prescribed Verapamil to slow my heart rate. I looked at him and asked "if I had to be on this for the rest of my life?" he flat out didn't answer. He didn't have any other suggestions and I was in tears left feeling defeated because of what my life had come to.

I was on Verapamil for 2 nights, which gave me insomnia, muscle cramps in my legs and the chest pain intensified x10. I went back to my GP and she told me to stop taking the Verapamil straight away. I then felt like I was having better days, but the pain would come and go. My GP cleared me on the 13th of March, 2022 to resume light exercise. I found out at this appointment my reaction hadn't been reported to the TGA. He said "you can report it, there's a link to the TGA website".

I hadn't been teaching the high intensity classes at the gym, since my first admission to hospital. I'd been doing the classes where I could just instruct. I started to do 3 days of exercise a week to ease my body back into it until the 12th of April, 2022, when someone asked me to cover a dance class. I thought it'd be fun and easy but my heart felt otherwise. It was thumping through my chest, I was struggling to dance and talk at the same time. At the end when I'd checked my heart rate, it'd peaked at 198 bpm. On the drive home, about 20 minutes after the class, I had chest pain radiating to my jaw again. I pulled over and called my husband and said where to find me if he had to call an ambulance. I was trying to give my self-reassurance, but also asking "is this a heart attack at the same time?" After being pulled for 10 minutes I calmed down and I drove home.

I had a few days off work to rest and relax and give my heart a break. I returned to work at the lab and after an hour, I started getting sharp, stabbing pains, to the point I was hunched over. When the manager came in. She said "you should've stayed home". I rang my Mum and Dad, as they lived just around the corner from work and my Dad took me to hospital. This time they admitted me straight into a room and I got treatment within 30 minutes.

Dad stayed with me and I think only because he was there, they took better care of me. They did blood tests, ECG and hooked me up to a heart rate monitor. They said they would "repeat the tests in a couple of hours", but everything was normal and sent me home and to follow up with my GP. It's been about 2 weeks since my last trip to the hospital and I still have a tachycardic heart. My sitting heart rate is about 105-110 bpm, and as soon as I stand it goes from 130-135 bpm. Current symptoms of digestive issues (due to medication), heart pain, shortness of breath, fatigue, continue persist with no end in sight. We're really struggling financially because of my injury. (My husband is unable to work as he lost his job in the first wave

of lockdowns). I've had so much time off work over the last 6 months, that I got a letter of "unacceptable amount of time off" from the pathology clinic. My husband heard about Workers Compensation from the injuries, so he looked it up. I emailed my manager about this and she threw back the responsibility to the government, as "they were the ones who mandated it and we were just following orders". Because of my time off, I can't report to my supervisor anymore. I now have to report to the manager, who dismissed my diagnosis being anything to do with the . She requests a doctor's certificate each time (which I have to pay for). All the sick leave in the last 6 months has been unpaid as it's been accrued as I haven't been working in long enough blocks to accrue it. All the medication doctors visits, appointments, hospital trips, specialists is costing me an arm and a leg and which I can not afford due to my injury. I'd like people to be taken seriously and for everyone to acknowledge how many people have been damaged by the as it seems they're only taking a certain amount of stories to keep on the narrative of this so-called 'safe and 'effective".

#### Anonymous, 15yrs, M



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd-b0vtpfzq/

Contact: kristy.sherween7@bigpond.com

I'm writing this story for my 15 year old Son, For his sake, this story needs to remain anonymous but you can contact me in via email in the description if you wish.

For this story, I'll call my son J. J was extremely fit and healthy, training every single day since the age of 13 to fulfil his dream of becoming a professional AFL player. He had knee surgery in 2020 and even with that, he was so driven, he would get up at 5am in the morning to go and swim, then go to school, then train after school for another hour. He was extremely on the ball with anything to do with health and fitness for his age.

The reason J got the estimate is because he needed to have knee surgery in Brisbane which then we all had to get it because of the mandates. J then also came to us wanting to get it done in order to protect his good friend who has cancer. At the end of the day we had the last say over our son's decision but because of peer pressure amongst his friends and the threat of not being able to play sports. Obviously we just wanted J to be happy and be able to live his life as he wished. We regretfully gave him the OK, which is a decision that eats away at me every single day.

J got the Pe on the 1st of December 2021. (right arm) He showed no immediate symptoms other than fatigue for the next 3 days. We didn't let him do any strenuous exercise in this time which wasn't made clear to us at all, and that it should've been much longer. It was just my own research. After the few days passed J was back into his life as per usual.

J got the second ( on the 23rd of December 2021 (left arm). He started with feeling fatigue like before but this time was showing signs of agitation. It was later that night we were at the shopping centre, he walked up a ramp and he said that he had pain in his chest and was having trouble breathing. He told me he needed to go to the hospital but we were under the advice by the doctors of that if there were any symptoms to just take nurofen and rest, and that we did.

The next day he woke up and wanted to go to the local shop. He got to the next street over from us and called us to say that he had chest pain and couldn't breathe. J's father came and picked him up and took him straight to ED.

On arrival he presented with shortness of breath and a heart rate ranging from 40-190bpm, feeling of drowning under water, chest pain and fatigue. They did ECG, Bloods, CRP, X-ray and a bedside Echocardiogram. All results came back clear but they said they would run further tests if he was to come back. He was discharged that afternoon at 4:44pm on the 24th of December. On Discharge the treating doctor vocally expressed her concerns for J having early signs of Myocarditis and Pericarditis but nothing was written, and advised J to take Nurofen and no activities for 2 weeks. J was extremely devastated and scared at this point.

Back at home, 9pm that night, he was walking down the hallway when he lost his eyesight suddenly and he ran into the wall. His rate was 138pm and we raced him back up to the hospital. They ran all the same tests but the results came back with more details in the bloods. We later found through our naturopath that they overlooked low markers which were clearly not okay. Basically J was just monitored and they tested him for but they wouldn't even give him a glass of water even though they said he was dehydrated. J's eyesight came back and because the results were clear, he was discharged at 3am the next morning.

The next day, J rested but on the 26th of December he presented all the same symptoms with his heart rate screaming at 180bpm. J actually said to me at this stage that he thought he was going to die which is what no parent ever wants to hear from their child. This memory destroys every day.... We took J up to the children's hospital this time. They ran the same tests and we got the same results.. the paper work went on to state unlikely myocarditis and pericarditis and told us to go to our GP and organise a holter monitor and get a referral to a cardiologist and immunologist.

We went to the GP and he looked at J's paperwork to turn around and tell him that he just had anxiety. He gave the referral for the holter monitor and said it would be interesting to see the results. We went on holidays the next week where J wore the holter monitor for 24 hours. While we were there J collapsed twice due to exhaustion but refused to go to hospital because he was in the mind frame of "what is the point" because no one was helping him.

We returned the holter monitor to the cardiologist clinic and we had to wait a week to get the results due to inundation. the Results came back that there were no significant cardiac rhythm and sinus tachycardia. but his heart was showing 168bpm which was all within "normal ranges" but all he was doing in this time was resting and playing PlayStation.

At this point we felt defeated and not sure what more we could have done, the medical system was failing us and we had no where to go so we just kept J at home resting as much as possible until the 15th of January. J started twitching and having tremors in his left hand. The chest pain was worsening and he was feeling very weak. I rang the women's and children hospital and was advised to bring J back in. This time they ran all the same tests again for the 4th time. The discharge paper work doesn't say anything about results really so we are just assuming that the results came back clear again and that we were to see another cardiologist.

The next 2 days J just slept the whole time and we decided to take him to his physiotherapist as we were starting to notice muscle atrophy. We worked out 3 exercises he could do on his knee without raising his heart rate over 100. 3 hours later I went down stairs to give him his tea and I found him collapsed unconscious in my en suite and wouldn't wake up. This was absolutely terrifying. We called the ambulance and they arrived within 10 minutes and by then, he had woken up. They took him up to the hospital and ran all the same tests but all the results were the same. We had multiple conversations with the doctors about it being the and we were furious that we were getting told in a round about way that indicated it WAS from the but they wouldn't write it down on paper.

The following Thursday he returned to the hospital to get a holter monitor and an echocardiogram done again to then have the cardiologist appointment on the following day which was a complete waste of time, telling us it was probably muscular skeletal but also asked us if we would like to participate in a deverse reaction study which we did later on. The doctor also gave J the all clear to fly to Queensland to have his knee surgery on the 4th of February 2022.

A week went by and we had the anaesthetist call us about J's Operation. He went on to say that he didn't think this was a good idea after looking through all of his paperwork and stating what he's been seeing happen all around the world. He mentioned he wasn't anti or pro but he was concerned to say the least and said that there needed to be more investigations done before he was able to be operated on. We contacted the cardiologist and he told us that the anaesthetist had no right to question his qualifications and that J was perfectly fine to fly to Queensland to have his surgery.

The immunology appointment went well and listened to what was happening to J, we headed into a room with a cardiologist who then ordered a cardiac MRI be done but wouldn't be able to make it happen for 4 weeks. Luckily, We organised a cardiac MRI ourselves. The MRI results came back and the surgeons looked over the results and gave us the all clear for knee surgery.

4 weeks ago from this current day J had his knee surgery. The surgery went well itself but the following day the physiotherapist went to get him up and his heart dropped down to 30bpm resulting in him staying in hospital for longer than expected, but they looked after him awesomely at the Brisbane private.

This whole time J's symptoms of tremors had been worsening, becoming more frequent and his cognitive ability has been in decline. This is effecting his entire life from school work to socials to the point he doesn't feel like he can be out with friends for it making him exhausted and unable to function the next day at school.

We have seen some improvements thanks to the anaesthetist in Brisbane putting him on some heart medications and seeing a naturopath but he still has no direct diagnosis. The immunologist has stated J will need ongoing support for psychology, physio and to attend a pain management clinic. He also put in the report that there's 11 cases per 100k chance in 12-17 year old boys that he could have myocarditis or pericarditis but didn't specify that this is what J had. J is left feeling angry at the system and where it has left him. He never wants anything to do with any hospitals ever again. He is improving but he's only 50-60% of himself and unable to follow his dream as a previously healthy/fit/talented 15 year old boy.

Jenny, 33yrs, F



Source: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd96ykAp">https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd96ykAp</a> 0v/Contact: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/jennybb35/">https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd96ykAp</a> 0v/Contact: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/jennybb35/">https://www.instagram.com/jennybb35/</a>

P#1 FH3221

I am 33 years old, I worked full time until December 2021 (shortly after the first (a)). I had a clean bill of health before the (b), every regular health check-up was fine.

I tried to avoid the end for as long as I could. I didn't want to get it because of my experience and what I witnessed at work. We had a lot of unexplained deaths coming through since the introduction of the end and which hadn't happened in the 6 years I've worked there.

Cause of death unknown. Usually, there is always an explanation. Same with the number of stillborn. Usually, there were 2 stillborn every 2 months, and when they introduced the , the numbers drastically increased. 16 were stillborn in one hospital and 10 were stillborn at another hospital all in the same week. All of the mothers were while pregnant. I even had deceased patience which had the paperwork on them proving that they just recently got the .

It was mandated at work In the end of November 2021. I got my first  $\bigcirc$  on the 29th of November (left arm). Straight away, I had intense pain (9/10) in my right arm shooting up to my neck and giving me an intense migraine. I went home and took 2 Nurofen as advised by my GP.

The next day I was at work, I started getting chest pains in the middle of my chest, shortness of breath, and fatigue and heart palpitations. So I decided to check myself out and head to the ED. When I arrived they had me waiting for 6 hours. The Nurse did an ECG in the waiting room and decided it was not urgent. When I was finally taken through they tested my ECG again, saying it came back normal. The doctor suggested that I might have acid reflux. So the doctor gave me heartburn medicine to see if it would help as my ECG was normal.

15min later nothing changed, it only made me lightheaded and the Doctor said there is nothing they can do, she "thought" I might have early pericarditis and told me to take 3 Nurofen 3x a day for the next 3 days. If nothing changed another GP appointment was advised.

On my Hospital discharge referral, it says: "chest pains, worse lying down than standing up, no fevers or triggers, or URTI symptoms. Shortness of breath in usual actives and unable to catch her breath when standing up. Concerns of early pericarditis considering "Pe"

Obviously, the symptoms didn't subside so I ended up seeing my GP. He referred me to get a scan for an echogram with a 24h heart holter monitor. I was more fatigued at this point. I couldn't even walk 50m without catching my breath. The chest pain was unbearable. All I could do was continue the course of Nurofen until I got the echo scan done. When I went to book my echogram and heart holter monitor at Radiology, they told me there was a very long waiting list and I'd be waiting a week past my GP appointment. In tears I pleaded that I wasn't able to wait this long as I was suffering. The receptionist was able to organise an appointment a week later. After Seeing my GP about the results, I was still fatigued and I could not even walk. The GP said everything came back normal and he recommended getting my 2nd 🤐 as all tests so far were normal and there was nothing more he could do for me. I questioned which was the better one? P or . He said I should get the . as it was my first one. I left unhappy with this information and decided to ask around and find another GP for a 2nd opinion. My medical certificate had run out so I had to get back to work but I was still only operating at 70% of my usual self. Chest pains, heart palpitation and extreme fatigue were still present while working. At the time I needed 14h of sleep just to be able to manage my day. Often I would go to sleep thinking I might not make it through the night. It has taken a huge toll on my mentals, no one believes that there is anything wrong with my health. Yet it has been extremely scary for me. I went to see a 2nd GP and he reviewed my echogram. I explained my symptoms and he asked if I was depressed, mentioning I had Anxiety. Of course I left again without any answers. A week after I saw a Naturopath who gave me an IV drip of Vitamin C and Iron. Since then the chest pain has turned into a dull pain.

One week later I caught from my daughter. The first 2 days were like bad flu with migraines then I was fine. Thanks to the NSW Health Dept. gave me an automatic 6-week exemption.

Being recovered from a negative test, I asked my employer if I could come back to work, they said that I am not able to come back until I had a statement from my GP saying that I had the intention of getting my 2nd.

Through a friend, I saw another GP who was more open-minded. He sent me off to get tested for POTS. The test was a tilt table test, my heartbeat was extremely high when I was tilted up. With that, he gave me advice to take in more fluids with salt, compression socks, and a corset. I left with a further 3 months exemption on top of the 6 weeks that was previously given to me and I started to feel a little more hope.

The symptoms were slowly going away the day prior to this appointment but were replaced with bloating, gut issues and more sweating. The chest pains came up at night and early morning combined with sleep issues and heart palpitations.

My work refuses to take me back as they do not accept my exemption. Apparently, I was a safety threat to my double-colleges. So they stood me down in March without pay until I get the 2nd . I haven't been working for 5months and my exemption expired 2 weeks ago. With that they said that I have until the 27th of May or I will be stood down effective immediately. I Tried to get a case with workers' compensation but It was unsuccessful as I ended up being diagnosed with POTS which is not a common adverse reaction.

The reason I am anonymous is because I am currently held up in a court case with my ex-employer on the grounds that he owes me 35k in compensation because they mandated the and now I'm injured. Now that I'm in the courts they're telling that if I don't get my second then I will more than likely lose because the commissioner will dismiss my case being in favour of my ex-employer for the reasons that I didn't intend on getting the second.

Symptoms I'm still currently experiencing are chest pains, overheating, digestive/bowel issues, anxiety due to injury, lack of sleep and tinnitus, there's still along way to go and my GP has just told me I can no longer get anymore exemptions even though my symptoms still persist. He offered me to have another appointment with the cardiologist but I have not worked for so long and I don't have the funds to be able to do so. He has also since told me that It would be safe for me to take the NOVA which I had been considering until seeing injuries coming forward on JIA

Andy, 33yrs, M Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd78O3tJbjH/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/andy\_b.brown/

△#1: 308978p △#2: 317705p

I'm 33 and live in Melbourne. I have worked as a Jeweller in the family business for the last 10 years and also work in the film and television industry. I have no pre-existing conditions and was very fit and healthy prior to my first . I had been eating well and doing intense cardio for the 12 months prior and had just started getting into strength training.

I had my first (a) on 08/08/21. I chose to have it to protect vulnerable family members, for the freedom to go out and to be a good role model. I developed flu like symptoms with a fever, lethargy and leg cramps which all went away after a few days, and I went on with life.

On 21/09 I went to the doctor (this was #1 of 7 appts in a month) as I felt run down and like I had glandular fever. I had a check-up and bloods on the day, and an X-Ray done on the 27/09. I went back on 29/09 to chase up the results and because I wasn't improving. I stopped exercising, as I didn't want to make it worse.

I got the text about my 2nd (I hadn't put 2 & 2 together yet), so went to a hub on 02/10. During that weekend I went downhill and started to get 'classic' pericarditis symptoms - fast heart rate, left side chest pain, shortness of breath and fatigue.

On the Monday morning, the 04/10, I woke up with my heart beating so fast I thought I was going to have a heart attack - It was like I had overd0\$3d on drugs or something. I felt so tired I just wanted to sleep for another hour before getting up for work and managed to, on the cold floor without a blanket. I felt exactly the same an hour later when my alarm went so I booked an 11am doctors appt. He checked vitals, lungs, and ordered a bunch of tests (all came back 'normal'), I told him I was sure it was the exactly the same and adverse reaction report (which later ended up being rejected with a 'lack of information') and he and did a referral for an X-ray stress echocardiogram.

On 06/10 I had a stress echocardiogram (on a). I was on the treadmill for 10 minutes, and they kept saying 'You can stop now". I had felt pressure in my chest and my fast heart rate but wanted to keep going so they would see what's going on and believe me, I could barely breathe after. They said my left atrium is slightly enlarged but I should be fine and could go back to working out now. I thought they knew what they were talking about despite me feeling like I did. I did 30 mins the next day at beginner pace and felt like I was 90 - I had chronic fatigue, was short of breath and had a thumping feeling in my chest making my body feel heavy and foreign, like it wasn't my body. It was like someone was sitting on my chest in resting phase. I was sore for a week and didn't work out after that. I was upset and angry they'd given me such ignorant advice – Who would have been responsible if something happened to me?

On 18/10 I had a Cardiologist appt. My BP was pretty high when I got there and they asked whether I'd been active that morning, which I hadn't. Their concern made me concerned. I had an ECG (normal) then saw the Cardiologist. She asked questions to rule things out and told me there was nothing notable with the Stress Echocardiogram results, and that I didn't need a return appt.

On 19/10 I ended up in ED as I had been on the phone to make an appt to make an Xray and they asked me some questions and thought I might have a clot because of my symptoms and me mentioning I'd had the recently. In ED I had an ECG and bloods, was there for 4 hours then referred back to my GP with advice to take Panadol and Nurofen.

My doctor then requested a lung function test, but before he said that he said – "Do you think it could possibly be in your head?" – I immediately shut him down and said "No".

On 20/10, I had the lung function specialist appt.

I was put in a chamber with a mask that had a plastic tube and bag on it and did a number of breathing exercises for 20-30 mins. The results were fine. She then ordered a VQ Lung Scan (360 degree in depth scans).

On 22/10, I had a CT Angiography, the results were fine.

My doctor's communication over that month was terrible, I'd had 7 appts - he wasn't following up results or advising me when he had them or sending referrals, so I booked appts just to get him to do them. I kept saying my symptoms are from the , but he was exploring everything else. He thought I'd had asthma and prescriber and inhaler, tested me for Mercury and lead poisoning (chemicals I'm exposed to in my job), He analysed my history and environment – the was the last resort, then he pulled out 'Have you had a B12 ?' I was dumbfounded – It was a whole lot more serious than that! When he cracked it at me on the phone saying, "I've done everything you requested!", I decided to move on but reported him to his manager telling her she can't have him questioning people whether their symptoms are all in their heads. She was very apologetic and wished me all the best.

On 13/11 I went to a new GP, this one ordered tests for things not previously looked into and prescribed me Colchicine, which I only took for 2 days as it I had a reaction to it, then saw there were 2 pages of side effects.

15/11 – I had the VQ lung scan done and On 24/11, I went for a 2nd lung function test (exact same one I'd had prior) and my results were "Respiratory pressures are reduced, suggestive of a degree of respiratory muscle weakness". The specialist could see my heartrate spiking up with ANY movement on the 6 minute holter monitor walking test, and acknowledged that something was wrong, It was one the first time I actually felt validated.

On 3/12, I had results back from my GP from the lung function specialist saying 'we can see there's something wrong, but don't know what it is', so I was referred to a new cardiologist to do a Vo2 max stress test (the type athletes do), I was told the wait list was 4-6 months (I didn't have it until March).

Throughout November and December I had been taking Nexium (to line my stomach) & about 10 ibuprofen per day to alleviate my symptoms (as I hadn't been prescribed any pain relief) and I started getting bowel issues, so I realised I had to stop taking them.

A friend had a wedding mid-December and I'd been drinking (no-one had advised me against it). That night my heart rate was so fast - I couldn't sleep, and I did not want to lay down – it was scary. I realised alcohol was really bad for my condition.

On 7/01/22 My symptoms were the still the same (Heart rate, chest pain, short of breath, fatigue). I ended up going to a Cardiologist that a family member knew, the waitlist for the other one was still a few months wait and I was still suffering. He prescribed 25mg of Prednisolone which wasn't working. I emailed him and he said to 'up it' to 50mg. I was on 50mg for 2 weeks, but it severely affected my mood - I was angry/irritable and knew I had to come off it. He told me to wean off it but didn't tell me how much. The Cardiologist was ignoring my emails asking how much to wean off at a time, as I knew It has to be done slowly. I ended up emailing all 5 clinics he worked at (5 different emails) to try get a response - He wrote back "I'm at my whits end what to do with you!, I don't think anyone can help you". When I was weaning off, I ended up breaking my hand on my car in anger (out of character) - it was in a splint for 6 weeks.

18/01 – I had a Echocardiogram done, the Cardiologist (known by a family member) said the results were fine and said verbally it's possibly delayed immune response to the but on the referral notes to the Rheumatologist I attended on 22/02 he read off the screen which said 'suspected Pericarditis from the 'that was the first time I'd heard this. The Rheumatologist hadn't received any results from the Cardiologist – I was irate about this as every appt is a day off work to travel etc.

On 15/03 I had my 2nd appt with the Rheumatologist who told me I didn't have an underlying autoimmune disorder in relation to the ... That was now the 4th specialist telling me they couldn't help me.

On 29/03 – I had my appt with a 3rd Cardiologist and had the Vo2 max test. I was on a treadmill with speed and incline had about 20 monitors on me and wore what's like a gas mask. I went for 8 mins and my Heart Rate was 180bpm. They pushed me by 20 second increments and said they had good data from it, plus I wasn't sore the next day either, which was a first. They then had me wear a 'Heart Bug' monitor for 1 month, which connects to your rib cage and collar bone, and has a small device collecting data. The results returned that everything was fine. I felt like they were downplaying everything. In early April, I hadn't been able to sleep as I was stressed thinking it was a lifelong thing. I was up doing research every night and quite sleep deprived and ended up crashing my car.

I'm still working, and some days I need to go home, but idle time isn't good for me. My symptoms are still there and are only about 10-15% better than last year. I am walking on a treadmill half an hour a night - it's really difficult to see 60yr old's running past my house, knowing I can't.

I have nights where I'm in pain and can't sleep as my heart rate is high and I wonder if I'll wake up the next day. I have brain fog, hand twitches and am forgetting things, I can't exercise, I can't drink, I have spent thousands of dollars, time and energy on trying to get diagnosed. This has affected my work/career, social life and mental health. I struggle to focus and stay motivated. It's hard to plan for the future and I feel no hope some days.

I'm on a Related Myocarditis/Pericarditis Facebook group which has been so beneficial for information sharing and connecting with others who are going through what I am. I've had also in the last couple of weeks, which is taking time to get over.

I'm going to both a Naturopath, who has referred me to a Homeopath dealing with side effects. The Cardiac MRI is the only test remaining I have left to do – I've done everything else. I'd managed to send emails to them which have ended up getting me in 2 weeks' time.

Joe, 41yrs, M Gorokan, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd7oCcSJ-6t/

https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd7oCcSJ-6t/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/jadereweti2.0/

NOVA #1: 4301MF04 NOVA #2: 4301MF04

I am a 41 years old, a husband and father of two young children. Prior to the I was working hard and doing double shifts. I enjoyed fishing, working and spending time with my family. I was very active and rarely sat still. I had a full blood analysis taken days before the which showed that I was very healthy and had no issues (except a slight elevation of cholesterol).

I watched from the start of the crisis and knew mandates would be implemented. My wife has a history in the health industry and is clinically minded. When the mandates came in, she sent comprehensive information to my employer as a warning against the mandated work . My employer then said that they would work around it. The mandates then came in statewide and I was told I must get the so I stopped working for 5 weeks to avoid getting it.

I did not want to get it at all and waited off work for as long as I could. I wasn't the only one - a lot of the team said no and 8 employees were stood down. I am the provider for my family and couldn't hold off waiting any longer. I resigned myself to

getting the NOVA when it arrived. I still didn't want it at all but thought it may at least be the better option, as it was the type that we had all had before, a known science and hopefully the lesser evil.

On the 21st of February 2022 I had the NOVA (left arm). Thankfully I had no symptoms on the first day, and none for the following 3 weeks. I had to get the 2nd 3 weeks later and went in for my 2nd NOVA on the 14th of March 2022. That morning my 3-year-old daughter put her hand on me and said 'Daddy I'm so sorry you have to get the needle'. This is when things changed for the worse.

Straight after the , I had a dead arm. I could feel a nodule under the skin where it went in. I went home and lay down for an hour as I felt a bit tired. 3 hours later I went outside and then came back inside holding my chest. I had huge pressure in my chest and couldn't catch my breath. My wife did a manual blood pressure check and spoke to my doctor. At first, I put it down to anxiety as we had had a lot of friends injured after their and I thought maybe I was worried something bad was happening to me. I decided to go and rest again, and I slept so long and through dinner.

My wife was monitoring me and when I woke up she said that I looked like I woke in a state of shock. I was crying and in such a confused state. I felt terrified. I was having night terrors about having to frantically fill barrels quickly or clowns were going to hurt our girls. I and others in the dream were being forced to do as the clowns said for fear of injury or death to our families. I was trapped and couldn't get out of the night terror - it was so vivid and real that I woke up traumatised from the nightmare. I was so thirsty, I went to get a drink but I couldn't pick up the cup. I became unsteady as my hands weren't working so I went back to bed and slept until midday the next day. My wife was balling and so upset seeing me in this state. She works in aged care and she said it was like watching someone with dementia.

When I woke up I was talking about the night terrors again as I was so disturbed. We know 3 people who has the same NOVA batch and experienced the same night terrors. Over the next few days I kept resting as I had no energy. I was out and not able to be roused and still experiencing chest pain, my blood pressure continued to increase, I had migraines, shortness of breath, disorientation and burning in my arm.

3 days later on the 17th of March, my wife called my doctor as I was in severe discomfort. I went in and saw the doctor who confirmed that my bp was elevated noticeably higher than my normal (but not too high for him to be too concerned). The doctor advised me to rest, not to panic and for my wife to keep monitoring me and to come back in a few days if my symptoms persisted.

The next day, I phoned the medical centre as my pain was even worse and my BP was rising. I went in and the nurse triaged me and did my blood pressure (because the doctor was busy and had been bombarded with illness from the (a) as she was was concerned that I might have myocarditis. She said that they are seeing so much of this injury from the (a) and said it was common in males after these new (a) s. I was then sent straight to the doctor who checked my blood pressure which was high, and he prescribed medication for suspected myocarditis, (Ramipril 1.25mg) to 'protect from any further heart damage, prevent strokes and to prevent renal damage'. He asked me to return in a week.

4 days later I returned to the doctor as I was still in pain and having symptoms. My blood pressure was 143/91 P 82 on rising. My wife demanded a full blood analysis but the doctor refused and said he 'wasn't allowed'. Over the following days I continued to have chest pains, severe fatigue, shortness of breath, irritability and fatigue. On the 2nd April (just over 2 weeks since the 2nd \*) I had a trip to emergency with chest pains and headaches all of which had been happening since the 2nd • . We saw lots of people in emergency who were experiencing chest pains, shaking, tremors and hives. I felt partially heard by my doctor, but I know that he is gagged and can only say so much for fear of repercussions. I feel irritated because there is a knowing, but no one is saying anything beyond those walls. Even in the hospital, the nurses, GP, and emergency all said they suspected I had myocarditis. I have been diagnosed with hypertension and a 'suspected adverse reaction'. I have had a stress ECHO test and endo cardiogram test and they all came back as clear. Why do they come back clear if I am injured? None of the health staff offered to report my injury to the TGA, but my wife has documented everything and has reported it for me. We know several people in our circle who have had the same back and 5 others that we know had adverse reactions too.

Currently I have weekly gp check ins, my blood pressure is steadily coming down, I feel a bit better. I have been working reduced hours when I can, and I must take many days off as I'm still not fully up to it. I am adamant that my wife and kids will never get this poison. I still have a heavy chest, breathlessness and a migraine. I can't even walk without trying to catch my breath. Everything has changed - I am always tired, I sleep more, I am agitated, my patience for my family is reduced, I am on edge and very irritable. This upsets me as I love my family so much. I am no longer myself and I feel like I have been violated.

I wanted to share my story as I was reading these type of injury stories and hearing them in my circle of friends and I want to bring more awareness. These are not crazy people, they are not. They are being censored, dismissed, ignored and misrepresented by industries and big tech platforms. My message is - don't get it. I wish I could take it out of my body.

Helen, 51yrs, F Mornington Peninsula, Melbourne



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd6qiYgPb34/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/helenrobi44/

P#1: FH4092 P#2: FF4222

I'm 51, married and have 3 daughters 21, 23 & 25. I live on a beautiful golf course in Mornington Peninsula and work in Management for an Insurance company.

I have Type 2 diabetes which was diagnosed some years ago and is under control. Because of this, I have check-ups with regular tests (including Thyroid) with an endocrinologist, which have always returned normal levels. When came along, it was a good thing for me and I'd used it to my advantage focussing more on my health - I wanted to lose weight and be more active. When I went to get my 1st  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{=}$ , I had gone off carbs and was walking 5ks most days.

I had my 1st each on 6th August 2021, thinking I was doing the right thing. Within 2 weeks, I started to feel fatigued, tired and was losing my breath. I was still trying to go on my regular walks but my neighbour had noticed I wasn't myself and was hesitant for me to come because she could see I was struggling - I didn't improve from this point.

On the 18th September, 5 weeks after the 1st , I'd just had a shower (which had become a daily struggle), and couldn't breathe. I'd collapsed on the bed and my husband asked if he should call an ambulance - I said yes. I was taken to Peninsula Private where I was admitted for 3 days. I had all sorts of tests, a CT scan, chest x-rays and bloods done, my oxygen levels appeared ok and everything was 'normal'. Before I was discharged they wanted me assessed by a psychiatrist as I had a bit of family stress at the time. I'd dealt with stress my whole life and never had it affect me physically. I was prescribed medication for mild anxiety. I was discharged on 21st September with Cause of symptoms unknown' and also referred to the sleep apnoea clinic to be tested overnight - the results showed I have mild sleep apnoea, which around 5% of the population has (Mild requires no treatment).

After I was discharged, I went to my GP to let her know what was going on. I told her I was nervous about getting the 2nd that was booked in for 26th September, and told her "I think I'd had a reaction to the first one". She told me I needed to protect myself and encouraged me to go and get it done - I thought to myself 'of course I do, I have to protect myself from the ...".

On the 26th of September 2021 I went and had my 2nd Pe. My symptoms worsened but I just lived with them. Between my symptoms and taking some time with my daughter, I took a month off work, and when I returned (I was working from home), I was so fatigued that I had to sleep at lunchtime, and when I logged off at the end of the day I had to have another sleep, then

I'd get up to cook dinner and go straight back to bed. I had gone for dinner at a friends place 2 doors down and they picked me up in their golf cart as I didn't have the energy or breath to walk that far. I couldn't talk, my voice had become hoarse, and I was breathless - I came home in tears.

My 2nd trip by ambulance was on 13th October. Whilst in the emergency bay, they came to do a chest Xray on me (results normal) and I heard one of the staff outside the door say. "Another patient". I asked the doctor if this was a reaction to the and he said, "It could have been a reaction to anything". They kept me in to monitor me for a few hours but found nothing wrong, so they sent me home and I just continued to live with the symptoms. I knew within myself, and my husband knew too, it was a reaction to the . He told me later, he and my friends had watched me slowly deteriorate since August.

On the 4th of November, I went to a follow up cardiologist from the August hospital stay. He told me there was nothing wrong with my heart, and discharged me as a patient. Around this time, I started to experience Nausea as well, I thought it was from taking my Diabetes medication on an empty stomach. Over the following weeks I looked awful and people were noticing.

On the morning of the 8th December, I told my husband I was going into Melbourne to take my daughter to an appointment, but I didn't feel well. I was about 15 mins from home on a call with my mum and told her how I felt and she convinced me to turn around and go back home. As I turned the car around in the direction of home, I felt ill and the last thing I remember was vomiting on myself in the car. I then woke up some time later under hospital lights, unaware of what happened, then it was explained to me. I'd passed out driving, went into a ditch then hit a tree. I was extremely lucky there was an off-duty fire-fighter who pulled me from the car. I was dead.

Another 2 guys pulled up and the fire fighter had one of them help him give me CPR and sent the other to the Bunnings 2 mins down the road to get the defibrillator there. They were doing CPR on me and had done 6 or 7 zaps with the defibrillator when emergency services arrived which was about 15 mins after the crash. I later met the firefighter who saved me. We were on the news, and interviewed on a podcast ('Roll with the Punches', episode 313).

In hospital I had a cardiac angiogram and cardiac MRI that revealed 'No obvious cause of VF (Ventricular Fibrillation) arrest". They inserted an ICD into my chest as a safety measure (while I was awake, which was not a nice experience) this starts the electrics of my heart if it was to stop again, but I know in myself it's not going to happen again.

My cardiac arrest happened through , so I was in hospital on my own, with no family able to see me for the 1 week I was there. The lady I shared the room with was my saviour through this, we formed a special bond. And Karen, Wayne's wife (Wayne has a similar story to mine) was another I formed a friendship with.

A Cardiac Registrar came to do his rounds one morning while my twin sister was on FaceTime, and as my memory after all this was terrible, I asked if she could remain on the call and listen while he saw me, which he allowed. She asked him "Could it be from the "?, and he said "It could be from the and maybe she's that one in a million". He has been the only one that hasn't blatantly dismissed me. I am 99% sure it was the that caused every symptom and the cardiac arrest. They questioned whether I have a genetic mutation which causes 'long QT syndrome' so a referral was done months ago, but I'm still waiting to be contacted for an appointment/testing. To my knowledge there is no long QT in my family. If I don't have any markers for it, there's no reason to have the ICD and it should be removed.

My GP had been supportive through this, but when I went to see her in February (when my ©00ster was due), she still wanted me to have it! I told her I didn't want to and she said, "I don't want your family coming to me when you're in ICU with "" and I said to her "They won't be coming to you then, but they will if I have the © and another cardiac arrest" She responded, "But you'll be ok because you've got the ICD". I couldn't believe what I was hearing —I was speechless.

I phoned the cardiologist's office and spoke to a nurse about an exemption. I didn't need one for work but I thought in case I wanted to travel. They gave me a referral to the infectious disease clinic and I had a zoom call with a doctor there. I told him what happened to me and the timeline of events and he said "I don't see this having association with the ", I recommend you go get your "I basically told him to get stuffed.

On a phone appointment with My endocrinologist in March 2022, he asked me if I knew I had a 'Graves disease' (thyroid) diagnosis. It was on my discharge papers from the Cardiac Arrest hospital stay in December - Nobody had informed me at the time (He couldn't believe I wasn't told). My Thyroid levels had been tested on my August hospital stay and were normal, so I'd developed this disease sometime between my 1st and 2nd ...

I hadn't been on my walks since September 2021, then a couple of weeks ago, I was a mess after a psychologist appointment and called my husband to ask if he thought I could handle a walk, I needed to get out but I'd been so worried about getting my

heart rate up and the ICD going off, that it confined me to home since the cardiac arrest. He said yes, he thought I was up to it and I trusted his judgement, so I went. I had to stop a few times but I was on cloud 9 when I came back.

I was recently triggered from a news story of a lady from the UK who lost her husband from the —I keep thinking of what my family might have faced if I'd had that same fate and become just a number, a statistic. Being confronted with my mortality and living through the trauma afterwards has been, and still is extremely difficult - Physically, I'm seeing some improvement (although with every movement, I feel this ICD thing in my chest and it's painful and uncomfortable), but Mentally, I'm deteriorating. I'm frightened and having panic attacks all the time. I'm still very angry about the injustice of all that has happened to me, the lack of accountability and being completely dismissed the moment I mention the —.

A return to work was being reviewed for June, but there's no possibly of that right now, I don't have capacity to deal with much. I'm a survivor - I should be thriving, but I'm not.

Anthony, 31yrs, M Brisbane, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdxUggXJqvU/
Contact: https://www.instagram.com/costa fit and boxing/

I'm 31 years old, prior to the  $\stackrel{\textcircled{\ }}{\bigcirc}$  I work as boxing coach and was living the life of a professional boxer, training anywhere between 20 and 25 hours a week, and having medicals every couple months. I was in peak health and fitness and there were no indicators at all that would foresee what was about to become my fate after taking the  $\stackrel{\textcircled{\ }}{\bigcirc}$ 

I was in no rush to get it and I wasn't against it but I got the because of the amount of peer pressure I was receiving from being in the position that I was in. I was convinced that I was doing my part for the greater good.

I got the (1901) on the 29th of June 2021 (left arm) I felt nothing immediately, 2 or 3 days after, my arm started to feel heavy and quite sore but as time passed, each day the pain subside more and more until I felt nothing and life continued on as normal for the next 3 and a half weeks.

The borders had just opened up and I had a fight in New Zealand on the 23rd of July 2021. About 10 minutes before the fight I was warming up, I started to feel tense, my body was feeling stiff and my breathing was off, My precision and balance was off, I was feeling not yourself at all. I walked down the stairs towards the ring falling all over the place. (Imagine a drunk person stumbling). I'm usually quite an animated person but there was nothing in me.

The fight started and my opponent was in range but I couldn't make myself do what I was meant to do. Obviously he did what he was supposed to and he started hitting me. My vision was like, Imagine a strobe light going on and off, I made it through the first round somehow. here is a picture me gasping for air in the corner.

My coach was telling me to get it together and I jumped back in for round 2, again the strobe light effect was going on, he was hitting me but my right side was dead and I was only able to swing my left arm around out of desperation to do something. I was knocked down once, twice and on the third time my coach threw the towel in.

I was conscious but I stumbled out of there to the backrooms and later made my way back to my accommodation, I slept fine and I woke up fine the next day. Later that day we were at the driving range and I was unable to hit a golf ball, my coordination was totally off the mark, I was just having to awkwardly laugh it off with my team and later went back to my accommodation.

The next day I flew back home to Australia and I was fine on the flight, just a little bit tired. I picked my car from my parents house and driving home I hit the gutter 3 times, I didn't really make the connection this was the end or that anything serious had happened to me at this point. I felt reasonably fine but I thought it was strange how uncoordinated I was.

On Monday I was back at work. Taking punches on the pads and I started to feel uncoordinated and I decided It was time to do something about what I was experiencing. I went and saw a GP and I told him what I was experiencing. He ran some tests on me, CT which came back clear and some Coordination drills which I failed and he then ordered to get an MRI.

By the time I got out of the MRI machine the doctor said that I needed to go and see my GP straight away. I got to my GP to find out I'd had a stroke. I didn't believe him at first and I threw the question at him, Are you serious man?! At this point I knew he was serious. We later found out that the stroke was in the caudate nucleus which is the part of the brain responsible for my fine motor skills.

He referred me to a leading neurologist who specialises in strokes and got me into physio. I've been very proactive since, attending 4 different rehabilitation centres and doing my own therapy even having to buy children books to teach myself how to write and how to use a pencil, I couldn't even write my own name. I struggle to use keys, using a phone, picking up objects.

About a week after my diagnosis I attended a follow up with my GP when he clearly stated to me by Voice, in his words "the money is on the "" he said that he should be the one to be against as he was the one to administer it but he wasn't denying at all, he was verbally confident that it was the (A). However all the other specialists flat out dismissed the idea because I was 2 days out side the window for it being an adverse .

In August 2021 I underwent a procedure to get Toe which is a camera that goes down my oesophagus to take photos of the structure of my aorta which came back clear, I have no holes in my heart. In September I underwent the next procedure which is a loop recorder, linked to my phone via Bluetooth to monitor my heart activity.

This brings me to the current day where I'm about 90% of my old self. I still experience a bit of brain fog, Co-ordination and reactions are no where as good. I can not box anymore and I haven't put my gloves on since and I don't know if I'll ever be able to fight again.

Inez, 50yrs, F Coffs Harbour, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cdwi1cYpixE/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/nez vsnowflake/

P#1: FF4222 P#2: FH3219



Hi my name is Inez. I am 50 years and happily married. Prior to the lalth issues that needed a specialist or medication. I had been diagnosed with low Iron a few years ago, but was managing just fine. I was also a pilot for 12 years, so I was used to having regular medical health check-ups, which were always all clear.

As I work full time in aviation, it was required that I needed to be to work. I didn't want to receive the, but I made the choice to do it to keep my job in Kalgoorlie WA at the time, which is why I'd moved to WA. I really didn't want it at all but I was so happy where I was in life, I did it to keep my job thinking that the chances of something happening to me would be minimal

On August the 10th, 2021, I received the 1st (left arm). Immediately I felt fatigued and I had a sore arm at the site of which is what I was told is to be expected, this continued on for a couple of days until I started getting strange tingling sensations in my face, specifically in my left cheek.

Through the next 2 weeks the tingling sensation started to become more frequent and later became painful, it spread from my cheek to the entire left side of my face including my teeth. I was in 9 out of 10 pain. I couldn't bare it ant longer, I took painkillers and I called Telehealth, they just told me to go to my GP. I was in so much pain but I didn't make the connection at this point that it was from the  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{\omega}$ , that night I was unable to sleep so I stayed up googling. I came across an article that gave me the idea, that this could be from the  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{\omega}$ 

The next day I went to the doctor, he said it could be Trigeminal Neuralgia, but I needed to go to the dentist to rule out tooth pain. I asked him if it could be connected to the but he said "I don't know, it's a new ". He knew I was in pain but I could see he was uninterested in, that this could have anything to do with the and I followed his directions to go and see the dentist.

I had my dentist appointment, he took X-rays and the results came back clear and were unable to link anything to the pain I was experiencing. I went back to my GP a day later, He continued to suggest it was Trigeminal neuralgia and prescribed me Pregabalin. I asked him if there was anything else I could do but he just moved me along.

I was following his protocol for a week, the pain would come and go but it was not improving, there was no pattern and it wasn't worsening, it was just a severe pain that would come out of no where, sometime lasting for 30 minutes.

Because nothing was improving I went back to my GP, I asked him "if this was the , then what does that mean about me having to get the 2nd;" He responded with "I don't know" and said that he could refer me to a specialist who was 600kms away in in Perth and it would be months of waiting to get in which at that point didn't seem feasible, So he prescribed gabapentin.

I went home and continued the new protocol for about 10 days and there were absolutely no improvements, if anything it got worse. I stopped taking the drugs and I was able to find a little bit of relief just from using a wheat pack. I was literally walking around holding it to my face. The pain didn't subside, it just took the edge off.

I was beside myself and I turned to alternative health because the conventional system was failing me. I went and saw a kinesiologist which to my surprise gave me immediate relief. A few days later the pain was completely gone.

Now that I had miraculously gotten rid of the pain thank to my kinesiologist, I was then left in a dilemma, what I should do about the 2nd ?. It was about 5 weeks of being back to normal. Absolutely no pain whatsoever and life was good again. At this point I hadn't heard of anyone else having adverse reactions and even though I had some concerns, I thought that I was just unlucky the first time.

I got my second eon the 25th of October 2021. (Left arm) Immediately I felt nothing but 3 hours later the pain in my face returned to the same areas but not as bad and not as frequent. the next day I woke to the pain being in the right side of my face but it was never both sides at the same time. I made the decision use this as motivation to take control of my health. I started juicing, meditating, eating clean and incorporating a healthier lifestyle over all and I went and seen my kinesiologist again but this time the pain didn't go away and I started to experience new symptoms as the days passed.

I started getting itchy, burning or aching feet at different times. Aching calves, burning calves, tingling, muscle twitching all over my body, stinging in lots of different parts of my body which felt like bee stings, fatigue, brain fog, sometimes I would be walking and then out of no where it would feel like someone would come and smash my knee with a hammer. The symptoms were completely random.



I went back to another GP in the same clinic in December because the was announced and I knew that I needed to try and get an exemption. This doctor seemed a bit more interested in hearing what I had to say about it being connected to the but my symptoms didn't meet the criteria and he said that I didn't qualify.

My symptoms progressively got worse over 4 months. In January I went back to the same GP because I started to experience chest pain which felt like I had a bower constrictor around me. It was a crushing pain that I could feel from the front to the back. The Gp ran tests: Blood pressure, urine, bloods and ECG. I didn't get my results for weeks due to my appointments being cancelled. I never got to see that GP again and the chest pain disappeared after 2 weeks. Once I received my results I had found that I had low iron and potassium.

At this point my mentals started to deteriorate, I was starting to worry about getting the (a) and I knew that I had to leave my job I loved so much and I had to start looking for another one. I couldn't find any other work in Kalgoorlie that I could do that didn't require the (B). So My husband and I moved to NSW early February 2022.

My symptoms at this point were stabilised, I was feeling fatigue but surprised to find that I wasn't in pain. Moving forward I found a new a new job in hospitality early March. My job kept me on my feet all the time and all the symptoms that I had in the past came back more intense and more frequent. More so at night and mostly in my feet & legs. I couldn't sustain the hours I was working anymore and I cut my hours down to 5-10 hours a week.

I went to a new GP mid March and I was completely dismissed for my symptoms and it having anything to do with the . She was uninterested and prescribed me with amitriptyline admitting that there was something up with my nervous system. I was hesitant to take the drugs at first from what I read and I returned to see the GP again a week later as I was waiting for her to receive all the notes from my previous GP, in hope that she would acknowledge everything that I was experiencing in relation to the and to help diagnose what was wrong with me. She sent me off for blood tests and I started taking the amitriptyline which surprisingly worked to cut half the pain. My blood results returned with my iron still low but not as bad. Everything else was fine.

I took the amitriptyline for a week but I started to experience a new list of symptoms including a pain that was travelling down my neck, behind my left ear and tingling/stinging pain in my chest that I hadn't felt before. I also woke up with extreme dizziness. To the point I had to get my husband to help me get to the toilet. The next 2 and a half days I was bedridden and I stopped taking the amitriptyline, I still felt extreme dizziness for 2 and half days but after that I have been feeling dizzy ever since.

After the dizziness persisted for 10 days I turned myself back into a new GP because the other one wasn't there. I explained what was happening and She straight up told me I had anxiety. But also suggested I take another drug for the dizziness. I was fed up at this point and I refused to take anymore of these drugs.

I ended up getting a referral to a neurologist. But I was told by the receptionist that they would get back to me and it was going to be a 9-12 month wait so I haven't even got an appointment yet which brings me to the current day. I was prescribed another anti inflammatory drug and I took the script just in case but I haven't taken it.

I'm currently still experiencing dizziness which stops me from driving and working full hours, I have 4-8 out 10 pain in my feet and legs which can stop in my tracks when it occurs, loss of sleep due to waking in pain, Brain fog which causes me to forget what I'm talking about mid sentence.

Craig, Died 65yrs, M



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cdu6W1zJr-G/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/caddyma/

On Thursday 27th May 2021 at 2:35pm, my husband sent me an email stating 'Been a bit off colour this morning. Headache, body itching, sneezing and general lethargy. Had to lie down. Had some chest pains as well. Bit better now. Just had some lunch. Done f\*\*\* all today...feel a bit useless. Will head off around 4pm for in shoulder.' When I arrived home that afternoon, Craig had told me that he went to see his GP of many years for the cortisone in his shoulder, due to bursitis. Craig stated that the Doctor said he was too unwell and to postpone the until Tuesday 1st June. Craig had dinner that night and sat at the table with us and we then went into the bedroom to watch some Netflix. He said he still had a bit of a headache and he took 100mg SR Tramadol to hopefully help him sleep with the pain in his shoulders. We settled off to sleep around 10.15pm. Around 2am of the morning of Friday 28th May, I awoke and realised Craig was not in bed. I went looking for him and found him lying flat on the lounge in his dressing gown and a blanket wrapped around his shoulders and neck, and another blanket over his lower legs and feet. I asked what the matter was and he stated that he just couldn't get comfortable and his neck, shoulders and back were sore. I helped him up and took him back to bed. He seemed to settle down and we both fell asleep.

I got up at 5.45am and I left home around 7:05am to go to work. Craig was awake and he said he still had a bit of a headache but he would take it easy that day. At 11.01 Friday 28th May 2021, Craig emailed me and it stated. "Hi baby, Can you ask the Dr there about my condition and whether I need to go to ED? Symptoms: Headache, cold feeling all over my body, numbness, no taste buds functional, dizziness, itchiness – has eased." I replied, via email, with "where is the numbness?". Craig replied "all over my extremities...feet, hands, face". I replied "So, you can't feel them at all?? Or does it come and go?" Craig replied "constant". I went and spoke to another doctor, a colleague. She stated that he should definitely see a doctor but if the headache worsened, then he should go to ED. I emailed Craig and said " my colleague said you should see a doctor if the headache persists. She doesn't think you should go to ED unless the headache gets really bad. There are a few doctors down at Coolo that may be able to see you? " Craig replied "ok thanks darling love you" I then replied "I can get you an appt at Waramanga practice at 3:15pm?" I then called Craig at 11.24am to speak with him as I was getting worried.

I repeated about seeing a doctor at 3.15 and he said he didn't really have the energy to go and see someone. He said he would lie down for a while and see how he felt. I told him that there were aspirins in the cupboard that may help his headache. At 3:50pm, I received an email stating "Honey. I need to go to hospital... Symptoms are not getting any better. I am now nauseous very dizzy and have lost sense of smell as well. Coldness all over my body and headache persists. Need to get a brain CT me thinks. Can you take me in?" I replied at 3:51pm with "Yep I will come home now sweetie". I arrived home around 4:25pm. Craig was walking out the door when I pulled up in the driveway at home. I then drove straight to the \*\*\* Hospital Emergency Department. I dropped Craig at ED then went and parked the car. When I entered ED, Craig was sitting down with a nurse whilst she was questioning his symptoms. She then called someone on the phone and said she had a Cat 2 client and can he go straight into acute. The nurse went and got a wheelchair and pushed Craig through to the acute ward. Once in the acute ward, a doctor started questioning Craig and his symptoms.

Craig's headache by this stage was worsening and he requested that I cover his eyes as the light was hurting his eyes and intensifying the headache. He was also asked to change into a gown which I helped him do. A nurse also came in whilst we were speaking to the doctor. Craig explained all of his symptoms and informed the doctor that he had become to feel unwell from Thursday  $27^{th}$  May. I informed the nurse that Craig had taken two tablets of 500mg of aspirin. The nurse questioned the validity of that and I confirmed that Craig had taken those two soluble tablets. The nurse was extremely judgmental and told me that was way too much and that it doesn't help migraines. It clearly says on the packet of aspirin that adults can take 1-2 tablets every 4 hours as necessary. On the contrary to her comment, from my personal experience with migraines, migraines can be relieved by the use of aspirin! Craig also mentioned that he had been extremely itchy on Thursday  $27^{th}$  May. He had taken a Phenergan and this had helped alleviate the itchiness. At no point was it mentioned that he had developed a rash. The

nurse then started to try to get a cannula into one of Craig's veins. As he was very dehydrated, this proved to be quite a difficult thing to do.

Once a cannula was put in place, unfortunately, as the nurse was not wearing PPE in the form of goggles, blood from Craig spattered into her eye / eyes and she left to attend to that. The doctor tried to use that vein to retrieve blood but the vein had collapsed. The doctor then tried to get another cannula in but failed. Another nurse then tried and she was unsuccessful at the first few attempts. Due to the severity of Craig's headache, the doctor ordered a CT scan with contrast. Due to the contrast being required, a good vein is needed to administer the contrast. After 5 attempts, a cannula was finally put into place by the nurse. Blood was taken from Craig for testing. A stroke nurse then attended to see Craig and performed her examination. She did say to me that they weren't sure if it was a stroke, but it had been requested that she perform the examination. Craig's daughter, Ashleigh had by then arrived at the hospital to be with us as I had texted her at 6.00pm to let her know that her father was in ED. She went with Craig for the CT scan. I had constantly been giving Craig small sips of water but he was not at all hungry. I had also started to wipe Craig's forehead with a damp paper towel as he was stating that he felt very hot internally. He was also afebrile at all times over the next few days.

An ECG was not performed and I was also informed that an MRI should be done, but as it was a long weekend, an MRI could not be done until Tuesday. Craig's blood pressure was 167/109 and other blood pressure readings over the evening were consistently high. Craig has <u>never</u> had hypertension issues and whenever he saw his GP, his blood pressure was very normal and always around 120/80.

Around 7.30pm, I ducked home to have something to eat. Ashleigh texted me at 8.01pm and asked me to bring in a face washer as that would be more comfortable than constantly using wet paper towels to cool Craig's forehead. Ashleigh had also mentioned to the doctor that Craig had his on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021. I returned to the hospital not long after that. I am not sure of the time, but Craig was given 5mg of endone. I did request another 5mg sometime as his headache had still not settled. We were also informed that the CT did not show anything so there was no firm diagnoses for his illness at that stage. Craig's headache had still not improved and he was also hooked up to a saline drip to help with his dehydration. The doctor then ordered 12.5mg of largactil to be added to his drip. He was given another 12.5mg largactil at some stage. I also believe that paracetamol was given but I am unaware of what ...

Craig was transferred to the Emergency Medical Unit (EMU) and I am not sure of what time that was. He did sleep for a little while and I had texted that to Ashleigh at 10.37pm. I also stated that the doctor was supposed to come in to see him. Craig did not sleep for long and he asked me to help him to the toilet as he needed to urinate. I assisted him into the toilet and he had difficulty passing urine. He said he just didn't really feel anything coming out. I also requested a urinal pot for him so he didn't have to keep getting out of bed as he was unsteady on his feet. I had asked the nurse if he could have more endone as Craig was now complaining of general soreness in his back and neck. He was quite fidgety and unsettled. I was massaging his lower back for him and he also told me that his right calf muscle was sore. I also massaged that for him as well. I ended up leaving the hospital around midnight as I was extremely tired. When I left, the doctor had still not been to see him and I had been assured that more pain relief could be given around 1.00am. At 9.44am on Saturday 29th May, Craig texted me and said "Hi babe. Can you come and pick me up from ward??". I was at the hospital not long after that. Craig had been given a 'Heart bug' to monitor his heart rate.

I had not been informed of anything to do with his heart and Craig had not had any heart problems before. We were also given information on TIA (Transient ischemic Attack) and again I was not informed by anyone that that was a diagnosis. Everything seemed to be maybe this, maybe that. Craig was told to take 100mg of aspirin daily starting from Monday 31st May. The delay in starting the aspirin was due to him taking the 1000mg the previous day. Craig was advised not to drive for 2 weeks as well. Craig still had a headache and both Ashleigh and I were concerned that he was being discharged when there was no official diagnosis. Craig had had a very small amount of food for his breakfast, and I believe he did have a bowel movement before he was discharged. Craig was also still quite weak. When Ashleigh requested a wheelchair to transport Craig to the car, a nurse said he didn't need one as he was fine. I went and found a wheelchair and transported Craig to my car with Ashleigh's assistance. On the discharge summary that I was handed, it incorrectly said "63 yr. old gentleman". Craig was 65. It also stated "Saw GP 1/7 ago for headache and rash that he developed – Took Phenergan (Rash resolved). This is also incorrect.

A rash did not develop, it was itchiness that developed so therefore there was no rash to be resolved. It also stated "Took 2 grams of Aspirin this morning for pain". It was NOT 2 grams, it is was 1000mg! Once home, Craig went straight to bed. It was quite a chilly day but Craig wanted the door in our bedroom open a bit so he could have cool air on him. Again, he was not afebrile but kept saying he was hot internally. He stated that he felt like he was burning up inside. I tried to keep his water intake up but he seemed to be getting weaker, his headache was intensifying and he was extremely lethargic. I gave him an electrolyte icy pole hoping that would help him. The pain in his back and neck was still there and he was again, extremely fidgety and uncomfortable. I believed my husband was getting worse and I was getting very concerned about his health so I

called for an ambulance at 3:33pm. I can't remember what time the ambulance arrived but I think it was around a 30 minute wait. I explained that Craig's headache was worsening again, he was weaker and his whole body was shivering and I was very concerned about his whole demeanour. I actually felt that Craig was being treated as a drug seeker. The other ambulance man read the discharge summary and it kept being reiterated to us that it "was just a bad headache or migraine".

Craig has had migraines previously, but has never been on medication for them. The number of migraines Craig had had, in previous years was maybe 3 – 4. Previous migraines for Craig were not enough to be a major concern, which made the current bad headache /migraine that he had, even more significant to be very concerned about. As <u>clearly stated</u> on the discharge summary, "re-present if: -ongoing headache – weakness of limbs, facial droops, numbness / paraesthesia – fevers or feel unwell".

I was told that they could take him to ED but he would 'probably just get more painkillers and be sent home again'. He should just wait for the MRI to be done in the next week or so and he should go and see his doctor about something for his migraines. I honestly feel that Craig was brushed off and that none of his symptoms were taken seriously. I was also told that I could take him to an after hours doctor, for example, CALMS. I ended up making an appointment that evening at 8.00pm to see a doctor at CALMS who are based at the \*\*\* Hospital. Upon arrival at the hospital, I retrieved a wheelchair to use, as Craig was still very weak. We were not waiting long before a female doctor asked for us to go in. I explained everything to the doctor and she started doing examinations on his strength etc.

Craig was in a lot of pain! His headache was still very bad with pronounced light sensitivity, his whole body was aching and sore. Craig's blood pressure was again quite high but I cannot recall what it was. The doctor shone a light into his eyes and I could instantly tell that something was not right. Craig's pupils were dilated (I would say at least 6 - 7mm) and they were not reacting at all to light. The light also made his headache intensify yet again. At one stage, Craig slumped forward onto me. The doctor said "I know you are not well but you don't have to carry on like that". Craig was just so beyond exasperated and feeling so unwell that he just wanted to be out of pain. The doctor then listened to Craig's chest and again, I could tell that something wasn't right by the way she kept listening to his chest. She then said "I can hear crackling on his chest which could maybe suggest pneumonia". I think he needs to go back to ED. Craig then asked for something for the pain and she wrote out a prescription for 20 x 5mg endone. She wrote a referral letter and I took Craig straight back to ED. We weren't waiting long at all and we again ended up in the acute ward in ED. I noticed that Craig's breathing was now laboured and he was still extremely fidgety and agitated. He could simply not get comfortable due to the pain in his whole body but especially his back.

We were waiting quite a while before he was seen by the doctor and I believe it was around 11.15pm before he was looked at. I had ducked back home for around half an hour to get something to eat as well. The doctor performed all the strength tests, she also could hear the crackling on his chest and I think they gave him some Panadeine forte for his pain. I ended up leaving after midnight and Craig did seem to be a little more settled hopefully meaning that the pain meds had kicked in a little. Still no definitive answers and still no diagnosis though.

I received a text message from Ashleigh on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 8:41 stating that Craig had been moved to ward 6a. She also stated that he was not in great shape. Not long after that Ashleigh again texted to say that Craig had been moved to the stroke unit on Ward 7a.

When I arrived, Craig had deteriorated. He was physically and visibly weaker. He had not eaten, he was in a lot of pain and his speech was starting to slur. His right eye was droopy and had started to go red. I had brought in fresh clothes for him. I started to remove his tracksuit pants and underwear but unfortunately, Craig became incontinent. Whilst removing his underwear, he had started to urinate and when he realised what was happening, he became quite distressed.

I asked Ashleigh to ask the nurse for some incontinent pants. She brought me in some pants and I helped Craig to put them on. I went and spoke to a nurse and requested that he be given a bed bath as he had not showered or bathed since the Friday. A nurse did come in and gave him a bath and I helped to put a clean t-shirt on him. The doctor came and spoke with us. He was unable to shed any light on what was happening to Craig and stated that he needed an MRI. As it was the long weekend though, the MRI would not be performed until Tuesday 1st June. I requested pain relief as it was so clear that Craig was in a lot of pain. We were told that they didn't want to give Craig opiates as they didn't want him to become addicted! The Doctor said he would prescribe some paracetamol. Unfortunately, I do not recall a lot of the conversation. Most of the conversation was about neurological issues and that they still didn't know what was happening to Craig. Everything was reliant on the MRI. I clearly recall though asking the Doctor to speak to Craig's brothers. Both of Craig's brothers are doctors. Craig also verbally gave permission for the Doctor to speak to his brothers. The Doctor stated that 'he would get to that later'.

I spent most of the day with Craig. He was in constant pain, I was giving him as many sips of water that I could. He was extremely fidgety and could not stay still for more than a few minutes. As he was getting weaker, it became harder to move him around. He was in bed and then wanted to move to a chair. Then he would want to go back into the bed. It was extremely exhausting for myself but unimaginable for Craig. He could just not settle. He had not slept and he could simply not relax due to

his pain. At one stage, I was trying to get him up off the bed and I cried out for help as I just couldn't get him up. A man from next door came in to help me. I will never ever forget the absolute helpless look in Craig's eyes. He was literally deteriorating before my eyes. I was changing his incontinent pants every hour or so. Ashleigh came back in, later on in the afternoon and I went home for an hour. I went back to hospital after that. Craig was still in a lot of pain and still extremely fidgety. I did manage to get him to stand and he said he wanted to try and walk a little. We managed to walk up and down the corridor so maybe 20 metres all up. He was shuffling like an extremely old man. When we got back to his bed, he looked at me and said that he was in so much pain that he just wanted to die. This just completely wrecked me and we were both crying.

At no stage did it cross my mind that he wouldn't come home. I truly believed that once the MRI was done, we would have the answers and he would be better. I left the hospital that evening but was not sure of the time.

Monday 31st May, Ashleigh texted me at 8:52am and it said "Hi Cathy, please come in, he's deteriorating rapidly he now can't use his legs or talk. When I arrived, Craig's speech was extremely slurred, and he could now not swallow! I was wetting his mouth with a large cotton tip but he couldn't even swallow the water and the water was dribbling out of his mouth. His right eye in particular was redder and was drooping even more. He was still in pain and he said he had not slept. I kept asking the nurses for pain relief and I know that Craig's brothers were also still calling trying to get some answers. The Doctor came in and told us that we still don't know what was happening with Craig and that the MRI was still needed and would hopefully provide some answers. He also mentioned getting a lumbar puncture, but again, the MRI should be done first. The Doctor then stated that one possibility with Craig was Guillain Barre Syndrome (GBS). He wanted to try a blood transfusion of immunoglobulin which would cause no harm if it wasn't GBS, but would be worth a try.

Ashleigh and I agreed for this to happen. It was explained that in extremely rare cases it can cause a blood clot. I again asked about pain relief and again The Doctor did not want to administer opiates as he did not want Craig to become addicted. This statement was so damn irritating. My husband was being treated as a drug user and they were more worried that he may get an addiction instead of treating the acute severe pain he was in. I understand addiction and I understand pain. Getting my husband out of pain should have been the priority!!!! I believe The Doctor prescribed a medication called Gabapentin. It took 3 hours for this to be administered to Craig. 3 hours!!!!! I again was changing his incontinent pants frequently and as Craig was still hooked up to the heart monitors, BP cuff etc, moving him and changing his pants and trying to get him comfortable, was becoming extremely difficult. Craig's blood pressure was still high, his oxygen saturation levels were in the low 80's when he would take out the oxygen nasal tubes. When the oxygen nasal tubes were back in, his saturation levels would go back up to the low 90's. Craig was just so fed up with tubes and wires going everywhere and being in so much pain. He asked me why he wasn't in ICU.

I couldn't answer him as I had no idea why he wasn't. He kept saying to me "something is seriously wrong with me, why isn't anything being done?". Again, I had no answers. We were completely relying on the medical staff to help Craig. As Craig had not eaten since Saturday morning, I spoke to the nurses in relation to this. They decided to put in a nasal gastric tube so they could give him some sustenance. I do not recall what time this happened but I went with Craig to get a chest x-ray which was to make sure the tube was correctly placed. So, along with all the other stuff he was hooked up to, he now had this in place. I do not recall what time, possibly later in the afternoon, a nurse came and said to me that Craig was being taken off obs and they were moving him to the ward. I did not understand this at all. The 'ward' was the other side of the stroke unit. I asked why he was being taken off obs but I do not recall what the nurse told me. I cannot comprehend why, with Craig so unwell, that he was taken off obs??

Here was my husband, constant bad headache, pain in all areas of the body, unable to walk, unable to move around freely, constant high blood pressure, unable to breathe properly and on oxygen, incontinent, pupils dilated and not reacting to light, unable to even swallow, numbness in all extremities, very red and droopy eyes and he was taken off obs. How was this decided?? Who made this call??? Why? One of the nurses actually stated that his blood pressure and oxygen saturation levels 'weren't bad for the stroke unit'????? Craig was moved to the ward; he was still hooked up to oxygen and had the nasal gastric tube in. He was still in pain; he was still fidgeting constantly and unable to get comfortable. In and out of bed, in and out of the chair. I ended up going home for a little while as I was overwhelmed with what was happening or more to the point, what was not happening!! Ashleigh went and then stayed with Craig while I went home for a little while. When I went back in, Ashleigh had texted me to say that the nurses had managed to settle him a little with a warm pack on his back and some pain relief. I don't know what pain relief they gave him. When I returned to the hospital, Craig was again very restless. As soon as I arrived, he asked me to help him into the chair. I did this for him with the assistance of one of the nurses. Craig's eyes looked so red and they were so droopy.

It still did not cross my mind for one second that he would not be coming home to me. I thought that he would have the MRI first thing in the morning and that would tell us what has happening to him. I sat with him until visiting time was over. I was standing in front of him, hugging him, with his head against my chest. He said to me, I love you, and I still remember how

slurred his speech was even then. I said "I love you more, don't go anywhere and I will see you in the morning". At 11.11pm, that evening, I received a call from a doctor. I answered with "Hello, Cathy speaking and she stated "Is that Catherine, Craig's wife?". I said "yes it is". She then said to me, "I have some very bad news for you. Craig has had a medical episode and it looks like he won't make it." I quickly got changed and drove straight to the hospital and my daughters followed in a separate car and they called Ashleigh. When I got to the ward, a nurse I knew approached me. I could see Craig behind her and I said to her "Is he gone" and she said "yes, I'm so sorry". I went straight in and I was told that I couldn't touch anything that was in place as he had to go to the coroner as he was. Ashleigh arrived a few moments later. The doctor took me into a room to explain what had happened to Craig.

I do not recall much of this conversation unfortunately. Apparently he had arrested whilst alone and when one of the nurses went to check on him, they discovered he wasn't breathing and CPR was commenced. They did everything possible to save him. We were eventually moved to another room where we could be alone with him. I was then told that the police would be attending and they would need to interview me. I spent a couple of hours going through everything with them and I left the hospital sometime after 4am. The police had told me that the coroner would be performing a post mortem on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June. I begged them not to do it that day as it was Craig's birthday. They said they would do everything they could to grant my request. It was then performed on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June. On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021, I received a message from the coroners office stating that they had a cause of death for Craig. Craig died from "Guillain Barre Syndrome following the

Kristy, 42yrs, F Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdsX24IJz\_7/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/mrsbossread/

P#1: FF4222 P#2: FG0050

I am a 42yr old Wife and mother of 5 Children. Pre- uses what I would consider reasonably fit and healthy. I frequented the gym 4 times a week, worked a 25hr part time job a week and was also studying nursing part-time.

I was very apprehensive about getting the eas my body has always been hyper sensitive to medications and I have experienced many adverse reactions in the past. I openly discussed these concerns with my long-term GP which unfortunately landed on deaf ears.

I had my Pe on July 26<sup>th</sup> 2021. 15 minutes in I had mild pain at the site (right arm) and I started experiencing a fairly aggressive headache which dulled off after 2 days but has never gone away since and it's now been 10 months.

I got my 2<sup>nd</sup> (left arm). When I arrived, the doctor asked me if I had issues with the first and I mentioned I had a headache that never went away. She said that I would be fine and continued with the procedure. Immediately my dull headache went to a pounding headache which the pain seemed to be focused around my right eyeball. I was monitored for the required 15 minutes and sent home with the advice that this was normal and I would feel better in a few days.

I went home, took Panadol as directed and went to bed. The very next morning I woke up feeling lethargic and very sore. My joints were feeling stiff and my muscles were aching. All my bones were hurting making it painful to walk/hold things and function as normal. The pain in my chest was my biggest concern as I have a poor family history of heart disease. I let these symptoms go on for 4 days but it got to the point that I thought I was having heart attack just sitting down.. laying down was the worst. It felt like shooting sharp pains that would go across my chest, up my left jaw and down my left arm.

I took myself off to my GP who did an ECG and directed me to the Emergency department because he found an abnormality. I went straight from the GP to Emergency. On arrival I was taken in quickly. The triage nurse ran tests, ECG, X-ray, Bloods and I gave them the copy of the ECG from my GP. I tried to explain that it was my whole body in agony, not just my chest but this was dismissed. They said my heart was fine but they couldn't find anything serious so they sent me home with pain killers.

I went home and I tried to deal with the pain by taking prescribed pain killers but my symptoms were worsening with no improvement at all, after a couple days, I returned to my GP. I explained what happened at Emergency and he said in his own words that he thought I had a negative immune response to the . I didn't realise at the time how important these words were and I didn't push him to write it down on paper because I was so sick an unable to think clearly. He then sent me off a referral to a cardiologist which took me 6 weeks of hell to get in.

In this time my symptoms were worsening, meanwhile I was calling in sick to work to try and keep my job, but I had to resign in the end as I was only able to attend 6 days from the moment I got the . I could barely even keep up with my family, having to take my kids to school and do all the household duties while my husband was working 60+ hours a week trying to cover for my medical expenses and loss of income which has totalled to \$30k in 10 months.

The 6 weeks of hell passed and it was time to see the cardiologist. He tested me with ECG, Stress test, CT angiogram. I was diagnosed with Costochondritis (Inflammation of the cartilage that connects ribs to the breastbone) He prescribed me with Colgout but the treatment was unsuccessful giving me diarrhoea to the point of being unable to leave the bathroom for 3 days, So I stopped.

I returned to my GP with a long list of symptoms and I was told that I have had a negative immune response to the again. Once again I didn't think to get it in writing as he was just speaking to me like this was normal and it didn't occur to me that this would be ongoing. I genuinely thought this was going to pass. He gave me a referral to see a Rheumatologist. He also sent me for multiple blood tests and scans, looking at my joints. We tried multiple toxic painkillers, anti-inflammatory medications, anti-nausea pills, even anti-depressants because apparently, they can block pain signals ... Nothing has worked.

I finally got to my appointment with the Rheumatologist, I told her straight up that this was from the because I was perfect until having the but she brushed me off explaining that she had no idea what was wrong with me and suggested we try some more painkillers. She also referred me onto an immunologist who she believed could help me.

So far, I've been to see the GP, Emergency department and Rheumatologist with no clear answers and no effective treatment. Whilst I wait for the Immunologist appointment, I returned to my GP many times asking for help. He sent me to the gastroenterologist who was stumped because I continued to vomit daily but my bloods were fine. I was then referred to a Hepatologist. They sent me for more scans and bloods and what they found was, I have 2 lesions on my liver but the doctor is unsure as to why and what is causing the persistent nausea and vomiting. They basically palmed me off telling me that they don't think it is anything bad and that maybe I need to see a Neurologist but to speak to my GP about this. Which left me without answers a hefty bill.

I Finally got my long-awaited Immunologist appointment on the 4th of February. The Doctor reviewed my scans, blood tests and all my photos. She told me that my symptoms are consistent with multiple Autoimmune disorders however it is usually a 6yr gap between exhibiting symptoms and blood work to match. She tells me to come back and see her in 6 months if I'm not feeling any better. My pathology work is showing inflammation and autoimmune markers, I have a second opinion booked with a Professor in Rheumatology at the end of May although I can't say I'm super confident.

It has been 10 months since this unfortunate journey began and I often find myself still in shock that this has happened. As a Pathology collector myself I was required by Law to be against. No No No Job.. Before my I was working for a leading Pathology company in Australia. I loved my job and I am very passionate about providing excellent and individualised patient care, unfortunately I cannot work due to my poor health. However, if in the future even if I was healthy enough. Red tape prevents that.

Up until very recently, I have not been able to get an exemption for the that is now compulsory in the medical field, Doctors had told me the was not suitable for my body. BUT I also couldn't get that in writing. The Doctor explained to me that unless I had an anaphylactic reaction to the , I wasn't eligible.

Friday the 13th of May came and I had an appointment with my GP and 2 standing witnesses, one which was a case worker and the other was a psychologist. I was then able to put the question forward on the spot and ask for an exemption while having these people there. My GP said that it had to come from a specialist and GP's were not allowed to give out exemptions. The psychologist said that this wasn't a mental issue, this was a physical reaction from the causing anxiety.

I have just had a consultation with a Natural healer and have been trying some alternative therapies. So far, no improvements but I will continue to try. Whatever it takes. Current and persistent health issues since the getting the ... Muscle aches, Severe Joint Pain & Stiffness

Light sensitivity, Difficulty swallowing, Chest Pain (Costochondritis), overwhelming Fatigue, Persistent headache, Constant Nausea, Intermittent vomiting, Breathlessness, Finger nails falling off and strange vertical lines, Face Rash, Leg Rash, Skin discoloration (mottled skin) legs feet and hands, Eyebrows falling out, Hair falling out, Scalp lesions, numbness in feet and fingers, Insomnia, difficulty swallowing, photosensitivity, facial swelling, dry mouth, dry eyes, eyesight deterioration, presyncope.

John, 27yrs, M Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cdr4JbhJr-0/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/kingjagmusic/

I am a 27 year-old from Melbourne, Victoria. I am a Father. Prior to the , I was happy and very active. I'm a musician and I worked full-time, my job was physical hard labour. I was strong and very healthy.

The Victorian Government mandated the and my workplace said that we couldn't work until we had it. I had to work to pay my rent and I have a child to feed so I got the on October 29 2021. The moment I got it, my body felt weird and I felt a low frequency 2 hours later. Apart from that I was ok, I felt confident I was ok until two days later.

I was out with my friends and started to feel like it was too bright, I felt like I was going to pass out. I was so cold but also sweating so much. My chest felt what I can only describe as 'out of place'. My hands were clammy, I couldn't talk and had to leave my friends.

My heart instantaneously became worse and started beating out of my chest. It also at times slowed so much that it felt life threatening, I was terrified of how my body was reacting. My partner was so worried about me and would wake me up every night to see if I was ok because I was sweating so much. I was unable to sleep because my heart and stomach felt as though there was no oxygen flow to my body. I would stay awake in bed trying to control my breathing. This went on every day for weeks, I tried to rest but it kept coming back.

My Auntie's brother and my own mate died after their es so I was really scared. I chose not to sleep because I was afraid that I'd die too. The times that I slept, I had horrific nightmares and terrors that were extremely disturbing and mentally exhausting. Life became unbearable.

I tried to recover myself by drinking lots of water, juice and ate lots of fruit. I focused on resting and building my health. I became more aware of my body and listened as much as I could while taking care of myself to get better.

I was meant to get the 2nd the following month but I was feeling so horrible that I worked around getting it. I avoided it for 5 months and was starting to feel better. However, I couldn't avoid it anymore. I had to get the 2nd to keep my job so I could pay my rent and feed my family. There was no way around it in my current situation.

I was so scared. I got the 2nd  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{\triangleright}$  on the 16th of March 2022. I didn't feel as many heart symptoms and I hoped I'd be ok this time. But 3 days after, I woke up and couldn't lift my arm - I was paralysed. I panicked as nothing was moving. I managed to get a ride to emergency. The doctor treating me said he had no idea what was wrong with me, he tested my blood pressure, and gave me a chest X-ray but both came back clear. I mentioned that I thought it was the  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{\bigcirc}$  but he dismissed the idea that it could have been the  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{\bigcirc}$ . He did not mention reporting my reaction, nor offer to report it to the TGA. He did not say it was linked and wrote down that I had chest problems and prescribed me Panadol.

Over the next few months my heart continued to cause me problems. Just during light walks it felt like I was going to black out and out of nowhere my chest would suddenly beat out of place. But then, it would slow to nothing while laying down. I now to listen to my gut. I now pay more attention to my body and its messages. I kept focusing on improving my health with cleaning up my diet and eventually, after 6 months I am starting to feel a better I can now go for walks, work and hang out with mates. I am not fully recovered, but a lot better, around 85%. I still live with fear of not knowing the damage that the did to my body & I still need to do tests for myocarditis. My mate was diagnosed with pericarditis after his and I know others that have died.

Danni, 34yrs, F Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdpqNE5J\_CR/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/danni.lenarczyk/

**P#1**: FE7051

I'm 34 years old and had no health issues whatsoever prior to the . I was training 5 days a week on average, I was very social, studying part time in psychology and working full time to top it off. I always had plans, however, now that I've been injured by the I am having to live day by day not knowing what is going to happen to me next. I got the because I trusted and listened to the government, I wanted to do the "right thing" for the country and do my part to reopen the economy.

I got the Pa on the 3rd of September 2021 (left arm). Immediately my whole body broke out into a sweat and I felt extremely nauseous to the point of wanting to throw up. The doctor told me that I would be fine and let me go after 15 minutes. I went home and within the hour my left arm got so sore that I couldn't lift it unless I used my other arm to move it. I was in so much pain for the next couple of days from migraines to fevers and being unable to recover with next to no sleep.

After the next couple of days things were worsening, I was telling myself that it will pass. I started to take Panadol but it didn't do anything. It took a few days but eventually all these symptoms were to pass, however I was left not feeling myself and extremely fatigued to the point I wanted to sleep all day long and if you know me that is far from the person that I am.

I was due for my second on the 24th of September 2021 but on the 23rd September 2021 I had an excruciating migraine and very bad tinnitus. The following day I started to exhibit chest pains, that were sharp stabbing intermittent chest pains which felt unusual. Unsure what was happening, I had to postpone my second . I waited for my symptoms to ease however my chest

pains became heightened. As my chest pains didn't ease, I went to ED on the evening of the 25th of September 2021. On arrival I told her I was scheduled for my second and I was having really bad chest pains. They seemed responsive to my concerns and tested for any life threatening abnormalities. They did bloods, ECG, reflex and all the results came back clear. Due to that I was dismissed and advised to seek further medical advice from my GP for ongoing care. The next day I went to the GP and she hesitantly referred me to a cardiologist explaining that these symptoms could be stress related as the hospitals discharge papers were remarkable. I went to the cardiologist and I did an echocardiogram that came back remarkable as well. I decided it will pass and I went back to my GP after a week noting that the chest pains were still there. After self research I self diagnosed as my symptoms were inline with costochondritis which Is inflammation of the lungs which mimics heart attack.

The doctor confirmed this and mentioned It was "very common" and I was just thinking to myself, "if this was so common why did I have to spend \$350 dollars for an echo report and then self diagnose due to no plausible answers". She prescribed me Voltaren 50mg 3 times a day and to take that for 2 weeks. I also took it on myself to seek alternative therapy such as acupuncture to expedite the healing process. My condition visibly improved after a month of treatment, once I recovered a new sensation began.

On the 1st of November 2021, I woke up with really bad pressure in my face and a feeling of fullness in my ears. It felt like I had blocked ears and my head was going to explode. I went straight to the GP and asked her to prescribe me steroid tablets. The GP couldn't find any answers as my ears were perfect so I asked her for a referral to an ENT (ear nose and throat specialist), should the steroid tablets not work.

I started taking the steroid tablets however the pain got progressively worse. The migraine was so bad that traditional pain killers didn't assist and I partially blacked out. I have experienced migraines in the past but nothing like this, I knew something was wrong. As the pain was too much for me to handle I had to present myself to ED again. The doctors ran all the necessary tests including CT scan and blood work, again everything was unremarkable.

The treating Doctor provided me with Endone to help relieve me of pain to which to my dismay it aggravated my migraine even more and my tinnitus heightened. The GP didn't know what course of action to take next and got a hold of a neurologist to determine what to do. I was intravenously given stemetil and orally given 900mg of aspirin then placed on a magnesium drip to help subside the migraine. The concoction helped ease the pain, but not erased, I was later discharged.

The following days I went to see a chiropractor as I thought my neck could be a contributing factor to this migraine. The pain didn't subside and it got progressively worse over the coming days. I had an MRI scan of the brain and ear canal hoping to find an answer however the scans came back clear. I couldn't wait to see an ENT so advised the doctor to find the next available ENT to which I saw one a few days later.

After posing the necessary tests everything came back clear and couldn't help my situation. In the specialists (ENT) report they said that all my symptoms are a result of stress. I personally followed up with the ENT asking him in what demeanour should patients with pain display. To which he arranged a referral to an audiologist for further diagnosis.

The following week, the audiologist was very helpful and quite sympathetic to my current situation although she couldn't assist she suggested my symptoms could be a result of vestibular migraines and provided me with details of a neurologist and suggested I see a homeopath as she was seeing a rise in patients post . I managed to get an appointment with the neurologist on the 17th of December 2021. By then the pain was so unbearable I had moved in with my parents to take time off work.

During the lead up to my appointment with the neurologist, I was in and out of the doctors office seeking alternative treatments in addition to painkillers as nothing would help. The doctor prescribed endep which caused a negative reaction causing blurry vision consisting of a month and I also experienced photophobia (sensitivity to lights) and a horrible cramping neck pain. I was trying everything I could to help subside the pain. Upon seeing the neurologist, he conducted all the necessary tests. He was optimistic that these symptoms will subside within a month or two.

Following the appointment from the neurologist as I had a bad pressure in my face the GP blatantly said I had a tension headache and I should see psychologist. I didn't want to keep disputing the doctors opinion and in the interim had organised to speak to the recommended psychologist to help deal with my chronic pain. Following on from our discussion the psychologist has visibly seen that my symptoms were not as a result of stress however stress was a factor resulting to these injuries.

Fast forward a month around Christmas, I received the neurologist report and to my disappointment it stated my migraines are a result of stress so the journey continues. Since then I have seen an immunologist which she had advised to focus on symptom management and suggest I see a pain management specialist. She also reached out to at my request where they provided 2



case studies for one subject that had developed headaches after the ead were eradicated after taking ibuprofen, another subject experienced tinnitus post each and was resolved taking the steroid tablet prednisone however these reports are downplayed to anyone that actually has a serious injury that has been ongoing for months post each

After that I had an MRI of the neck as my doctor was convinced it was bone spurs in C6/7 causing migraines, numbness and pins and needles radiating in my arm. On the back of the MRI I saw a top orthopaedic surgeon for him to report that my symptoms are beyond what he can treat. The appointment lasted 20 minutes and cost me \$350 for him to tell me my symptoms are beyond his understanding, however it was good to know that there were no issues with my neck, therefore unknown to what was causing pins and needles in my arms and legs.

Currently I'm still facing all of the same symptoms, there's been some improvement but then there are days where the pain is unbearable, I have been to the hospital 5 times in the last 6 months. I've had every blood test possible, test and scan, its great to know they are coming back clear, but at the same-time its disheartening as I am back to square one trying to find out what is wrong. Doctors can only diagnose if there is something to go off by, hence all they can state is that symptoms are as a result of 'stress'.

Since then, I've had to resign from my job to focus on my heath, I've just started hyperbaric oxygen therapy treatments, consisting of 5 days a week, acupuncture twice weekly and Chinese herbs as I am not responding to anything else. I'm seeing another neurologist on Thursday to help with other preventative treatments, as I can't deal with the daily uncertainty of my pain and natural therapies are a long term game. Another thing I have looked into and yet to try is Vitamin C IV to help with inflammation. I've read a few journal articles stating successful treatment of vitamin C and cancer patients, I am willing to try anything. At the moment it's all trial and error really. I don't know what it feels like not waking up in pain, my ears are constantly blocked along with headaches/migraines, pressure in head/face and a stiff neck.

I've contacted every single government department, including; NSW Health, Department of Health, Office of Greg Hunt, TG@, Australian Registrar, Services Australia, including transferred to Camperdown Hospital, all to which they had responded, there is nothing they can do, fill in a claims form. However, a GP needs to sign off and they are too scared to do so as there needs to be a direct link of symptoms to the . There is a lot of red tape and taboo surrounding this issue, and unfortunately we are in the middle suffering.

My journey continues, however it's been a steep hill costing me thousands of dollars and great lack of support.

@Jab\_injuries\_Australia was the only site I had found that offers support knowing I wasn't alone. I am forever grateful to their quest to get the truth out there, with the harm and suffering these have caused. It's the lack of support from the government addressing these issues which is the most disheartening.

Regards,

Danni Lenarczyk

Jason, 36yrs, M Melbourne, Vic



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cdo-qlVJcsw/

Contact: https://www.instagram.com/doomsiren85/

NOVA 1#: 4301MF004 NOVA 2#: 4301MF004

My name is Jason, I'm a 36 year old male and I've been doing martial arts for 10 plus years. I am a father to two young kids - a 3 year old girl and a 9 year old boy. I have always considered myself to be very healthy and physically fit, and have not dealt with any health issues in the past.

On the 7th of October 2021, I tested positive for . I had felt a bit off after finishing a workout and knew that something was wrong. My doctor told me I would need to isolate and that I should go to hospital if my symptoms progressed. The first time I called an ambulance was because I was having difficulties breathing, however the paramedics told me I was fine and went on their way.

A couple of days later, I felt as though my breathing was getting worse so I called the ambulance again and was taken straight to hospital. Once I arrived at the hospital they checked my vitals and rejected me as a patient as there were not enough beds available. Unfortunately, the ambulance was unable to take me back to my residence so my wife had to pick me up from the hospital... at this stage, just walking through the car park to get to the car was very difficult.

As soon as I got home I contacted my GP who said they would give me a script for prednisolone, but warned that it could negatively impact my breathing. They also suggested that I purchase an Oximeter to monitor my oxygen levels. One of my family members organised for one to be shipped to my house urgently.

The Oximeter arrived about 48 hours later and I was able to see that my oxygen was down to 82%. I called an ambulance for the third time and was taken to hospital immediately. At this stage I was hypoxic and my lips were turning blue.

Once I was admitted to hospital, I was taken straight to the emergency ward where they did a number of tests and an x-ray. They diagnosed me with a double pneumonia and I was transferred to a ward at a different hospital. My condition did not seem to be improving so I was put on a CPAP and told by the ICU doctor that I should be on a ventilator. I was then taken to the ICU where I was given large s of Remdesivir, Dexomethazone and a number of other medications including blood thinners. Before I was sedated and put on a ventilator, the last thing I remember is telling my doctor that I didn't want to die.

When I woke up a few days later, I was told that I had improved and that I could come off the ventilator. I was transferred to a separate ward and put on a CPAP and high-flow oxygen to help with my breathing as I was still having difficulties. Doctors then did a CT scan that showed I had 3 pulmonary embolisms which prompted them to double my of blood thinners and continue treating me with remdesivir. My troponin levels were also higher than normal during this time (0.115ng/ml).

As I continued to improve, I was taken off the high flow oxygen and given nasal prongs. I spent about 2 and a half weeks in this particular ward before I was discharged with a number of medications to take. Before I left, a few of the nurses recommended I wait 6 weeks before receiving any kind of , another nurse suggested I wait 3 months, and one of my doctors told me I would only need to wait for a few days before receiving a . I spoke to my GP about this and was given a 6 month exemption. When I finally got home from the hospital I found that I struggled to walk longer than 5 metres without needing to sit down because of my oxygen levels.

Once my 6 month exemption was up, I knew I would need to get the as my workplace had been discussing us having to come back into the office. I had been fortunate enough to work from home over the last couple of years. I received my first NOVA on March 1st 2022 and about 5 days later I started experiencing chest pains and difficulty breathing.

I ended up going to emergency where they did further testing and informed me that my troponin had significantly increased (0.25ng/ml). My d-dimer levels were fine and my ECG showed slight lateral changes but the doctors weren't too concerned about this. I remember asking the doctor about the chest pain as I had never experienced anything like it, and told them that I had received NOVA so days prior. They said that they didn't know much about NOVA and couldn't tell me what had caused me to have chest pain.

I was discharged from hospital and told to follow up with my GP who completely dismissed the idea of my chest pain being related to the . They told me that my chest pain must have been because I had struggled with 6 months earlier. I was given a referral for a cardiologist and after an ECG and a stress echo, the cardiologist told me that my high troponin levels were most likely due to stress and anxiety. They told me that my heart was fine and that I should receive my second NOVA

I received my second NOVA on the 9th of April 2022 as I was at risk of losing my job. I still experience intermittent chest pain but it doesn't seem to have worsened after receiving my second . My only other symptom has been severe lower back pain, which I experienced when I received my first . and also when I was hospitalised with .

As I only received my second easier a week ago, I am still waiting to see how my body responds.

Claire, 35yrs, F Hobart, TAS



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdnBgNnpac4/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/poobian/

I'm a 35 year old mum from Tasmania. Prior to the , I was fit and healthy with no underlying health conditions. A couple of days before I received the , my teenager and I went for a run together and I was surprised and pleased that I comfortably ran 4km after quite a hiatus from running.

Ironically I choose to get the  $\square$  in the hope of offering my middle boy some protection from  $\circledast$ . He's a twin and his sister was stillborn. Two years after they were born he came down with the flu, got pneumonia and ended up in icu. He almost died. With our borders opening soon and no  $\cong$  for children I hoped that by getting it myself I might offer him some protection. I say ironic because in fact it left me unable to be the parent I hoped to be for my three boys due to fatigue and sickness.

On the 18th of October 2021, I lined up at a big pop up clinic and had my first and only . Going in I felt like it was a mistake. I regret not listening to my gut everyday. Things seemed fine at first. I sat for fifteen mins then headed home and got dinner and the kids off the bed. I went to sleep and In the middle of the night I awoke to my heart beating out of my chest. I was dizzy and felt nauseous, massive feeling of doom and stabbing chest pain. I though I was having a heart attack. This had never happened to me previously. It happened twice that night. I wrote it off as some weird new form of anxiety that I had never experienced before.

Two days later it happened again. My fingers went cold suddenly and a tingly rush coursed up my arms into my chest. Chest pain, tachycardia, nausea, and dizziness followed. I called the TGA and reported my symptoms. I also made an appointment with my doctor. The nausea and fatigue became constant symptoms. Driving to the doctor I had another episode. The worst yet. I turned the car off the road, picked my children up and stumbled into emergency. I was sure I was having a heart attack. My heart rate came down and they could find anything obvious, though the nurse said she had seen a few people come in with the same. The doctor ordered a Holter monitor. I wore it 48 hours but did not have an episode. She said it picked up an 'extra beat' and offered me beta blockers.

For the following few months I struggled with everyday tasks. Some days I could hardly stand up. My legs often felt weak, I was constantly nauseous and completely lost my appetite. I lost a lot of weight. My heart rate was much higher than pre- I also had chest pain, terrible insomnia and brain fog.

At about four months I seemed to be improving slightly. Then suddenly out of the blue all my symptoms came back. Two more trips to ER, ten doctors, cardiologist later and still no answers. I'm mostly housebound. Not having the energy to be a fun, active mum is truly devastating to me. Plus I'm terrified about what the future holds. I feel like I've suddenly aged 20 years. I miss my health terribly and often feel that I didn't appreciate it enough.

I'm currently taking an antihistamine and sticking to a strict low histamine diet. I've cut all caffeine, sugar and processed food. I take Vitamin C, magnesium, NAC and Blackseed oil. I intend to try red light therapy and hopefully HBOT. I take things day by day and try to rest as much as possible. I have found great solace in the online community of —injured. There are many of us across the world and we are a great support to one another in a climate of medical gaslighting.

Thanks for letting me share my story

Michael, 51yrs, M Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdfWF36pP1d/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/micknoone2/

**△**#1: 322679P

I'm 51, live in Melbourne and work in aquatics as a lifeguard for a Melbourne council, plus I also had a second job for another Leisure Centre as well. I have a love for learning and for helping others; I have a Cert 4 in training and assessment among other certifications but most recently a Diploma of Paramedical Science as I'm studying to be a Paramedic.

I was coerced by my employer to have the . I didn't want it and I told them in no uncertain terms - I provided them paperwork documenting my rights and stipulated that if anything was to happen to me, they would be accountable. My employer arranged the appointment for the 17th of November 2021. I told the person administering it that I was here under duress and coercion and that based on the research I had undertaken I would have (and not ).

5 days after the , I started getting palpitations, sweats and lost my appetite. On the 5th day of symptoms (27th November) I went to the Royal Melbourne hospital and was admitted overnight. The following day they discharged me with Atrial Fibrillation, Atrial Flutter and also with , so I was to go home and isolate.

I wasn't worried about the infection but was worried about my heart. For the next 2 days my heart was going berserk and I ended up calling the ambulance. My heart rate in the ambulance was between 140bpm and 190bpm and they stated I was Supraventricular tachycardic (SVT), they called an intensive care backup, but they were too far away so took me to St Vincent's hospital where I was for admitted 10 days in the ward.

I was prescribed Metoprolol (a beta blocker) plus a drug they gave me at night 'Ceftriaxone' which bought on fevers and vomiting after taking it – I knew I was having a reaction to this medication, but no-one believed me, It wasn't until a nurse on shift on 4th day believed me and took me off it right away. I was then put on a nasal prong humidifier which delivers humidified

oxygen into the lungs. It felt like it was drowning me and I wasn't improving, I was on it for 20 hours before they agreed to remove it.

A doctor approached me after this and said, "We need to be careful what we say to you don't we?", I asked her why she had thought that, she had picked up that I knew the medical terminology (from my training). It was then they gave me steroids and 1v3rm3ctin and I started improving within 4 hours. Once my blood sugar levels were in normal range, they sent me home.

On the 23rd of December 2021, I called an ambulance due to my heart going berserk again, the Critical Care team delivered me back to St Vincent's Hospital. I was given Fentanyl and then monitored for 9 hours in Emergency. Prior to discharge I was advised to double my \*\* of Metoprolol.

On the 11th January I was driving and had to pull over as I was experiencing crushing chest pain. I called the ambulance again and ended up spending 12 hours in Box Hill hospital. They changed my medication to Sotalol as the Metoprolol wasn't working.

My 5th admission was on 1st April, where I was sent to the Northern Hospital this time for monitoring. A few days prior, My GP had also prescribed me Ramipril Blood Pressure medication. On each hospital admission, they've just given me fluids, monitored me with the ECG, then sent me home. I have up and down days with my 'episodes' lasting anywhere from 5 minutes to 8 hours.

I'm having another Echocardiogram, a Holter monitor, and a 24 hour Blood Pressure monitor in the coming weeks prior to seeing a cardiac surgeon. I've been advised I may have to have a Catheter Ablation, to restart the electrics of my heart, so it's not over yet unfortunately.

I have since had a successful Workcover application a month ago, meaning I have been back paid my wages and will continue to be paid for as long as I'm unable to work. I'm sharing this information to hopefully assist anyone else to claim for their injury. I did Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to obtain all of my documentation; to Ambulance Vic for each ambulance trip, for my medical records for each hospital I went to and Doctors ED reports from each admission. I obtained all the paperwork that existed to support my application, plus the Insurance company through work sent me to an Associate Professor in Cardiology who was great and confirmed my injury had association to the in his report conclusion. I also arranged an affidavit from someone I know stating no previous cardiac issues for the time they'd known me, and a statutory declaration from a colleague.

For anyone that is making an application, have everything documented in writing, and be sure to understand your rights. My employer has mandated the for my role, and they're now looking at doing it for the 4th (my role comes under emergency services). My 2nd employer just terminated my employment last week, so I've been in contact with a lawyer and perusing that right now.

I have been outspoken about the injustice of what has happened to me and about our rights and mandates. I have been interviewed by @Cafelockedout and Anthony Burge and spoken at some events over the last few months. It's been so humbling to experience the kindness and support I've received from strangers over these last few months, I feel really grateful.

Vanessa, 36yrs, F Adelaide, South Australia



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdeaK1Xv4E-/
Contact: https://www.instagram.com/vanessa\_14110401/

P#1: FG3712 P#2: FK6268

I am a 36 year-old from South Australia, a wife and mother of two children.

Prior to the 🕒 I was healthy, content and led a busy life. I loved spending time with my family and was passionate about animals. I had just started my own business which was becoming very successful. I was also rescuing wildlife whilst waiting to return to VET nurse study and a course in herpetology (?).

I am up to date with all of the standard (as is my family). But my gut instinct said not to get the (as is my family) and I was very nervous and hesitant. I felt forced as if I didn't get it I wouldn't be able to go to my children's school or excursions, or volunteer to do reading. I was also scared that if my children needed a doctor appointment or hospital visit that I would not be allowed in. I couldn't risk that, so I got the 1st (as is my family) on the 6th of November 2021 (left arm).

Following the laws quite dizzy for a week or so. I also had a low-grade temp, felt exhausted and noticed my heart went slightly strange, beating a little bit stronger. My GP whom I have seen since I was a child, listened to me and ran an in-house ECG. The results came back as fine. By the time my 2nd was due, the only symptom I was experiencing was exhaustion. I went in on the 4th of December 2021 and wasn't as nervous, as I was convinced that if anything bad was to happen that it would only be like what I experienced with the 1st. How wrong I was...

For the first 4 days I had a mild fever and extreme exhaustion. But I thought that would be the worst of it and wasn't concerned. On December 8th, 2021, 4 days after the 2nd , I was driving on the main road with my family to the kids Christmas concert. I started having weird palpitations and asked my husband to drive. We swapped sides and by the time I got into the passenger seat, I was convinced I was having a heart attack. My husband called an ambulance while trying to keep the kids calm. My heart had stabbing, sharp pains and felt like it was beating out of my chest. It also felt like it was beating one beat too many, or was skipping a beat. It was hard to tell. I was dripping in sweat and having trouble breathing and had sharp pains in my jaw and it felt like I was being choked by a tennis ball in my throat.

The ambulance came quickly and I begged my husband to continue on to school as I didn't want to ruin the kids concert. He called my mum and got her to meet me at hospital. Upon arriving, I was still the same but then a new symptom started. I was getting sharp shooting pains down my left arm, which left a numb/tingly type feeling. Thankfully they took me straight through, and ran some tests- ECG, bloods, chest X-rays. Everything came back normal. I was starting to feel better, regarding the sharpness of the pains, but still had strange palpitations.

The ED doctor that I saw told me that he had no doubt it was a reaction to the , and that he has been seeing more patients with a whole range of 'strange reactions, including cardiac, more than patients with non- related issues'. The nurses I saw all said the same thing. In fact, due to me being in emergency, the only thing that separated us patients was curtains. I could hear other patients, telling their stories to the doctors and nurses, and the only one that I heard that wasn't in there due to the was an elderly lady that had had a fall. Of course I couldn't see the people that were in ED, but I could hear a mix of male and female.

They sent me home, telling me to rest and come back if it happens again. It continued to happen. Daily. I was in hospital more than I was at home. I had further testing - CT scan on my chest, ECG, more bloods, another chest X-ray. Everything kept coming back normal. However, almost every doctor I saw, and nurses, assured me it was a \* reaction. They just didn't know what to do about it. My cardio & GP both said reactions happen at about the 3-5 day mark.

I followed up with my GP, who referred me to a cardiologist. The cardiologist did halter monitoring and an echocardiogram. I was diagnosed with pericarditis, costochondritis and sinus tachycardia. I was prescribed prednisone for 3 days (3 days before Christmas). On Christmas Day, I was to start colchicine medication. I took the first colchicine tablet Christmas morning, and my lips felt a bit strange after that. Christmas evening I took my second colchicine and went to bed. I woke up around midnight and I couldn't move my limbs, as they were numb. I couldn't feel my lips or my tongue. I had to go back to emergency, and they called an after hours cardiologist who confirmed that neurological or gastrointestinal side effects can occur with colchicine, and advised to stop it immediately.

I went home again and continued to worsen. I'm now also having a hot sensation at the back of my heart, on top of all of the initial symptoms. Along with the hot sensation there is a "pulling" sensation. I've been pretty much bed ridden for almost 4 months now. I can't drive, cook, clean or watch the kids. I collapse after a shower. I have difficulty sleeping as I'm in pain and



I'm getting sore on my right side as it's the only position (propped up) that I can sleep. The other positions affect my heart too much.

Since the second \*, these have been what I've experienced daily:

- -Exhaustion to the point of falling asleep sitting up
- -Headaches
- -Hair loss in chunks
- -Sore and enlarged lymph nodes under armpits
- -Lump in throat
- -Choking feeling
- -Shortness of breath and difficulty breathing
- -pressure on chest
- -Sharp heart pain
- -Dull heart pain
- -Hot/tight/pulling feeling at back of heart
- -Sharp left jaw & left neck pain
- -Both sharp and dull left arm pain
- -Numbness and tingling in left arm
- -Crushing/compression feeling on front of heart/chest
- -Worse when laying flat on back or left side
- -General body pain, especially left side
- -Temperatures during peri flares
- -Heart rate spikes and changes
- -Palpitations
- -Nausea
- -Dizziness
- Squeezing sensation at bottom of heart
- Swelling of joints

Additionally, I have just found a big lump under my arm in the lymph node area and in the crook of my elbow.

The cardiologist has said there is nothing more they can do for me. But I've gotten a new referral from my GP for another cardiologist. I won't stop searching until this is fixed. My bloods now show inflammation in one of my markers, so I'm obviously getting worse. My heart has now been doing long "pauses/stopping," which again, I presented to emergency for. You can see it on the ECG. I've been to emergency since I had the over 11 times in 4 months. I had an MRI this week (awaiting results), and the person who did it told me that they are seeing a continual flow of many people having cardiac MRIs from the ... My next test is a stress test in May. I have been told that it's not until this test is done that some injuries are showing up via results.

I have been through, and am still going through hell. I feel lucky though that I have such a supportive GP, and that all of the health staff along the way have not gas lit me about my injuries, but instead confirmed that they are seeing these injuries in many people. But not a single doctor has mentioned reporting my injuries, so I reported it myself to the TGA.

I was meant to be returning to vet nursing this year, and had just started an exotic pet food small-from-home business last year, which was doing well. I now can't do either, and we continue to go into debt, trying to get help but we have almost ran out of money.

I feel so much frustration – I am so sick of the invisibility of these injuries and them being covered up. The more stories that are shared the more people that can be helped and the better chance there is of truth coming out. I am angry too - at the media and government going on so much about but there is silence about the injuries. We did what they told us to do and ended up getting hurt, but then they shut us down.

The has left me bed ridden. I'm not living. I'm suffering, and a burden to my poor family. My kids don't have a mum that can run around and dance with them, or drive them to school. They have a mum that sits on the lounge or in bed, and is gasping for air and at point of collapse due to my heart going crazy just from walking back from the toilet. This has ruined my life, and those around me. It has caused physical, emotional, mental and financial turmoil. I just want to be me again. And I don't know what scares me more- the prospect of living the rest of my life like this, or the fear that the damage will take my

life. Nothing is the same now. My oldest child asks' is mummy going to die?' This is devastating to hear as a Mum. My kids are so used to me being in hospital and hooked up to gear, The impact that it's having on my children is the hardest thing.

I encourage you to question everything. I didn't listen to my gut - I wish I did. Also, a lot of people seem to not listen or care unless something happens to them. I'd love to see people rally behind one another and to have open minds and open hearts. My message to others like me that have been injured - don't give up. Keep fighting until you get answers and you have medical personnel in your corner and until you get better.

Duilio, 33yrs, M Melbourne, Vic



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CddAX10JTpP/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/duiliomancini/

P#1: FK6858 P#2: FH3221 P#3: FK0738

I have been in Australia since 2013, originally I am from Rome, Italy. This is what I have been through post 

A Couple of months ago, I was a happy and healthy 33 year old with my wife and My little one who is 10 months old. I was exercising daily, and I work in a big oil refinery as a welder boiler maker. My name is Duilio,

On the 31st of October 2021, I received my first (200). I felt like it was the right thing to do. I had the common symptoms like a sore arm, headache and shortness of breath but I was back to being my normal self within 48 hours.

On the 21st of November 2021 (My company made the mandatory for work). I had my second and I had the same symptoms but worse with compression on the chest and strong scapular pain. This lasted for a couple of weeks. 3 months after the second (my company made it mandatory to have the 3rd I was obligated to have a on 2nd march 2022. I was exhausted all the time, my chest was constantly sore and felt like someone was squeezing it from the inside. My head was always throbbing and I had no energy to do anything.

After 18 days from my 3rd I had tingling hands and cramps in my chest. After checking the ECG, my GP said there is nothing to worry about, 'It is muscular cramps because I was cutting the grass that morning' and sent me home.

For the next two days I felt shortness of breath and tiredness at work. After 20 days post  $3rd \stackrel{()}{=} 1$ , I had my first heart atrial fibrillation attack at work. I collapsed on the ground and my colleague called an ambulance. This is when I had my first hospital visit. The Ambulance picked me up from work and we headed to the emergency room. I got in to see someone pretty quickly, they did an ECG, chest x-ray and checked my blood. They said my heartbeat was irregular and it sounded like myocarditis, the diagnosis was arrhythmia. They sent me home after 7 hours and suggested I have a 24 hour holter monitor and if I have another attack to call triple zero.

After 2 days I was at home and I ended up with horrific stabbing chest pain. My arms were really heavy and I was in a lot of pain. I checked my heart bpm and from 115 come up to 170 my wife called the ambulance, they said to take one aspirin 500mg.

After 10 minutes the ambulance arrived and slowly my body began to stabilise only shaking from the adrenaline and then given the diagnosis, Sinus Arrhythmia right Axis deviation t wave abnormal with possible anterior ischemia. I ended up in emergency and I got another ECG another X-Ray and another blood test, then sent to the waiting room. I was there for 6 hours before they sent me home saying if I have another reaction to call triple zero and that my heart is stabilised so there is nothing wrong, only that the blood test was showing inflammation but they don't know what was causing that.

The next 3-4 hours, I started experiencing shooting body pains, weak and achy joints, Dizziness and light headedness, memory loss, chest pain, no appetite and light palpitations. My wife decide it was time for me to go to the hospital again. And again.. they did ECG, blood test and because the ECG was showing something abnormal, they let me stay 24h in a room with the holter monitor.

In the morning they gave me 100mg of aspirin and I had light symptoms of palpitations. Finally, the cardiologist came to visit me and just from looking at the monitor, he discovered I have an arrhythmia with atrial tachycardia and my heart is irritated. He gave to me atenolol beta blocker to control my heart beat and then gave me an appointment for echocardiogram and stress test after one month.

During this time the side effects of atenolol caused acid reflux, shortness of breath ,tiredness and high blood pressure. I ended up in hospital another 3 times. The tests came back saying I had severe reflux and they gave to me pantoprazole 20mg to take everyday, The cardiologist changed my tablet from Atenolol to Metoprolol. With this new tablet I now have side effects and I have lost 15 kg but it's more controllable since the cardiologist has increased the d0\$3.

At the end of April 2022 I had my stress test appointment. After the test, the cardiologist said I was healthy only my heart has inflammation and with the tablets I should be fine within 4 months. He also said and quote "I wouldn't have sent you for any more tests" I asked if all this is caused from and he said to me it is a very tricky question.. hard to say yes or no.. maybe it is a coincidence.

The TGA and Specialist Immunisation Services Clinic contacted me by phone and after listening to my story said is not a correlation because all the problems started after 2 weeks and nothing happened in the first 48 hours. They said the is not mandatory and only some companies were making it compulsory and that they don't hold any responsibility.

At 33 years old, I shouldn't be the way I am, I should be able to exercise daily and get through work with no issues. The fact that I am being told one thing and then the other is so frustrating. I am not getting any answers or the help I need and it really pains me

Before I trusted the government and TGA, now every time I see a medical professional, I feel like I am being judged and not listened to. I thought I was doing the right thing by getting this but now I wonder if life would be different if I hadn't. I just want to be able to live my life and get back to what I was able to do 2-3 months ago.

I am sorry for anyone who is going through a similar situation and I hope you find answers soon if you haven't already. Thank you for taking the time to share our stories.

Greg, 59yrs, M North Coast, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdcqkdjppBq/

Contact: https://www.instagram.com/lingalongafarmwingham/

I'm 59 years old. I was very fit and healthy before the spending lots of time outside as I am a cattle farmer. My business and farm is an award-winning paddock to plate producer, taking our meats to Sydney to sell. Our farm, Linga Longa Meats, was runners-up in the NSW Farmer of the Year Awards in 2020, presented by Adam Marshall at Parliament House in Sydney. I was also a part of the NSW Fire Brigade as a retained firefighter, having to maintain a high level of health and fitness for that position. I'd never had a reaction to or medications before, nor did I have any allergies or any health conditions. The only days off I've had have been due to broken bones. I have a family and children, they're all grown up and I currently live with my wife.

I was very hesitant to get the  $\stackrel{\mbox{\tiny $\omega$}}{}$ , and my instinct was that it was not as safe or effective as it was being sold to us. It felt like there was no substantiation to their claims and as you know, we were made to feel like criminals for not getting this  $\stackrel{\mbox{\tiny $\omega$}}{}$ . Mandates were being brought in. I could not deliver our meats or work in the fire brigade without being  $\stackrel{\mbox{\tiny $\omega$}}{}$ . The main factor for me in deciding to get the  $\stackrel{\mbox{\tiny $\omega$}}{}$  was the fact you had to have it to visit nursing homes. My father is in a nursing home with high-care dementia, and I couldn't visit or care for him unless I got the it. So I got it to 'do the right thing'.

My first was on the Thursday 13th May 2021 and I got the ... Within 12 hours I was vomiting, I had shakes, fevers and chills. The symptoms continued constantly on for days, and I presented to emergency at Taree Hospital on Sunday 16th May. After waiting for 5 hours, they admitted me. The doctor took my temperature (it was 38 degrees), asked some questions and then sent me home, saying there was no way it was from the ... He said I was a farmer, and I probably had 'Leptospirosis' - a bacterial infection from farm water. Straight afterwards, I made an appointment with my GP to get some blood tests done - they couldn't fit me in until 3 weeks after. 2 weeks after my first the vomiting and the fevers subsided, however I still struggled with balance, gross and fine motor skills and brain fog.

It took 4 weeks for my blood tests to come back after they were taken as they had to check if it was Leptospirosis. It had been 8 weeks and that was when I was due back for my 2nd , with the doctor's office ringing me up to remind me to come in. On 8th July 2021, I received my 2nd of . Within 12 hours I couldn't walk. I was paralysed from chest to toe, with no feeling or control over my bladder and bowel function. I was admitted to John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle on 10th July 2021.

I was referred to a neurologist, who confirmed it was assault. I had an MRI, CT scans, bloodwork etc., throughout a 2.5 week stay in the hospital, then I was officially diagnosed with transverse Myelitis as a result of the ... Transverse myelitis is a disorder characterised by symptoms of neurologic dysfunction in motor & sensory tracts, inflaming the spinal cord. They started me on IV steroids trying to reduce the swelling in my spine, which didn't work, so then they started doing plasma infusions. I was in the John Hunter Hospital for a total of 3 more weeks, and then I was transferred to the Taree Hospital in mid-August 2021 to begin rehabilitation. At that point, nothing had improved and I was still totally paralysed. The hospital personnel did feel sorry for me but no one knew what was going on, what to do, nor did they want to talk about it.

Two of my daughters had weddings in that time. They were going to have a destination wedding in 2020 however that was changed due to . I was unable to attend due to my symptoms and hospitalisations, and I was devastated to miss their special days.

Also during that time, my wife was at home running the business. We wanted to make sure the reaction was reported, so my wife filed a private report with the TGA. It turns out, even after seeing 9 doctors and having an official diagnosis, none of the doctors had reported it to the TGA. The TGA called me to speak directly to me on the phone, shocked that none of the doctors had reported it and wanted to clarify some details and have access to my medical records. After that, they sent me a letter saying to not have any more .

Minimal feeling had returned upon being transferred to Taree, and I was doing physiotherapy and hydrotherapy to try rebuild muscle. Eventually, I was able to get back up on a pair of crutches during that time and I was in full-time rehabilitation for about 13 weeks and afterwards, was doing rehabilitation 2 days a week from that point.

My wife was unable to run the farm long-term without me. We had to sell the farm and property as I couldn't work or drive to Sydney to sell our produce. I couldn't drive a tractor, I couldn't do property maintenance, and we had to completely cease operation. My wife and I were heartbroken and devastated to essentially have to sell the property 2 weeks ago, simply to survive. I couldn't even help my wife pack up the farm to move. I am suffering mental health complications as a result of my physical condition, and it has also strained and impacted my wife and my marriage. We have no income, and no livelihood. Our

farm was our pride and joy, and we were passionate about caring for the land, its biodiversity, actively involving youth in agriculture; delivering high quality produce to the customer base we had built up over a decade. It has all come crashing down after this  $\stackrel{\square}{\Leftrightarrow}$ .

At the same time of selling, the plasma infusions wore off and I lost control of my bowel and bladder function and was unable to stand on crutches again. I went back into hospital on Monday 11th April 2022 to receive plasma infusion, however had a reaction to the infusion and they had to send me home to come back next week. I am currently sitting at home, unsure of what the next process will be. We are staying at a friend's house, trying to find somewhere else to live.

I am sharing my story to raise awareness about injuries, and show that this is not safe and effective like we have been told. The reactions we are seeing are unacceptable and I never want anyone to have to go through what I have gone through. I have completely lost trust in the Government and our systems, having never had any cause to distrust them before - I thoroughly believe we have been lied to. This has been a deception of the Australian public, and they are on the wrong side of history and have failed us. I have no future anymore. It is hour by hour, and day by day.

Wayne, 50yrs, M Mornington Peninsula, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdaGdcTp96g, Contact: https://www.instagram.com/emicon12/

P#1: FH 3253 P#2: FJ 5973

I'm 50 years old, 2 kids, Hardworking my whole life, most of my work life has been of physical nature So I was in good shape and kept a reasonably healthy lifestyle. My only previous health issues was back surgery due to work back in 2015 which has since given me no more problems. I even had a stress and cholesterol test in April 2021 which I passed in flying colours.

I didn't want to get the but with the constant pressure from my workplace pushing the mandates. I felt I had no choice and I wasn't in a position to lose my job, so I rolled up my sleeve on the 4th of October 2021 and I received the in my left arm. I felt nothing immediately just a sore arm the next day, then life was as usual.

I got the second Pe on the 26th of October 2021. I felt nothing other than a sore arm the next day just as I did the first time. A week later I started feeling lethargic to the point of not being able to last a full day without having up to a 2 hour sleep each day. This went on for about 7 weeks, I had absolutely no other symptoms other than extreme fatigue.

It wasn't until the Thursday 16th of December I was at a work get together for the end of the year. It was 5:40pm and suddenly my eyes rolled into the back of my head and I collapsed into my mates lap. From this point on I had no recollection of the events that occurred so this is the story I have been told.

The Ambulance arrived and I was pronounced deceased at 6.03pm with no recordable pulse or blood pressure. They tried to bring me back. They gave me Amiodarone, Fentanyl, adrenaline and They performed CPR for 35 minutes, I received a total of 7 shocks with a defibrillator, they were about to put me in an induced coma but fortunately my wife arrived on the scene and snapped me out of it. Without knowing what had happened I was pulling tubes out of my nose and throat.

As soon as I was awoken I was transported to the hospital where I underwent a mountain of tests including 2x tests, Ct scan, Angiogram, Bloods, Everyday, X-ray, Troponin. the tests came back negative both times 3 days apart which was extremely intrusive and highly unnecessary, the Ct scan showed calcification in my arteries, the Angiogram showed a lot of calcification in a lot of my arteries, my bloods back all good, X-rays all good, Troponin went from 414~10319 over a 13-hr period. Which is apparently normal for a heart attack?

I was in hospital for a total of 8 days. In that time I developed pneumonia and was fitted with an ICD which is an implantable cardio defibrillator which is protruding out of my chest which you can see in the photos. I later developed a hematoma so they put me on antibiotics which then cleared days later. They discharged me with no official diagnosis other than unknown cause for Ventricular fibrillation arrest and they put me on 5 different medications. metrol (beta blocker), rosuvastatin (cholesterol medication), brilinta (blood clot forming), cartia (low \*\* aspirin) and Metoprolol (high blood pressure)

It's now been 4 months since I got out of hospital. I have an ICD in my chest for life which causes me discomfort especially if I accidentally knock it. It hurts, I still experience extreme fatigue. I'm no longer able to hold a passenger license to work because of the ICD and I lost my car license also for 6 months until I have a medical review. Considering all of this and how much it has affected my immediate life, I'm mentally okay thanks the support of my family first and foremost.

Jessie, 17yrs, F Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdZa6mtvjxT/

Contact: https://www.instagram.com/twistedsouls\_billyxbrahms/

I got the first  $\bigcirc$  on the 30th of September 2021 (as that was the only one I was allowed to get due to my age). They told me at the most I'd get a sore arm so I didn't think much of it. However the next morning I woke up feeling extremely sick, to the point I felt as if I couldn't move without physically being sick. That lasted for about a week.

I got the second @@ on the 28th of October 2021, which the next day I felt sore everywhere to the point it was hard to move and I kept having hot and cold flushes that also lasted for about a week. I began to recover after a lot of rest, until the 1st of November when I started to have a really bad reaction to dairy, I was either choking on my own phlegm to the point I was struggling to breath or I had continuous acid burps and felt sick in the stomach.

My Mum and I worked around that obstacle by either having lacteeze tablets when something had dairy in it or by wiping it out completely. For a couple of months things began to go back to normal. That was until the 23rd of February, when I woke up

with stabbing pain in my chest every time I breathed. I had stabbing pain in my stomach as well as continuously feeling sick and experiencing shortness of breath. I chose to push through these issues by still going to school and work. I just found alternatives to make it easier especially when walking around school, I chose to wear a backpack to each class so then I wouldn't have any pressure on my chest.

Mum took me to see our GP to see what the cause of my issues were. My doctor told me that my chest issues were most likely a condition called costochondritis, so he prescribed me anti-inflammatories and to try them for at least 2 weeks to wait and see if I had any improvement. However he wasn't sure what was causing the stomach issues so he gave me a referral to get an ultrasound done on my lower abdomen.

About 3 days afterwards I went and got the ultrasound done (which came back clear) and because I was in so much pain my Mum took me to the local public hospital. We waited for about 3 - 4 hours until we eventually were seen by a doctor. We explained my situation to them so they stated they were going to do a couple of tests. They did an ECG and a blood test as well as they gave me some Panadol and nurofen thinking that would ease the pain. The tablets did absolutely nothing and because the ECG and blood test came back clear they sent me home.

Two weeks had passed and the anti-inflammatories had no effect. I was still feeling extremely sore and I also missed out on more days of school. I saw my GP again and he gave me a referral to get a handful of blood tests done, as well as a lactose and fructose test. The results came back for all 3 tests as normal. I also got told that my iron levels were really low so I had to get an iron infusion done. A friend then suggested that we see a Chinese Doctor. From the time of making the booking, I began to have on and off sharp pains in my arms and legs.

We eventually visited the Chinese Doctor and explained my situation to him. He explained that he believed my symptoms were a reaction from the so he gave me a choice between 2 Chinese herbal medicines, Chinese powder or Chinese tablets. I decided to choose the tablets and try them for 4 weeks. Meanwhile one of Mum's friends suggested that we speak to a nurse in Perth who is going through a similar situation to me. We discussed with her what's been happening, so she referred us to a GP close to where we live. We visited him and he explained that my symptoms were due my immune system having an over reaction to the . He gave me a referral to get some more blood tests, that were 5 vials worth and all of them came back clear.

The doctor suggested that I take a long list of vitamins which were: vitamin C, Vitamin D oil, Glutathione, Curcumin, Taurine, CoQ10, Black seed Oil, Spirulina and Pine Needle Oil. A few days later my symptoms got worse. I woke up at about 2am with my entire face in complete agony, I was getting extremely hot and cold in a short period of time. It took me ages before I could get back to sleep. Later that day Mum took me to the Monash Children's Hospital. When I was seen to, they took my temperature. where I had a fever, even though I was feeling quite cold. Mum and I explained my situation as well as the tests we have had done (including the \*\*test which came back clear) they said they don't believe in rapid test so they did their own \*\*test as well as an ECG and a blood test.

Whilst waiting for the blood test and test they said they needed the bed and put me in the waiting room again. It was quite a while before they took me to another room within the ICU. We were there for 6 hours before they brought over the mobile x-ray as they wouldn't take me to get the x-ray due to taking a test. A long time after they did a chest X-ray, they tried telling Mum and I that my symptoms were due to anxiety, as all the tests had come back clear. We tried to explain that it's not due to anxiety. They responded by saying we're not saying it is, at the same time they tried telling Dad that because I have autism, I feel more pain than everyone else does. This is completely false as autism only has an impact on my social skills and my learning not my health.

Our GP referred us to see a Gastroenterologist to get a gastroscopy and colonoscopy done. Both tests came back clear. Not long after that my left wrist began to twitch which eventually spread down to my elbow (the longest my arm has twitched for is 10 hours). The day after I got the gastroscopy and colonoscopy done I went to the shops with my Mum and had a look around. Suddenly my left foot began to hurt, so we went home and I rested. Out of nowhere from my ankle to my toes, my left foot was hurting so bad that it felt as if I had fractured it. It was so extreme that I could barely put pressure on it. I eventually ended up using crutches so I wasn't putting pressure on my foot. Mum told the nurse about what had been happening so she referred us to an Immunologist she's been speaking to in Perth. They suggested for me to be on higher D\*s of vitamins to kill the spike proteins from the ... I then visited the Chinese Doctor again and since the tablets were not working he prescribed me a Chinese powder to try for 4 weeks. Afterwards I visited the other GP again and he referred me to see a Cardiologist. When I saw the Cardiologist, they booked me in to get an echocardiogram, a 24 hour holster monitor and a stress echocardiogram. About a week later I went with my Mum and brother to a local music festival to get out of the house. I was walking from one stage to the other with the crutches, but then my right foot started to hurt. The pain then spread up my leg, then my right wrist began

aching, where it felt as if I was internally bruised to touch. Two days later I saw the Chinese Doctor again and he gave me acupuncture and a stronger dosage of Chinese powder to try for 3 weeks. I saw the other GP the day afterwards and he prescribed Prednisolone for the twitching and has referred me to get updated blood tests as well as an MRI of the brain.

Due to all of this I've had about 5 weeks off of year 12 because I can't physically walk around the school and I've missed out on work for over a month now.

Johnie, 22yrs, M Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdXwyoypLqa/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/johnie.k/

I'm 22 years of age. I am a very active person who loves the ocean and outdoors, I'm always travelling on various adventures. From December 2021, my quality of life has been forcefully altered and begins to change with each coming day. Like many of the other states across Australia, the work mandates started to come into effect at the end of 2021. The job I was working at decided to enforce the mandate, regretfully I went along with it so as not to lose my job. I'd always said I didn't want to get it, but again, I just felt like I had no choice. My partner was not so keen on me getting it, but supported the decision. I had the first on the 29th of December 2021. 2 days after the (2004), I noticed my hands began to tremble. It came on slowly and over time became more apparent. every-time I picked up anything my hands would shake, and it quickly became noticed by people at work and my partner. Eating any food from a knife and fork had become frustrating.

The time came for the 2nd on the 26th January 2022, again I only did this to keep my job, I was asked by the nurse if I had any adverse reactions and then showed her my hand tremors and told her what was happening to me, she asked if I wanted to go ahead with it, I said "well I have no choice", she awkwardly laughed and said "yeah that's true." then proceeded to give me the ... I visited a doctor in regards to my hands shaking, however, my concerns were dismissed and it was labelled anxiety.

I didn't feel good at all after the 2nd. Headaches, body aches and fatigue pledged my body for 2-3 days after receiving it, along with my shakes increasingly becoming worse. My partner began to notice that while I was sleeping, my whole body would be shaking uncontrollably all night. I hadn't noticed as I'm a deep sleeper. This continued for about 3 weeks, until I began to notice. When I would wake in the morning I could feel my arms vibrating, shaking and no matter how hard I tried, I couldn't stop them. This would continue for about 2-3 minutes, then go away, from here, only hands would just shake throughout the rest of the day. I also noticed, if I exercised at all, the hand tremors would become worse.

On the 15th march, I was just relaxing at home and noticed that my leg had started spasming. My partner has always been on high alert and cautious about what was happening to me so she recorded it on my phone. This lasted for a few minutes and then stopped. I kind of forgot about it and put it to the back of my mind.

I was at a family get together on Saturday 26th March, in the late afternoon and felt my whole body start to convulse. Being around so many people, I couldn't really comprehend what was happening, so I tried to hide it. I wanted to avoid the attention on me as this was still something so new and I was still in denial. I notified my sister who was sitting beside me. It soon went away shortly after but we had a discussion about me seeing another doctor, who could actually help me. The next day is when it really hit. Sunday 27th march at 4am, I woke up to my whole body convulsing, uncontrollably. It would slow down and speed up, I was so tired so I attempted to get a little more sleep. I woke up my partner and she was immediately concerned and said that we should go to hospital. Initially I didn't want to make a fuss, (I actually think I was in still in denial about the seriousness



of what was happening to me and tried to brush it off) so I got out of bed and attempted to eat some breakfast, however doing this was almost nearly impossible as I could hardly keep the food on my fork due to my whole body shaking. I couldn't speak, I stuttered my words, walking became an impossible task. This then became extremely scary for me and my family. A fit and healthy young man now convulsing in such a way that terrified everyone.

We then drove to the ER, where due to rules, no support person was able to enter with me. I was taken in, in a wheelchair due to being unable to walk. It then suddenly became a struggle for me to breathe so the resuscitation team was called, and I was rushed out of the waiting room. They took me to a bed and left me there for some time. The nurse gave me some sort of relaxant medication which helped the body convulsions to slow down, however they then morphed into isolated seizures. When this happened nurses had to pry open my jaw to open my airways. I'm not sure how many seizures I had there as it is now a bit of a blur but if I had to put a number on it, it would be 20+. I had blood tests, along with an ECG, all which came back clear. The hospital's neurologist was contacted, but because I was conscious during the seizures, he told me that they were not "real" and there was nothing he could do to help. 3 other doctors came and advised they had no idea what was happening to me and concluded to blame these seizures on "anxiety", telling me that all this was in my head and that I am the one causing these episodes to happen by my own accord. They recommended cognitive behavioural therapy and then discharged me after 6+ hours. I felt so defeated and alone. I didn't know what to do, I just had 3 doctors say it's all in my head. But why would I make this stuff up?

Once back at home, I suffered 10+ frightening seizures, along with being unable to breathe and talk at times. My family wanted me to go back to the hospital but I just felt as though my concerns were dismissed and was made to feel as if I were making this up. I knew this was not "anxiety" and I just felt more comfortable being at home, in a safe space with my family. I was unable to sleep at all which left me exhausted.

The next day my sister booked me into her GP to see if we could get some answers and some desperately needed help.

Thankfully he listened to my story and what was happening to me. We voiced our concerns that all of this started after my 1st and then had progressively gotten worse, especially after the 2nd. The doctor agreed that the had cause my seizures. He advised that I was having "absence seizures" and diagnosed me with this and epilepsy, he did a new full blood analysis, these blood results all came back clear, just low in iron. He also referred me to have an MRI scan and prescribed me anti seizure medication, however this takes up to 6 weeks to begin to work). Luckily after calling various places, I managed to get an appointment within the next few days. I went for the MRI, and then went back to my GP to discuss the results.

The MRI thankfully came back with no obvious abnormalities, but has left us with unanswered questions so the GP then referred me to a neurologist for further investigation. I am currently waiting for my appointment in the private system as public is a 2 year wait. I am hoping to get answers but it is just a waiting game for now. I am still experiencing around 7-12 debilitating seizures per day (not including the ones I don't know about when I am sleeping), leaving me unable to breathe properly. I do not get a full night's sleep due to the seizures stopping me from relaxing, this leaves me fatigued and needing to nap during the day. And at times I struggle to put a sentence together and stutter my words. My partner or family member needs to be with me at all times, as a precaution in case an accident or more severe longer lasting seizure were to happen. The medication is currently not making much of a difference currently, so I am hoping that this will change the longer I continue to take it. I am currently unable to drive and work and have had to resign from my job as it was labour intensive and would have been a risk to myself and others. I am not entitled to any sick pay or anything like that from them which leaves me, like so many in a difficult situation. I am also not able to get any government assistance as seizures or epilepsy are not recognised as an injury from the

My GP is unfortunately refusing to provide a medical exemption for the mandated booster (although I will definitely not have it). But this then means that if/when I get better, I will be unable to go back to my job.

In light of all of this craziness, I am doing my best to stay positive and taking this time to heal, to connect with friends and family, and really focus on my health and doing all I can to get better.

I know this is a similar situation and experience to so many, My partner is searching high and low for any answers or alternative treatments that may help, if you read this and if you know of anything please shoot me a dm. Thank you so much for taking the time to read my story, I am appreciative beyond words of any support.

## Haliday Bay, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CcTygJGPwki/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/tamma3\_1973/

A#1: N/A A#2: N/A P#3: FL4210

I'm 48, I have 3 adult sons and 3 grandchildren. I lived in Lennox Head/Lismore my entire life and moved up here in January 2021 to start fresh as My husband (together 3 years) is in the Mining Industry, and we'd spent a lot of time separated from each other with border closures.

I decided to have a change of career and also went into mining. I finally received notice in September 2021, then went through the required medicals with having every test under the sun. I was given a clean bill of health from my doctor late last year, with the only issue an upgraded glasses prescription.

I had my first two with no issue, the first wo on the 11th of August 2021 which I was happy to get as we were fearing and The second yellow I got on the 3rd of November to be able to cross the border to see my kids, and for my job.

I started work on the 12th of January working as a Heavy Machinery Operator driving large trucks in the coal mines. It's a huge job, our shifts are 90 hours work in 7 days. When I started work, the government changed the regulations for the 10 to 3 months instead of 4. It wasn't mandated through work but the word going around was that if you didn't get it, you'd be let go and I didn't want to risk it, being so new. There was lots of talk about 10 in the lunchrooms with people feeling apprehensive about it. The mine was paranoid about being shut as 10 was sweeping through, even with all the precautions of having to wear masks onsite/in the trucks, plus a face shield if we had anyone in the truck with us, we were operating on minimal staff.

I finished my shift cycle on the 1st February and had my B appointment on the 3rd of February 2022. The doctor took me through the pros and cons of the and said the regulations are for P after A. I'd mentioned I was wary about it.

I yelped when the nurse administered it, it instantly hurt as it touched my skin (which hadn't happened before). On the 40 mins drive home my arm was like a dead weight and I couldn't lift it. I put it in a sling as I couldn't move it that night. I just had a sore arm on the Friday, but on the Saturday, I woke up feeling very strange, I can't describe it other than I felt very odd in my body. We went out for dinner with friends, I had 2 drinks and didn't feel right so didn't have any more and didn't want to stay – I would normally kick my heels up with a few drinks, so it was unlike me.

Sunday morning, I woke up feeling a tingling and numbness in my body. My eyes were swollen and burning, they felt like ping pong balls in my head and were red hot. I was short of breath, I felt highly strung, I was emotional (even crying) and felt like I hadn't slept for days. I did a RAT test as I thought I had , but it was negative.

On Monday when I woke up, I felt like I was dying, I couldn't do anything for the entire day. When I was going to bed that night, I started getting chest pain and collapsed on the bed, I passed out and couldn't move my limbs or get up. My husband wanted to take me to hospital, but I refused - I didn't want to be exposed to at Mackay hospital (it was a hotspot) and I thought I'd wait it out and go to the doctor the next day.

I woke up Tuesday with a swollen face, burning eyes, numb heavy limbs like dead weights, and chest pain again. My appointment was at 1pm and on the 40 min drive in, I went downhill. As I was walking into the surgery, I collapsed. They put me on an ECG, which showed abnormal, my heart-rate was 145bpm and they thought I was having a heart attack so they rang an

ambulance. I was there 2 hours before the ambulance came and I asked to go to the private hospital in Mackay (as I had private health).

They did blood tests, and a D-Dimer that showed positive for a blood clot, the CT scan and chest X-ray were both clear. After 4 hours I was still going downhill, they couldn't get a catheter in and I ended up with bruises all over me. The emergency doctor told me I could go home, yet they had to wheelchair me to the toilet! I was dizzy and nauseous, and my limbs were so heavy I couldn't walk. The ER doctor got angry with me and told me "There's nothing wrong with you!". One of the nurses came to my side after she heard the doctor say this and told me the doctor can't send me home if I don't want to leave. A cardiologist was contacted and agreed to admit me for observation.

I was put in a room and left to my own devices. I overheard the ER doctor tell the nurse upon handover "She's tired, she hasn't had enough sleep and she's having a nervous breakdown, just put her in overnight and she'll be fine" (this was the same doctor who was trying to make me go home). I wasn't on any monitors or anything, just put into a room, given Panadol and Nurofen and was shaken awake in the night by the nurse a couple of times doing observations. The nurse was also annoyed that I had requested help to go to the toilet.

In the morning when the cardiologist came he took one look at me and said 'You look gravely ill' - I was no better than the day before and had all the same symptoms. He got my ECG and called the head nurse and told her "This ECG is abnormal, she has Pericarditis" the Nurses came running then! I spent 5 days in hospital and they started me on Colchicine and Ibuprofen. On the last day I was there, they couldn't get my BP and heart rate of 125bpm down. I had MRIs on the brain and abdomen, each looking for a clot. I had an Echocardiogram and CT Scan, both came back clear but they could hear that I had a Pericardial Rub (it's the sound from the friction of the heart and the sack).

I was discharged on the Saturday with 6 weeks rest, with a prescription for Metoprolol (a beta blocker). I started feeling a whole lot better but was in and out of doctors for a few days and on the 3rd day out, I ended up collapsing at the doctors surgery again! It was déjà vu.. the ambulance came and another suspected heart attack. This time I was taken to Mackay base hospital and was in ER for 17 hours where I was diagnosed with Pericarditis post.

The next morning, they were going to admit me but as they were full of patients I pushed to be discharged under care of my GP. I went home and continued to take the medication. I was wheelchair bound (I'd hired one) as I was breathless, weak, and dizzy. It was then that the flooding happened in Lismore and my family lost everything, so we drove down to be with them for 3 days (I wasn't driving). I was ok down there; I took it easy. My sister drove us back, but it took 3 days to get back home because I was fatigued and couldn't handle it, we had to keep stopping.

I got back on 15th March and went straight to my 6wk follow up appt with the Cardiologist at 1pm. He did an ECG that day, which was slightly abnormal, and my BP was high, he could also hear I was really wheezy which I thought was from Pericarditis but he said no, and believed I'd developed asthma as a reaction from Metoprolol. He took me off that and put me on a Cordilox (verapamil) which slows the heart rate. He said it would put me in bed for 5 days as it was a very heavy duty drug. I delayed taking it for a couple of days as we were moving house the next day.

I started taking it on the Friday and on Saturday morning I could barely move and barely breathe, I was on the lounge all day and continued getting worse. My husband called an ambulance when he got home, they thought I was having a heart attack. In the hospital I had a Morphine drip in my arm for 24 hours as they were so busy. Whilst lying there, I heard at least 5-6 young people coming in with heart & chest pain post , and I could hear them all being told they had anxiety and they could go home. They didn't test me for anything, just gave me a chest X-ray and had me on the monitor. The cardiologist was appalled at my treatment and transferred me to the back to the private hospital, into the High Dependency/Coronary care Unit where I was on the ECG for 7 days monitoring.

On the 2nd day I had an Echocardiogram, which discovered a Pericardial effusion (fluid built up). The echo was extremely painful, afterwards I was in intense pain in and under the left side of my breast, constrictive pain across my chest and chest wall pain. I also had vertigo, asthma and pins and needles too. They put me on the highest D\* of Prednisone 50mg, but my body wasn't responding, my condition was getting worse. They took me off the Cordilox as they discovered I was allergic to that and put me on Diltiazem. I also had an allergic reaction to Endone, and codeine which caused my heart rate to increase to 180 bpm, hot and cold sweats and nausea. I'm now allergic to 5 different drugs - I never had any issue prior.

My current diagnoses are: Acute Recurring Pericarditis, Costochondritis, Sinus Tachycardia, Shortness of Breath, Acute Asthma, Hypertension, Vertigo, chest pain, positive to Autoimmune Disease (yet to be diagnosed) which they believe was lying dormant until the which is starting to fail because of all the medication.

I now also have post PTSD where I wake up every night at 1.30am thinking I'm in a coffin and can't get back to sleep. To top it all off, I've had 2 two positive and 1 negative tests in the past 8wks for Pheochromatoma – a very rare adrenal cancer, so I now have to go through some extremely invasive testing for the next 2 weeks.

I've been told by the doctors I'll never be able to work in the mines again - my career is over before it began, and we just bought a house using all our savings 2 days before I had the which caused all of this. My husband has just gone back to work today after helping me for the last 8 weeks, we've had no income as we are casuals so don't get any sick pay. I won't be able to do any job for at least 6-12 months - As soon as I stand up, I get breathlessness and my heart rate shoots up to 135 bpm, even whilst on medication.

I can't do anything without being in pain and have no quality of life at all. I need to sleep sitting up (otherwise I get a crushing feeling in my chest if I lie down), I can't walk my dog, I can't drive, I can't shop and I can't hold my grandchildren. I'm on 24 tablets a day to keep my body going, and 4 lots of pain medication plus a preventative asthma puffer (I can't have Ventolin as that sets off my heart). All this just to be able to see my kids and keep my job. I have a carer now for 12 hours a week to do the cooking, cleaning, and shopping whilst my husband has returned to the mines, because I'm unable to any of that.

My condition is ongoing and changing by the week, with no end in sight. My expenses in the last 8 weeks are already \$65,000. I am seeing a personal injury lawyer and I have a good case for the claim against the government scheme, because there's no doubt from doctors that the Pericarditis is from the ... They tell me that it's like the ... has set off a bomb in my body.

Saskia, 26yrs, F Mornington Peninsula, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CcEiwbjpGK2/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/saskiajeanx/



I'm 26 years old, Prior to the last a full time student studying Neuro-Science so I have background knowledge of how the supposed to work, I was also an enrolled nurse a couple years but more recently worked in hospitality. I was quite an active person with a lot of running around.

I had chronic nerve pain in my right leg for 3 years prior to the which was becoming manageable with physio. I also suffered a bit of anxiety and in May 2021 I was diagnosed with serotonin syndrome which hospitalised me but was well and truly sorted out before the first by managing it with Lamotrigine. I got the because the mandates had changed and I was told I only had a week or two to get it otherwise my boss wouldn't be able to keep me on, I responded well I guess I won't be on anymore just being smart and I explained to her why I didn't want it after doing my own research. I ended up deciding to get the to keep my job and I got the on the 15th of October. I didn't feel anything other than a headache, some hot flushes and bit of vertigo the next day at work. I told my boss and she let me leave early to go home and rest. Everything was fine for the next couple of weeks, I actually felt really good until I woke up to my lips being very swollen and a rash on my left hand. Through the day the swelling increased and burst vesicles started to appear on my bottom lip.

The next day I woke up and the burst vesicles started to appear on my tongue, gums and the rash on my hand was lingering. I went straight to Emergency and a doctor saw me in the waiting room. She didn't bother to take me into a consult room and diagnosed me on the spot with oral thrush and discharged me with some medicine to help with my diagnosis.

I went home, took the medication, rested all day. I did everything they said, but the symptoms increased with the burst vesicles spreading into my throat, making my throat swell which was making it very difficult for me to breathe, so I called the ambulance. When they arrived they asked me if I wanted to stay home or if I wanted to go to hospital. I went to hospital OBVIOUSLY. My temperature was 34.7c in the ambulance.

On arrival I was waiting about 2 hours in a que with all the paramedics until they moved me into the waiting room I was in earlier in the day. I was finding it increasingly hard to breathe as time passed so I was trying to hassle someone to attend to me. It wasn't until about 4-6 hours later I got my first observation done, where they tested my oxygen levels and it came back 92%. I'm normally 98% and I was tachycardic.

They took me into a consult room and the junior doctor said he would be backing a minute... he didn't return and I was left in so much pain that I was on the ground in a foetal position screaming for someone to help me. I had to get myself up and go and chase a doctor to help me and they put me back in the room. Another half an hour passed until someone came back again to get me in a bed. No one gave me any pain medication at all.

The first thing they wanted to do was give me a test which came back clear. They also wanted me to do a urine test to see if I had herpes which then I explained I have tested all clear, but I went to pee in the cup anyway.. along the way to the toilet a doctor started yelling at me because I was "apparently" supposed to be isolating even though I was negative. I went back to my room and then I noticed the name on the cup wasn't even my own. Wasn't even a female name.

They ran 7 blood tests, 3 urine, 3 BSL, stool test, viral swab, vaginal exam and 2x vaginal swabs, Chest X-ray and then cannulated me 12 hours after I arrived. I was in hospital a total of 7 days. I was Also transferred to ear and eye specialists for testing. After all the testing they diagnosed me with conjunctivitis which was unrelated and bacterial vaginosis. They said it was a reaction to lamotrigine but negative to Steven Johnsons syndrome. (SJS) is a rare, serious disorder of the skin and mucous membranes. It's usually a reaction to medication that starts with flu-like symptoms, followed by a painful rash that spreads and blisters. Then the top layer of affected skin dies, sheds and begins to heal after several days.) Just to add to the story, all of the tests that I went through wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for my family keeping on top them with phone calls to make sure they are testing me properly.

During my stay I experienced the following symptoms: 9/10 pain down my throat, hot and cold flushes, nausea, vertigo, swollen lips, anxiety and I wasn't able to eat and they didn't have me on fluids. They failed to cannulate 2 out of 4 times which left me in excruciating pain. On one occasion I had to press the emergency buzzer 4 times and no one would come to me so I had go out into the hallway where I finally got listened to after 3 times.

On day 6 of my stay they took me straight off 225mg of lamotrigine which caused me to go into severe withdrawal sending me into an array of symptoms from hot and cold flushes to dizziness, nausea and headaches which heightened my anxiety, I actually got to a point where I contemplated suicide. The next day I discharged myself and it was the best decision I made. On day 6 when they told me all my results I then mentioned to them that I think it was from the and the doctor said he couldn't rule it out but there wasn't enough information. They were also in close contact with Monash hospital specialists in dermatology because all the doctors had never seen anything like this before. They kept on saying they were going to do a lip biopsy but it never happened. I kept on asking them about it and they eventually told me there were no doctors qualified enough to do it.

I was discharged with roughly 12 different medications, the main one being corticosteroids (prednisolone) to calm down the primary reaction. Since I've been out of hospital the symptoms have lingered, I have about 15 symptoms which I can't separate between it being from anxiety or if it's physical. I have also been experiencing consistent periods that bleed through the pill, primolut and tranexamic acid. New symptoms have been appearing: zapping of the brain in my right temporal lobe, tinnitus, numbness and tingling in my right arm and fingers, Occasionally it goes across to my left arm. Always feeling hot but when I check my temperature it's normal, loss of appetite but gaining weight. All the nerve pain for my right leg prior to the is back in full force, hypertension, extreme fatigue, chest pain around my heart which feels different to anxiety and I'm also skipping heart beats which I'm now going to the GP once to twice every week to follow up on. The latest issue being that my kidneys bicarbonate levels are low past the threshold and have been on a down trend since the about 15 symptoms which I'm also skipping my vitamin K.

To top it off after all of this, I lost my job and I can't attend uni due to not being able to get an exemption because the adverse reaction specialist at the hospital recommended I take the NOVA because it's "different' to the other  $\stackrel{\square}{\Leftrightarrow}$ 's.

Sammy, 40yrs, M Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CcEF1JdvNNe/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/sammysaid357/

I am a 40 year old construction site manager.

Prior to the 🔐 I was fit, healthy and training every single day as my job required me to be at the top of my game.

I was adamant I was not going to get the in as I had full faith in my immune system however when the mandates came in hard for construction workers in Western Australia, I was left with no choice.

I got my first  $\square$  on the 21st of December 2021 and experienced no immediate symptoms afterwards and went about my life as usual.

I received my second (A) (a) on the 22nd of January 2022 which I initially thought I didn't develop any symptoms however looking back I now know that is when my chest pain started.

After the second , I kept experiencing what I initially thought was really bad reflux. I was self-medicating with copious amounts of antiacids however it was not getting any better and after ignoring it for nearly 2 months I finally went to my Doctor. I explained the symptoms I had been experiencing, they did an ECG which came back negative and drew some blood.

I received a phone call a few days later from a concerned Doctor asking me to come in immediately. They stated that my inflammation markers were extremely high, and they needed to investigate why. Which lead to my diagnosis of pericarditis secondary to the ...

My Doctor was very kind to me and stated that he believed my diagnosis was due to the end however, I felt like he didn't want to say too much in fear of retribution.

I now have been prescribed many new medications, including Colchicine for my heart which is also destroying my stomach lining resulting in me now needing surgery for a hernia. I'm also now taking antiemetics, strong pain killers and even benzodiazepines all because of this so called safe and effective whereas prior to the I did not require any of these drugs.

I am now on light duties at work, and I find my once fit and active self gone. I can't do the things I once use to love doing. Most of all, I have had to give up training therefore I'm reaping all the downfalls of that.

I regularly find myself feeling dizzy and suffer from severe migraines. The chest pain feels like I'm having a full-blown heart attack every single time, pins and needles down my left arm and tightening in my chest. As the chest pain occurs frequently, I'm lost on whether to call for help or not as when I have in the past.

My ECGs have come back negative. Meaning I would need to spend hours out of my day waiting around for no answers to even be answered. Which with my current employment, that amount of time off is just not feasible. I have an Echocardiogram booked in later this week, so I will hopefully know more about what my is wrong with my heart then. However, it seems like the Drs and even the specialist can't answer simple questions associated with my injury. I hope by sharing my story that it spreads awareness and encourages others experiencing injury post to come forward and maybe even one day they will use our stories towards a database and force ample testing prior to any mandated.

Renae, 35yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cb8s2xEvUZL/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/nae\_the\_bully/

P#1: EX2405 P#2: FC3558 P#3: FN0565

I'm 35 and have worked as an accountant for the last 15 years and live with my partner. I haven't had any physical health issues prior to last year, but in March my gallbladder started playing up. I was told I would most likely need to get it out at some stage. It got to the stage where I couldn't eat or keep anything down and was losing weight, so I had an emergency surgery on 29th July.

Separate to this and prior to the surgery, I chose to be fully as I travel for work to Melbourne and Sydney and would be going to Melbourne and staying with my mum who is in her 70's and has diabetes. They were having outbreaks there at the time and she was worried about it and I didn't want to put her at risk. I had my first on 23rd June 2021 and the Second on 15th July 2021. After both, I noticed a slight headache but took Panadol after and also made sure I ate beforehand so I would feel ok.

I had a week at home after the surgery to let everything heal and went back to work the following week for light to normal duties. 3-4 weeks after the surgery (5-6 weeks after the 2nd (1) I was really struggling, tired all the time, my energy depleted and I had to sit down a lot (unlike me), plus I had brain fog and had developed pain in the left side of my neck which was going through my shoulder and down to my elbow. I'd never had this before and I hadn't done anything to cause it as I was still taking it easy after surgery. I was conscious of my diet and recovery after my surgery, so went to the doctors to get my vitamin levels checked, as I knew depleted levels can affect recovery. My B12 levels were low, but everything else was normal.

At the time when the pain started, I also started getting tinnitus for the first time alongside the pain. I'd never had any issues with my hearing before and it wasn't overly bad, but it affected me when I tried to sleep and had quite bad insomnia from it. I got it checked out and they said I had a minor issue with low range hearing but it was considered normal and Tinnitus is in the higher frequency range anyway.

I was prescribed oral B12 which only gave slight improvement, so I went back to the doctors and got put on B12 or After the first one, the brain fog lifted leaving me feeling semi-normal. I had loading D\*s (5 D\*s in 2 weeks) for the initial round and was advised to come back in 3 months for another, but I got to the 3 week mark and hit a wall.

The fatigue and brain fog would go temporarily, but the Pain and Tinnitus was constant throughout. When the symptoms started. I started to feel down all the time and was just wanting to 'feel normal'. I wasn't going to wait 3 months for another B12 @, so another doctor at the same clinic put me on monthly @'s. I found it odd that the different doctors all had different views around this.

After another month without improvement on the Neck/Shoulder pain and me going back, the doctor ordered an MRI (which came back normal) and CT Scan (normal), and then an ultrasound on my shoulder. This showed mild bursitis, but it didn't have a cause and didn't correlate to the pain I was experiencing. They suggested to get cortisone so to see if that would help - they were saying it was a trapped nerve but couldn't tell me where it might be trapped and they were thinking maybe my muscles are too tight and compressing a nerve. I'd been seeing a physio every week, as well as having weekly massage to see if that helped and had been doing some strength and resistance exercises at home, also without a lot of success.

In early January, I woke up in pain and ended up going to the ED. I told them I can't handle the pain anymore and that going to the doctors wasn't helping, that the pain is taking its toll on me and my mental health was being affected. They said they couldn't help but just prescribed anti-inflammatories and sent me on my way – they didn't help. I've had muscle relaxants, deep heat rubbed into it, nothing had worked to take away the pain and I wasn't going to continue taking anything that doesn't provide relief.

When I went back to the doctors for the renewal of the physio care plan, the doctor mentioned I could have another cortisone , but advised there are downsides to too many. I'd already had two and they didn't work so I wasn't going to have another. I had a doctors tell me it's everything else, and one eluded to the fact it must be from typing in my work, which I didn't believe but was willing to do anything to try and sort it out, so I got a new ergonomic chair and rearranged my office.

I've had 2 cortisone 'e's, tried Chiro, weekly massages and physio, dry needling, stretches and I'd still not been able to sleep on that side from the pain. The doctors said there's nothing else they can do for me because 'there's no cause for my pain'. They've done blood tests for lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, glandular fever and many more things and have said If we can't make a diagnosis, you might have fibromyalgia but the diagnosis for that is only given when everything else is ruled out. I have referrals for a couple of specialists (Rheumatologist and Neurologist), but the doctor advises not to keep my hopes up as they can decline me from my symptoms not being 'severe enough'.

There is no underlying reason that can be found to explain my issues. I have adjusted to live with it and after 7 months it's improving but is still bad at night. It's exhausting and I'm just pushing through the pain because I don't have any other option right now. I'd had my booster on 9th of February 2022 and It was only in the last week I'd come across the article of Daniella Lenarczyk who has similarities with my symptoms (brain fog, fatigue, Tinnitus and neck pain). I've since found Tinnitus is also being investigated as possible related side effect from the

My partner also had his first 2 P's and had what he called 'strong heartbeat episodes' after the second one but thought it must be from being active or something, even though he got it when resting. He had a telehealth appointment just before the booster and asked about Myocarditis as a symptom of the but as soon as he mentioned it the doctor diverted the conversation and mentioned another patient waiting. He had his 3rd an accuple of weeks ago and got the same strong heartbeat again and it's been more noticeable than last time. He also ended up with a swollen lymph node under his armpit (The vaccinator told him after he'd administered it that it's a possible side effect), he had to take a day of work the next day and just can't shake the feeling he's not feeling right which is the same as what I experienced. He's booked into the doctor on Wednesday.

Mel, 43yrs, F Adelaide, SA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CcC3PKBpjJ8/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/rwtb music/

**P#1**: FJ5973

I'm 43. I part time care for a couple of my family members, so I have my hands full. Prior to the QI was fairly active, going to the gym, swimming and general exercise. I try to stick to a healthy diet and I've never had any physical problems but I have dealt with major depressive disorder.

I didn't want to get the end because I felt that it was rushed with no long term studies being done which made me feel uneasy however because of my role as a carer and the repeating of the narrative I felt if didn't get it, the people I was around would then be put at risk and I didn't want to do that.

I got the Pe on the 1st of November 2021 in my right arm. All I felt was a little bit of a sore arm until 4 days later on the Thursday night when I was watching tv and suddenly out of nowhere my heart started irregularly beating out of my chest like it had never done before. I went to lie down for about an hour waiting for it to calm down and pass.. I struggled to get to sleep that night because I was fearful and scared that I wouldn't wake up if I fell asleep, not really understanding what was happening to me.

The next morning I woke up to being breathless and could only move around very minimally or I would feel like I was going to fall over or pass out. It was something I'd never felt before and it made me feel very weak and fatigued. I Pushed through the day just taking rests as I needed to. Other symptoms I started to experience was nerve pain in my arms, kidney pain, frequent urination, high blood pressure. Basically I couldn't move without it effecting my heart rate significantly.

In the same week that I had the like I had a phone consult with my GP and I notified him of my symptoms. I mentioned that I had the like and he didn't seem overly concerned about It and just told me to rest and take Panadol.

For the next 6 weeks, the symptoms continued. Around week 4-5, I went and saw another GP at a different clinic, he ran tests, ECG, finger prick glucose, blood pressure and oxygen saturation. The results came back clear and he didn't give me any answers and I left empty handed. At this point I was feeling annoyed. The impression I was getting was that he didn't believe that I had a reaction to the  $\bigcirc$ , not because he was being dismissive but because he was too scared to say what he really thought.

The next thing I noticed was my menstrual cycle was not normal. My period was totally gone for 2 months and then it reappeared heavier than usual and followed with another cycle 2 weeks late and then a 2 week long period of heavy bleeding. Still to this day it is irregular. My whole life, I have never had this issue.

Currently I am still without answers as to what is really going on with me. I am still experiencing brain fog, forgetfulness and my cognitive ability is declining (I could be carrying something and the signal from my brain to my hands glitches and I would instantly drop whatever it is that I'm carrying). Fatigue, weakness, kidney pain and breathlessness on and off. I still get heart aches and arrhythmia and I have had to adapt to not living the life I used to. If I push myself too hard I fear something bad will happen to me.

## Mornington Peninsula, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CcAJ87Fp27G/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/eddiewearne2/

P#1: FH3219

I'm 44 years old, Prior to the last 30 plus years, not only that I was involved in a number of other competitive sports and riding all kinds of boards raising money for kids over seas all whilst running a surf and core boards sports store for the last 15 years.

I was always around the low to mid 80kgs eating a clean diet but just to be honest I don't mind the odd night on the beers! Other than asthma as a child I've never had any health problems, only sports related injuries.

I'm not anti but I'm anti mandate of this and 100% pro choice. I was one of the last retail business owners in the region to hold the line for the 262 days of lockdown. The police had visited our shopping strip a number of times. I was trying to get an exemption and tried a few doctors but they wouldn't give it me and I was left no choice. Looking back, I wish I would have thought even harder at the time but I was in a position where I had to feed my family, and that's what it came down to in the end.

I got the early on October 18th 2021 in my right arm. I didn't feel anything, I just took the day off, went to bed early that night and continued on. 2 days after the when I was out trying to surf on a hydrofoil in waste high waves, I couldn't catch a wave because my heart was hurting in a way I'd never felt before so I had to stop. It felt like a sharp stabbing pain with every beat and radiating through my chest and lungs making it very difficult to breathe.

I went to the beach, waited half an hour then tried again and the same thing happened. Immediately I thought I'd drawn the short straw with the because I had heard of similar cases already. For the rest of the week I didn't surf again or do anything strenuous out of fear of something bad happening but come Sunday I was sitting in my shop with my daughter at 1:30pm when the stabbing pains out of nowhere started intensifying to the point of me feeling like I was going to have a heart attack. I was literally just sitting there and my heart started beating out of my chest and I was short of breath.

I had to get my friends from the shop next door to shut my shop and I drove myself to ED. On arrival they took me straight in. I mentioned that I had the and I that I though I was having an adverse reaction. They didn't want to associate my symptoms to the but they ran ECG, took my bloods and X-ray. All the tests came back clear but they discharged me 8 hours later with papers stating that I had chest pain from the and told me to take painkillers.

I continued on with life taking painkillers and new symptoms arose, As well as the heart pains I started to experience what felt like my organs on the left side of my torso erratically spasming all day long for days, nothing was improving and I ended up in hospital a second time on the 26th of October 2021. This time they did more tests, D-dimer, troponin, ECG, X-ray, ultrasound, bloods. The Doctors were quite helpful this time however all my tests came back clear and they let me go documenting that this was an adverse reaction to the  $\stackrel{\square}{\square}$  and I was prescribed Nurofen and Panadol.

Between the first couple of hospital visits I made number of visits to Doctors, lung specialists, cardiologists all which were not really much help. I was starting to feel lost and defeated, my symptoms were worsening and I was gaining weight rapidly and losing out financially being unable to function in my day to day life.

On the 9th of November I had been recommended to a cardiologist through friends speaking up on Instagram. He has been a life saver, He was very receptive to this being an adverse reaction and diagnosed me with pericarditis and put me on colchicine, aspirin, nurofen and gave me a one month exemption/told me to stop exercising for 3 months and sent me off on a roller coaster of tests which are still going to this day.

It got to a point I was spending more time in appointments than I was at work and I ended up in hospital again for the 3rd time on the 17th of November 2021. It was the same feeling, like I was going to have a heart attack which was too overwhelming to sit through. It felt like a life or death situation so I didn't feel like there was any other choice.

This time I was admitted over night, they ran a bunch of the same tests and I ended up with the same results. They were helpful but they didn't know what more they could do for me and they seemed lost because there had been so many other people in my position by now. They just prescribed some different meds: Ibuprofen, Endone, Pantoprazole and Paracetamol. For the last 4.5 months since my last hospital visit, I've been seeing a long list of specialists to try and heal myself, I even came down with in early December which if it was up to me in a non coerced situation, I would have chosen to get the over the I have had to the now, far out weights the symptoms of and the same goes for most of my surfing mates who have had and are une, now paddling rings around me now. Currently I'm still experiencing symptoms daily, I'm in endless heart pain although it is very slowly easing. The stabbing pains come and go and they are about 7-8 out of 10. I go through waves of extreme fatigue which comes and go every few days, extreme brain fog that went on for a few months but is starting to clear up now, I have been surfing a little bit more and my fitness is very slowly improving but my heart hurts all the time and I'm constantly in fear of having a heart attack and drowning. I'm constantly facing my own mortality, More than anything I'm worried about leaving my family behind.

Ben, 28yrs, M Onslow, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cb9uUb5pquh/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/benwitkowskimusic/

**P**#:1 FF4222

My name is Benjamin. I am a 28-year-old originally from Melbourne, Australia. I am an aspiring musician and work in the tourism industry. I used to be a tour guide, leading active expeditions from Melbourne to Alice Springs. I had run two half-marathons and was training for a full marathon. I also played soccer and went to the gym 3-4 times a week.

Due to the nature of my career and life, I figured I had no choice but to get the and did so on August 17, 2021. 30 minutes

after getting the

Peg., I started to feel really odd. An extremely intense, almost electrical, pressure started to appear in my head. My body started tingling all over the place, and I had a very dramatic and sudden loss of energy. Over the next couple of hours, my eyes started to bruise, and my chest tightened. It was almost impossible to take in a deep breath.

I took myself to the tiny hospital in town. I was kept in overnight and was monitored throughout my stay. The hospital administered blood tests and three ECGs in the 24 hours I was there, but found no issue and told me to go home and rest. Over the next few days, all of the symptoms amplified and were getting worse and worse. I went back to hospital desperate for answers, but was dismissed by the doctor and told not to worry. Being in a remote town, I decided to get to the bigger town 3 hours away to try and get a better response from the doctors there.

In the 6 days I was there, the doctors told me that "these things happen" and that everything will be fine if I rest. I was extremely concerned by the pressure in my head most particularly, but all of my symptoms were horrendous. I didn't have enough energy to speak, grip my phone, drive, walk – anything. I was determined to get an MRI in Perth. The doctors recommended I didn't fly due to the pressure in my head. They said they could organise a RFDS low-altitude flight, but felt that my injury wasn't "enough of an emergency to warrant that."

I decided to take a commercial flight to Perth to get further investigation, and the flight intensified my symptoms so badly that I spent a further 3 nights in Royal Perth Hospital. I was being seen by a neurologist. They ordered an MRI, and after 3 nights, they came up to me and said there was nothing wrong with me and I was free to go.

2 months in, my symptoms had not improved at all. I was so confused by the treatment I had received. Nurses and doctors were so immediate in their assurance to me that this had nothing to do with the . One morning my symptoms were so bad that I couldn't hold myself up. I drooped over and was unable to lift myself up or control my breathing.

I was taken to the hospital in Onslow, and as I was (attempting) to explain what was happening, the nurse interrupted me and said "I just want to say that you're getting caught up in the injury hysteria. This is a textbook anxiety attack, and you need to go see a therapist."

Despite me trying to explain that I had not felt anything like this before my , and had been experiencing worsening symptoms from 30 minutes after the , the nurse told me that I was in denial and offered me a benzo-diazepam tablet, and re-confirmed their opinion that I should go see a therapist. Indeed, on my outpatient notes, the doctors and nurse did not offer any suggestion of investigation into what was going on with me. Rather, they said that I "looked sad."

After that, I made the extremely tough decision to move back to Melbourne to try and get better support. This meant losing my job, halting my career progress, losing my financial independence, and close relationships – among other things.

In this time, a doctor in Melbourne reviewed all of my hospital files. He saw on my ECG charts on the first night I was in hospital after the that I had acute pericarditis. The diagnosis was missed by the doctors in the 3 Western Australian hospitals.

I want to try and keep opinions out of this and just report the story in the factual chronology of how it happened, but to say the least – to this day I am still extremely baffled at how this could have happened. I was incorrectly told that my Pericarditis would be "over" in 72 hours by taking certain medication. Unfortunately, because my Pericarditis was mistreated for 4 months, the medication I was on made everything significantly worse. I was put onto an incredibly high dose of prednisolone steroids, for which I am still supposed to be on 5 and a half months later (I have since stopped taking them).

Again, I don't want to make this too opinionated. I just want people to see the very real stories that are happening all around the country. Since arriving back in Melbourne in December, the treatment I have received here has been entirely around the persuasion for me to get the second dose of the . It has been almost 8 months and I still haven't seen a cardiologist as the doctors don't think it's necessary. They did not renew my exemption after 4 months because they said it was time for me to get the second .

Close to 8 months down the track, I am able to hold conversations now, and I am back to writing a little bit of music here and there. I can walk for about 25-30 minutes without too much pain. Unfortunately, the symptoms continue to persist, and I live every day constantly in pain. I try my hardest to push it the back of my mind, and get on with my life.

If I push myself too hard, the symptoms come back with the same intensity as they did back in August, and I am bed-ridden for at least the next 24 and 48 hours. The problem is, I still don't really know what sets it off. This is making it almost impossible to work and exercise. Through a combination of both my inability to work for 8 months, and spending money on my own investigations, research, and alternative methods of therapy, I am out of pocket just over \$60,000.

I have no further investigation from the medical system. They either don't care, don't believe me, or don't want to hear about it. That is the sad truth; the sad reality in all of this.

But I keep going.

There are three reasons for me sharing this story with you now.

1. I am so grateful and thankful for communities like this to exist. You don't know how important it is for people in my situation to see that there are still people that care.



- 2. I am at a stage of pretty intense desperation to get answers. I have tried every alternative remedy under the sun, but the reality is I am looking for the medical tests to clear any indicators that I become another death statistic. If anyone has any suggestions, I would be more than happy to hear them.
- 3. If there are other people in my situation, I want to show that we are stronger together. Do not be silenced.

Thank you everyone for everything. Say yes to life.

Sami, 40yrs, M Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbzV\_K3JpNd/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/samio\_elsherbiny/

I am an Egyptian immigrant, 40 years old, a husband, and a father to my 8 and 4 year old children. Before the use I was known as vibrant Sami, the guy that owned a popular cafe and knew everyone's name. I was a ball of enthusiasm, healthy, motivated and confident. My focus has always been on how I can provide for my family, so much so that I barely noticed the 20 hour days I was working.

When the emandates were put in place and I lost my ability to make ends meet I put my body on the line to protect my family. I was got the

on July 24th 2021. In less than 2 weeks I started noticing chunks of my beard falling out, then my eyebrows and then began waking up to chunks of hair on my pillow in the morning.

I got my second Pe In September. I then went completely bald. No eyelashes, no eyebrows, nothing. When I saw a dermatologist he said "it is 100% linked to the , saying "your immune system is in complete shock". However he could not report this or put it in writing for me.

In addition, I began to experience extreme anxiety. I found myself out of control, unable to eat, unable to sleep and unable to function. I have been put on anxiety medication just to stay alive because prior. This experience has turned my life upside down.

When I look in the mirror at myself now, I don't see "Sami". Yes, I look completely different, but what I really don't recognise is the broken man that stands before me. I don't recognise that I now wait until it's dark to take the bins out so no one will see me and ask me what's wrong with me. I fear working because I can't handle one more nasty comment about my appearance.

The worst part of all is that I was coerced into making this decision, coerced by a government that I trusted and travelled the long distance from Egypt for. Some might say it's just my hair, but this predicament has made me question my life more than once. If it weren't for my family I can confidently say I wouldn't be here anymore with what I have been put through. I have had my self-autonomy stolen from me and that, I can never get back.

Anonymous, 28yrs, F QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbzQ2ZrpYt6/

## NOVA x2

I'm 28, married and a mother of 2 kids. I am generally an active person with great health and no prior health conditions. I enjoy hiking and try and go at every opportunity (every week at least). The was mandated for my job in November, and I held off as I didn't want this but thought I'd wait to have the NOVA, thinking it was the safer option.

I had my first NOVA on the 23rd February 2022. I had no adverse effects at the time, but 3 days later my legs broke out in what looked like bites (they weren't itchy), they were painful to touch and had a liquid substance in them and would turn into an open sore. Over the next few days, I would wake up with new ones when others went down, I could even see them starting to form on my legs in the day. It was like a blister pain and I considered that it was shingles but I thought as it only stayed on my lower legs and didn't spread anywhere else, it didn't seem like it. They started going away after 2 weeks or so, and I have scarring now.

5-6 days after the first NOVA I had bad headaches which were about 8-9/10 (not like anything else I've had before), the pain was in the back of my head and radiated down my neck. I managed to get through the bare minimum for my family to function and spent the days on the couch as I couldn't do anything else. I couldn't focus on tv or anything because the pain was too much. I thought I was dehydrated so increased my water intake, but nothing reduced the pain. I'm not one to go to the doctors for any issues I believe I can solve myself, but when it got to day 5 and no Panadol or ibuprofen had helped, I went to a local walk in clinic as my normal GP was booked up for 2 weeks.

They prescribed me migraine wafers and muscle relaxant and after two days taking them, the headache finally went away - it went on for 7 days in total.

On about the 10th March, I started getting a sensation (I wouldn't describe as pain) in my chest, it was annoying enough for me to grab at my chest and I had tingling down my left arm which I could feel was different to my right arm. The pain worried me, and I weighed up whether to go to the GP or ED. I went to the GP. He checked my blood pressure which was perfect but my heart rate was 115bpm. He told me I was "Just anxious" and that I was "absolutely fine". I mentioned I'd had the NOVA and he said again, "No, you're just anxious". I was still not at peace about the result, and I wanted to push for more and he said "Well, we can get some bloods done if you want'.

The tests listed on the form were not heart related so I didn't do them as I felt it would be pointless. I had my 2nd NOVA on 16th March 2022 and on the 20th March I got a crushing sensation in my chest, it felt like someone was sitting on my chest and I could feel it straight through into my back which felt like 7-8/10 pain. I got up in the morning of the 21st and drove myself into ED. They checked everything to see if I was having a heart attack. The chest x-ray was fine, the ECG was abnormal and noted "Non-Specific T-wave inversion, in leads 3 and aVF, query dynamic changes in v4,5" and my d-dimer was elevated at 0.69. Because of the elevated d-dimer, I had to go for a CT scan, which thankfully showed no clots in my lungs and heart, I was relieved at that result.

On the discharge summary given the same day, it notes 'Given her dynamic ECG in the absence of a troponin leak, organise non-urgent TTE (Echocardiogram) or stress test once symptoms have resolved. Discussed it could be due to a mild Pericarditis' – I have a high pain threshold and it was not mild. The doctor told me verbally that the have been causing heart issues (wasn't specific on the brand).

My chest pain had continued at the same level from the 21st, until 26th/27th March, when I've started to feel normal again. I've not been prescribed any medication for my heart pain. I am scheduled next week to have a cardiologist review and echocardiogram

I feel angry because I never wanted this and I took the NOVA to avoid the heart issues reported for others, but ended up with issues anyway. From the moment I got the blisters on my legs, I'd felt it was linked to the . I'm back at work as I need to get on with my life but I wanted to share my story for those who have been waiting for the NOVA, to let them know it's not any safer than the others.

Adam, 38yrs, M Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbylUOUpMJw/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/pizzaiolo\_adamo/



I am a 38-year-old from Victoria. I run my own business and am married and have a new baby.

Prior to the Usuas a happy and calm person living an active life, in good health and enjoyed going to the gym. I had no health issues or heart problems and the only medication I was taking was anti-inflammatory tablets (for a hip injury from a motor bike accident 10 years ago).

I didn't want to get the ; it didn't feel right to me. I was not scared of and aware that the chance of being harmed by it was very low. I held off getting the for as long as I could, but the mandates made it very difficult. As soon as I got the I regretted it. On the 5th of November 2021, I decided that day to have it. I was so against it but felt pressured. I went to the clinic near me and got the in my right arm. I didn't have a reaction that day other than a bit of sore arm during the night.

5 days later I felt a burning sharp pain near my heart. I brushed it off at first but the following day it was worse. I then felt worried as I had heard about the heart issues many were having following the . I called the clinic on the Friday and was told to go to the hospital emergency department. I went straight in and had to wait for 2 hours in the waiting room.

During my wait the pain was coming and going, and I felt worried about my heart. Eventually I was called in and seen by a young doctor. I told him that I had just had my first and he did an ECG and blood test. The results came through and he explained that I had 'inflammation in my chest'. I asked if it was from the and he said that it 'just happens to be in my chest and it was 'nothing to worry about'. I said that I had never had heart problems before and that there weren't heart problems in my family. He wouldn't acknowledge this or my concerns and just told me to keep taking the anti-inflammatory tablets (that I was taking for the motorbike accident) and that my heart pain would go away.

I felt unheard and disturbed about not only my heart pain, but from his lack of care or concern, He said I could leave and I went home, still not knowing what was wrong with me. My wife and family were so upset and worried about me. Especially as they knew that I felt strongly about not getting the  $\frac{\Omega}{\Omega}$  in the first place.

A week went by and I was still experiencing burning pain in my heart. I decided to see my family doctor as I knew and trusted him. I wanted answers and also to get something in writing so that I could avoid the 2nd . I was so shocked when he brushed me off and didn't listen to me. It made me feel crap and unheard. He downplayed it all and told me it was anxiety and not heart related. I was dismissed and given no treatment, advice or care.

I returned home to my wife, distressed, holding my chest from the pain. I decided to go to a private emergency department on the 19th November. I received better care there and the doctor was open and listened to me. Finally, after 2 weeks with heart issues, a health professional listened to me and helped. It was a huge relief. The doctor conducted a full ECG, blood test and ultrasound. He was helpful and explained the findings thoroughly.

The tests showed that my heartbeat could be seen as irregular and I was diagnosed with pericarditis. It was so horrible to hear, but in a way a relief to finally have an answer. The doctor also confirmed that it was from the He said if I get the 2nd that it will be worse than the pain I was experiencing. He gave me a letter (attached) stating that I have chest pain and the diagnosis of related pericarditis. The letter also advised that I could not have the 2nd and that I must be symptom free before another. This doctor reported my injury to the TGA.

The doctor said the heart issues should go within 4-6 weeks but it still hasn't gone. In fact, in February I had to go back to the private emergency department as I had bad chest pains again. This time it was with a different doctor. He did an ECG test and said that the results came back the same as the previous visit. I asked if that means that I still have pericarditis. He said no and refused to do an echo. He gave me a referral to see a cardiologist and he said that he was 100% sure it would be ok and that I wouldn't have pericarditis.

I saw a cardiologist in March who did an echo test. The results came via my doctor (who previously dismissed me and my heart issues). He confirmed that I had pericarditis. He then went on to try to convince me to have the 2nd He said that getting the 2nd even with my heart issues would be better than getting . I was totally disgusted that my family doctor would say that.

I still experience heart pains and burning since the . Now that I am injured, I feel tired quicker. I want to be doing more physical things and going to the gym, but I can't as I am not able to exercise because if my heart rate goes up, it will flare up the inflammation. This is a big loss as the gym was good for my hip injury and I was building strength. I can't help but wonder if I wasn't already taking the anti-inflammatory tablets, how much worse my heart and pericarditis would've been.

I hate having this injury hanging over me. I was not an anxious person before the but now this has made me feel more stressed. I should be having the happiest time of my life with my baby. These mandates and injuries should never have happened.

I have spent so much money on tests, which on top of the lockdown, losses as a business owner, is all too much. I was a happy person who loved life and was not anxious at all. I now worry about my heart every day and my future. I want to be healthy again like I was before so I can enjoy my new baby boy fully and be sure that I will be here for him and my wife.

The reason I share my story is because I want to bring awareness of what the is really doing to people. I don't think people realise it could happen to them and that injuries are not as rare as it is being made out to be.

Kyle, 23yrs, M Darwin, NT



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cbv1ooLpYra/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/kylesurr/

I'm 23, a father of 3, working full-time hours as a youth worker, I was extremely active with my kids and my work, I never had any health problems prior to the . I was always very healthy and fit. I got the because it was mandated at my work and I had to support my family. I was forced into getting it. My only other choice was to become homeless.

I got the sometime in the beginning of January, Immediately it felt like my body went into shock, I drank some water and calmed down, other than that I just had a sore arm so I didn't hesitate to get the second on the 5th of February 2022 in the right arm.

I was fine until about 12 hours later going to sleep when I felt severe stabbing pains in my chest around the heart area which then moved down my rib cage. Straight away I got up and called the ambulance. When they arrived they did an ECG and told me that everything was fine but I disagreed and told them they needed to take me to the hospital because I knew something was wrong.

On arrival, they took me in, put me on a bed, they took my bloods, ECG, and did an ultrasound on my heart. All the tests came back clear and they told me I was fine to go home and there was nothing wrong with me. They gave me Nurofen and that was it.

Over the next week and a half I ended up at the hospital another 6 times, 3 via ambulance and the other 3 times I drove myself in. I mentioned that I had the and they said it could be a mild reaction but they weren't sure. Each time I went to the hospital I got told that I was fine. They kept on doing the same tests over and over again but couldn't find anything and kept sending me home empty handed. I was feeling pretty defeated at this stage. I didn't know where to go or who to turn to.

The last time I was at the hospital, they decided to refer me to a cardiologist because I kept on telling them that something was very wrong. The cardiologist saw me about a week later and he did an ultrasound, echocardiogram, ECG and gave me the diagnosis of pericarditis. Finding this out literally put me to tears. The cardiologist told me that he'd seen a lot of young men with the same thing and he wrote down that this was an adverse reaction to the and prescribed me with Colchicine.

For the next month, I did as I was told and took the colchicine, it was helping a bit with the pain but it would come back slightly every now and then until I tested positive for and the symptoms came on tenfold, I ended up in hospital again. They tried to put me on the medicine which I didn't trust, so I refused to take it and they kept me in hospital for 3 nights as a precaution, then discharged me for home quarantine.

For the last 2 weeks I've been taking the Colchicine but I'm still getting 7 out of chest pains "as we speak" I'm extremely fatigued, sleeping way more than usual, struggling to get through the day with out having naps. I've been working maybe 20 hours a week but I'm unable to interact with the kids and function in day to day life like I was before. I'm scared for my life and worried that I won't get to see my kids grow up. I've just accepted that all I have is Colchicine and hope that I can recover.

Kim, 37yrs, F Redland City, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cbt03pCJKOe/

Contact: https://www.instagram.com/themotherdaughterduo/



I'm 37 years old, been in Australia for the last 8 years, the rest of my family is living in New Zealand. I'm mother of a 6 year old so my life is full, I was working part time in an office setting and living a very busy lifestyle. The only time I have ever been sick was 7 years ago when I had preeclampsia due to my pregnancy. Other than that my health has been Great.

I got the ecause my work required me to travel interstate and the venues in which they held the conferences were bound by mandates. I didn't want it and I held out for as long as I could but because I have a mortgage and a family to support, I made the decision to go and get it.

On Saturday the 12th of March 2022 I received my first dose of NOVA. Immediately I felt pain at the site, which was shortly followed by a bit of light-headedness. I sat for 15 mins and just felt really tired. Whilst walking to the car I turned to talk to my 6 year old daughter and it felt as though my lips were talking slowly. There was a strange sensation as though my brain couldn't keep up with the movement. I said to my husband I felt a bit confused.

Later that evening I felt extremely tired and dizzy. I was laying in bed when I experienced some heart palpitations. I put it down to just being drained from getting the . The next day I felt quite sick as well and my legs were heavy and lethargic. The brain fog and light-headedness continued.

That night I woke up to go to the toilet and as I sat down my heart started to pound again. I thought I better ring the 24hr nurse. She said to either ring 000 if it worsens or to see a doctor within 4 hours. I made a doctors appointment the next day.

At the doctor on day 2 post , I was still experiencing the dizziness/heart palpitations and told her I now had jaw and neck pain as well. It felt like I had twisted my neck and I was getting a shooting pain through my jaw close to my ear. She took my blood pressure which was 159/100. She told me that it's likely my body just under a bit of stress from the and that things should calm down. She said if I felt worse to come back and see her.

I have since also started to experience internal tremors. It feels like someone has a live wire inside my body. It's a very strange feeling and I find it hard to relax. During the night I am waking up around 7 or more times to go to the toilet to wee and for the last two days I've had a diarrhoea. The exhaustion and brain fog continued and I felt very spaced out everyday. It is now day 4 and I went to get an ECG and see the doctor. He ordered bloods and put me on blood pressure medication because my blood pressure was very high. My reading was 167/109. We are hoping this will help.

I also read on the government website that NOVA can cause high blood pressure. My doctor admitted I am having these reactions from the ⓐ, but he also said I should still get the second ⓐ so I don't die from . I am very emotional and sad at the moment. I haven't been able to work all week. I hope and pray that this is all temporary and will go away soon.

Day 5, I went to get my bloods this morning. Feeling weak, nauseas and very weak in the legs. I haven't ever felt this sick in my life. I truly regret risking my health for a job. Hoping that I feel better soon. I was healthy and full of energy prior to the ...

There was no sign of underlying health issues. I have now gotten my blood results back and there is no underlying health issues. The doctor feels the blood pressure and heart palpitations is due to the most likely. She has said to hold off on getting a second one

On day 9 I woke up with a cough and I tested positive for , I started to feel drained to the point I could barely walk, I had a high fever, body chills and a headache that was making me feel nauseas. I was vomiting days after testing positive. I had a Telehealth appointment with my doctor every day in the height of my symptoms, it was also to monitor my chest because I couldn't even speak a sentence without coughing. I felt like I was dying.

It's now 10 days post and 3 weeks post . I still have a pretty intense cough and feel extremely fatigued. I get on and off nausea, brain fog that increases as the day goes on. For the most part the internal tremors have stopped but I get a bit shaky at the end of the day when I'm tired. The site of the is still very sore to touch.

Thankfully I have had a good doctor who has been sympathetic of what is happening to me and she has given me a 4 month exemption which is the maximum that she can give me.



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbtbGfQpXDP/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/gwen\_streicher/

I'm 29 years old and I work full time in operations and administration, Prior to the least I had a healthy and active life, going to the gym regularly and eating really well. I'm definitely more into natural health, I don't even like to take Panadol. I've never had any medical issues (apart from asthma when I was a child. Originally I didn't want the but work was forcing us to do it or I'd be terminated. From the beginning, it just didn't feel right and I had my doubts because the was introduced so quickly and there was no long term data behind it.

On the day of the , I booked an appointment with my regular doctor and asked for . My whole family had P and no one had an adverse reaction so I thought it would be safe. I took a friend with me for support and I was reasonably relaxed, I had the P in my left arm on the 21st of October 2021. I didn't feel anything immediately following.

For the next few days I had no symptoms but after the 6th day (Tuesday 27th October) whilst sitting at my desk at work, I started feeling really weird. I had a lot of pressure in the left side of my back like someone was squeezing my chest from behind. At first I thought it was anxiety, but it was a strange feeling like my heart was really heavy. I continued to work through the day, I returned home and told my mum what happened. I said I'd take myself to the doctor the next morning if didn't feel any better. Initially when I woke up I didn't have the feeling but within 5 seconds of standing up the sensation in my chest came back. Also this time my whole left arm was weak, I couldn't hold my phone in my hand and I started to have heart palpitations. I began to freak out but I wondered if I was overthinking and I went to work anyway. The sensations didn't go away so I told my manager I had to go to the doctor as I was having a reaction to the

I went to my regular GP. He did an ECG, printed off the record that my heartbeat was a little lower than normal, wrote a referral (querying pericarditis) and said to go to the ED immediately. I went to Midland Hospital ED and they took me to a bed as soon as I arrived. The nurse performed the ECG and took the results to the doctor. They both returned telling me they would do a blood test to confirm but the ECG showed I had mild-pericarditis. The nurse then said it is known to be caused by . I was shocked and scared but I found the nurses to be very caring as I was crying the whole time. When the doctor came, he gave me a prescription for Colchicine-500mcg. I took this for a week but it didn't really work for me and I wasn't keen to take any medication (as I believe in natural medicine). He said if my symptoms persisted to go and see my GP.

After the ED visit I returned to my GP, he said to wait and see how things went for at least 6 weeks. He gave me a medical certificate for a week and I took some time off work. The symptoms subsided for a while but in the weeks following, the pressure in my chest and heart palpitations returned while trying to sleep. I also had irregular menstrual cycles and didn't get one at all for two months. Eventually it returned but was irregular for around 3-4 months.

One day after returning to work the pressure in my chest was so intense I felt I needed to go back to the hospital. I returned to the ED at Midlands Hospital and they took me in straight away. Another ECG was done but the results came back normal. They gave me a prescription for Ibuprofen (400mg) and sent me home. In the weeks following I was still experiencing the pressure and squeezing sensations in my chest so I went to see another GP as my regular doctor wasn't in. She sent me for an echocardiogram and a blood test. The tests all came back normal and she gave me more Colchicine. I didn't take it as it didn't work for me the first time. She also wrote me an exemption, but only until the 22nd of March and gave me a referral for an immunologist which I was to attend via a public hospital (who I haven't yet seen as the hospital is supposed to arrange the appointment and contact me. I haven't heard back from them yet).

One month before the borders were due to open in WA and with the deadline looming for a return to work, I was getting really worried about not having any answers. I went back to the doctor to ask her to follow up with the immunologist but she decided I should go and see a cardiologist. Whilst at the cardiologist I was told it didn't sound like I had pericarditis. I told her they prescribed me Colchicine and she said they absolutely should not be giving me this medication as it's not for heart patients - I

was so annoyed and upset. She performed an ECG and said everything appeared normal and gave me a heart monitor to wear for 8 days, a referral for another blood test and another echo-cardiogram. When I returned my heart-monitor, the receptionist told me I would receive a call from the cardiologist however I did not receive any follow up. I'm still waiting on my echocardiogram and results from the CT scan. I went back to the GP to ask her to follow up my results and extend my exemption past the 22 March but instead she suggested I get the NOVA. I was shocked and said "are you kidding me, I've been telling you about my adverse reaction to all this time and you are telling me to get another ?". I cried and said "I will loose my job, I'm mentally drained and I've spent so much time and money trying to find out what is going on". She said she was really sorry but couldn't do anything about it.

I went to two other doctors and they also told me to consider the NOVA. I told them both, "these are clearly unsafe and causing a lot of problems for myself and so many others". Their response was always the same. "I can't do anything about it". Recently I called my cardiologist to follow up my test results as I still don't have them and need some answers. I decided to make an appeal to her so I sent an email explaining all I'd been through and had nowhere else to go. The receptionist called me to say the Cardiologist would contact me next week and get all the results from the hospital etc. I'm now waiting on the follow up telephone consult with the cardiologist. Currently, I have symptoms every day. I get chest pain and heart palpitations but I've worked out if I hold the left side of my chest and press down on it I get some relief. I'm out of breath really quickly, This comes and goes. I also have shooting pains from the left side (kidney area), weakness in the arms and next level depression and anxiety.

My injury is affecting all areas of my life and I feel like I'm at a dead end with answers but I'm also trying and get on with my life. Some days I feel good. I find eating healthily and going back to the gym once or twice a week is really helping even though the symptoms still persist. I have been taking Floradix (iron and vitamin supplement) which is helping. Thankfully, I have a lot of support for my friends and family.

Bella, 18yrs, F Gold Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cbrj73PpEtf/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/bellareiher/

**P#1**: FG7372

I'm 18, 19 in a few days, Prior to the laws working full-time, attending gym 3-4 times a week, I was just a normal 18 year old with no health problems whatsoever. I didn't have any concerns about but I got the because it was mandated at work and I was being told I wouldn't be able to participate in society basically. With just turning 18 I felt like I would've been missing out on the most important years of my life.

I got the Pe on the 15th of September 2021, I felt light headed and had a sore arm, they told me this was a normal reaction to expect so I didn't think anything of it. Life continued on for the next 5 days as usual until I went for a walk and noticed I was overly short of breath which was extremely strange.

In the next few days I started experiencing shortness of breath with added sharp pains which just happened randomly, it felt like I was being stabbed right in my heart. It wasn't constant, it came in waves which was bearable but there was a constant pressure on my chest which felt like an elephant sitting on me.

At this point I didn't quite make the connection that this was from the . I continued to push on through life as usual for the next couple of weeks. Over this period, the symptoms worsened by the day with more added symptoms of pins and needles/numbness in my toes and fingers and muscle spasms all over my body.

With how consistent all the symptoms were I decided it was best that I go and see my GP. I told my GP all the symptoms that I was experiencing and he told me that it was more than likely just anxiety. He Ran an ECG, Echocardiogram, Bloods and lung function tests. While I was waiting for my results over the next few days, the chest pain became unbearable so I went straight up to the hospital. They sat me in an isolation room for 8 hours and told me I had a chest infection without testing me for anything, gave me steroids and sent me home. The steroids didn't help, they made my condition far worse.

I returned back to my GP and my results for my tests came back all clear. I told him about my hospital trip but he didn't have anything to say about it. He then went on to give me the diagnosis of Asthma which I didn't agree with as I've never had asthma or problems with my breathing. He also told me that having chest pains is also a normal teenager thing. I did mention the but he was quick to dismiss the idea of the having anything to do with my symptoms. He then prescribed with an asthma puffer and sent me away.

I took the asthma puffer for about a week but it wasn't helping at all. My symptoms didn't improve, in fact, they got worse. I called for an appointment with another GP and I told her everything that happened. She pretty much straight away said that this was an adverse reaction to the and referred me to a cardiologist and gave me a 9 month exemption.

For the next week I just had to push through the pain until my appointment with the cardiologist, He made me do a stress echocardiogram which was clear but he diagnosed me with pericarditis based on my symptoms and wrote down that this was an adverse reaction to the He just said to rest and didn't prescribe me any medication.

For the next 5 weeks I was trying to do as he said but ended up in hospital 2 times with unbearable 10 out of 10 chest pain. I didn't want to go to hospital because of my fear of being gaslit so I was trying to treat myself with Panadol and nurofen but it wasn't working. Both times they ran all the tests, ECG, Echocardiogram, bloods and chest X-ray, all of which came back clear. They told me I was stressed the first time and dehydrated the second time. One Doctor mentioned that I had costochondritis.

A week later I went and saw my new GP, I told her everything that was going on and she prescribed me with Colchicine. I was taking colchicine for 4 weeks but it wasn't making me feel any better, it was making me feel nauseous every day and giving me no relief from the chest pain. I started looking into alternative medicine and found a naturopath in the beginning of February 2022 who tested me for MTHFR and did heavy metal testing. She prescribed me a long list of supplements.

Mid February I started getting abnormal menstrual cycles, I had 3 cycles in 1.5 months so I returned to my GP and she ordered me to get a pelvic ultrasound and a pap-smear which both came back all clear. I also got a cardiac MRI in the beginning of March. I got the results and was given the diagnosis of Myopericarditis. My Cardiologist wanted me back on steroids but I refused. Since taking the supplements I got from my naturopath, I have seen improvements, I can now walk up the stairs without being out of breath, my mental clarity is better and I can have a few days out of the week without chest pain. However I have had 2 relapses in the last 2 months which have resulted in hospital both times. The first relapse back to the hospital I had an elevated D-dimer so they did a CT scan to rule out pulmonary embolism, which came back clear. The second time I was sent home with Panadol and nurofen.

In the last month I have been doing hyperbaric oxygen therapy along with my supplements and I have seen even more improvement. My GP now wants me to start cardiac rehab to start building up a tolerance to any physical activity. I still experience random 6-7 out of 10 stabbing chest pains which are bearable, random shortness of breath, usually when I'm exerting myself and fatigue. I am improving to say the least, Sitting at about 60% of my old self and jobless due to the continuation of my injury.

Erin, 36yrs, F Gold Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbpJxelpJt1/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/worldskitty/

I am 36 years old and a mother to two young girls. I moved to Australia from NZ about 3 years ago with my husband and have spent the last year doing a diploma in early childhood care. I also spent a year and a half doing before/after school care.

I have always been in good health but have suffered from migraines on and off most of my life. They have always been manageable and is just something that I have learned to live with.

On 19th of November 2021, I decided to get my first in order to continue my diploma in early childhood care and to better protect myself and my family. I spoke with my doctor about my migraines as I had heard headaches were a common side effect of the eq., but they assured me that I had nothing to worry about and prescribed me with pain relief just in case. Other than this I was not too concerned as my husband had already received 2 doses of the eq and had not experienced any side effects.

About 10 minutes after receiving my first dose of Pe I experienced an excruciating migraine. At first I wasn't too concerned as I knew this was a possibility and I had medication to help deal with the pain. Over the next few days my migraines became much more frequent and intense. The medication I was on was no longer helping and my pain was debilitating. I found myself waking up through the night with hot and cold sweats and noticed that I couldn't keep my hands still without them shaking. I felt very uncoordinated, and my arm was sore for about 3 days.

As my migraines persisted, I started to experience extreme brain fog and became very forgetful. I couldn't remember entire phone conversations I had with my family members overseas and my husband noticed that I had been asking him the same questions again and again without realising. I also started to make very strange spelling mistakes (for example I would write Fish like Zish) and I would write my numbers backwards. It felt like I was drunk 24/7.

I had seen my GP a number of times during this period and was eventually given a referral for a CT scan, which came back normal on 15th December 2021. That same day, I was admitted to hospital for further testing. I received a lumbar puncture to ensure there were no underlying causes for my migraines, which also came back normal. Many doctors assured me that my symptoms had nothing to do with the and were often very dismissive of my concerns. One of my doctors walked out on me and another told me to 'suck it up' and get the second as I have always had migraines and they didn't see a correlation. After 5 days in hospital, I was discharged with a migraine preventative to take each day and a referral to see a neurologist. Unfortunately, the preventative didn't do anything for my migraines and I experienced stinging sensations in my hands and feet as a side effect from the medication. I then returned to hospital in January for additional treatment but have seen no improvements.

Prior to the my migraines have always been manageable and have always responded well to medication. Now that the medication is no longer working, I find that I am constantly physically and mentally exhausted. I have excruciating migraines almost every day and I have to take regular naps so that I can focus. My short term memory has only slightly improved over the last few months and I still find that holding conversations for long periods of time is very difficult - particularly if I'm tired. I can no longer have any carbonated drinks as this seems to make my migraines much worse. At this stage, my GP agrees that I should not take another P = 0, but has suggested that I think about P = 0 instead.

Because of my ongoing symptoms, I have decided I will not receive another Pa. I am unable to work and have had to stop my diploma in early childhood care due to the mandates. I am currently on the waitlist to see a Neurologist however I have called the hospital to discuss this a number of times and have been given no further information.

I hope that by getting my story out there, people in a similar boat might feel comfortable enough to share their own experiences so that we can learn from our mistakes and prevent these things from happening in the future.

Jen, 35yrs, F Adelaide, SA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CboBewDvDvG/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/jenniferbrindle\_art/

P#1: FH4092 P#2: FH3219

I'm 35. I'm from Gore - The country music capital of NZ, and a farming town, and moved to Adelaide for work 6 years ago after applying for jobs in both NZ and Australia. I am a hydrographic surveyor that supports Port infrastructure, with a passion for art.

Health is a big part of my life, I eat really well and am fit. I am a pescatarian and am in tune with my body. I've not had any health issues before, no broken bones or hospital visits in my life and have not required medications, just the odd Panadol.

I didn't want to get the , but while I was offshore on a project in WA, the government there changed the rules and mandated the for FIFO workers and essential Port workers (and I fit both categories)

I had my first  $\bigcirc$  on 8th October 2021. I had no other side effects other than a sore arm. I had my second  $\bigcirc$  on 3rd November 2021, with no notable side effects at the time.

Mid November, I had an incident where I was lightheaded and almost fainted and having not had that before I felt concerned, so I went to the doctors and got blood tests, which found I had low iron and low haemoglobin. Soon after this I started experiencing cramping and bloating symptoms. I understood this was a side effect of the Iron tablets I had started taking, so I didn't do anything about it. The symptoms were not improving by January so I stopped taking the tablets and got an iron infusion on 5th January, but the bloating and cramps became more severe, I had constant pain.

Cramping and bloating are common symptoms for women, so I put off going to the doctor for another few weeks hoping it would subside, but the pain became so intense, I thought It might be my appendix. I was back to the doctors on the 24th January, they ordered a CT scan and I had it that same week - that's when they found the tumour.

I had the surgery (it was like a c-section with 6 week recovery time) on the 7th February 2022. The tumour was contained within my right ovary - it measured 13cm X 9cm X 7cm and weighed 500grams. They didn't know it was cancerous until after the biopsy and I was advised it was a rare form of cancer, an Immature Teratoma. There are 2 types of Teratoma - A 'Mature' one is non-cancerous, and an 'Immature' is cancerous and can spread to other organs. The pathology report stipulated it's a 'grade 2 high-grade tumour'.

Ovarian cancer is hard to detect. I'm lucky I was believed with my symptoms, sent for further investigation (CT scan) and it was caught at stage one being completely confined with no more traces throughout – others aren't so lucky. Additionally, I've had check-ups and pap smear tests when they are due and had the last one 2-3 years ago. I believe cancers are not often picked up in a pap smear anyway.

It was a very emotional time finding out I had a tumour. They also removed my ovary in surgery, which felt like a shock to know you'd had a piece of yourself taken away.



I started chemo on 7th March, after a month gap from the surgery. They ask you before Chemo if you plan on having children as the effects of chemo can affect that, and if I wanted to freeze my eggs, now was the time, or else I might need to look at other options in future. I didn't have current plans to have children, but I felt pushed to make a quick decision. It was a lot to go through and get my head around in a short space of time.

As well as potential fertility issues, they explained other long term side effects such as potential nerve damage and other things that I could have for life, which led me to feel fearful with what could happen.

It was only because the doctors said the tumour was several weeks to a few months old, and that they couldn't identify a cause, that I tracked back to having the 2nd  $\bigcirc$  about 12 weeks before my diagnosis. This was the only change I'd had in recent times. It came out of nowhere and I'd had no lifestyle changes. It could be random and not connected at all, and I don't know if I'll ever know, but the timing, the fact I don't fit the typical picture of a cancer patient, and no direct family history of it (around 150 members) and only have one aunty who has had cervical cancer, I asked the doctors if there was any chance this could have been caused by the  $\bigcirc$ , they said no. I cannot fault the doctors and specialists because they have been really supportive and listened.

My chemo is 3 rounds of 3 weeks per round. I've finished round one and starting round 2 next week. Day 1 to 5, I'm in there with the IV drip from 9am to 4pm, Pills on day 6 & 7 and Days 7 & 15 I'm in there again on the IV drip. I have anti-nausea tablets to take during chemo, but they cause reflux and constipation, so I also have medications to address each of those symptoms. Once per cycle, I need an  $\bigcirc$  which is used to reduce the chance of infection in relation to blood cells and bone marrow.

I have a PICC line inserted in my arm during the whole 9 weeks of chemo which I can't take out, so that's annoying. The effects from the chemo so far have been nausea, chills, headache, body ache, my taste has changed, appetite changed, I developed mouth ulcers and noticed today when I brushing my hair, it's starting to fall out.

The great thing that's come out of this for me is that it's put things into perspective. I've had an amazing support network with my sister coming from Sydney to be with me for the surgery, my partner there for me, taking me to my appointments and picking up where I can't around the house, plus my workplace has been great and I work from home when I can. I'm currently isolating due to my compromised immune system and as of next Monday, I have 6 weeks of chemo to go.

I'm sharing my story to see if there is anyone in a similar position to me with the timing of an aggressive cancer diagnosis in relation to the ... I hope to also bring awareness to people to not discount any symptom and to push for further testing if things don't feel right.

As ovarian cancer is hard to detect, symptoms can be dismissed as something else. I met another lady at chemo who has it, but as she also has IBS, she was dismissed for 2 years by doctors (even one told her she needed to go to a psychologist and believed her symptoms were all in her head!) she found another doctor and they found her she has stage 4 cancer. Early detection has made my story largely positive.

Anonymous, 20yrs, M Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbhMOatJP9L/

I'm 20 years old from Perth. I have no underlying health conditions and no family history with major diseases. The only incident I've had was when I ruptured my spleen playing AFL two years ago and was hospitalised for 8 days. I work at Woolworths and I

study at Notre Dame doing my 2nd year of Bachelor of Health and Physical Education. I love football, I go to the gym most days, and I am super active and really take care of my health, taking vitamins every morning etc., As I am studying health, I have a pretty good understanding of how the body and immune system works. I know a lot about the heart, and exercise, and what it takes to keep me healthy and fit.

I've been the black sheep in my circle for a while when it came to the . Right from the beginning of when started, I felt something was suspicious with the whole bat story. As soon as they began mandating and forcing the , I started to have an active problem with it. I honestly think, if we were given a choice, I might have gotten it, but the mandate sounded the alarm bells for me and I felt there was an ulterior motive. My whole family got it before me, but all felt pretty neutral about it. I had no one to talk to about how I felt about the , and kept putting off getting it. I also felt a lot of social pressure. My gut feeling and instinct was telling me not to, and I am usually pretty right about those things.

The cut-off date to get the first dose in WA was 31st December 2021. I got kicked out of work that day for not getting it, and I couldn't go back until I got it. For a week or so, I was so lost and didn't know what to do. Then I found out I'd have to be double to go on-campus for university. I needed money, I needed my education, so I went to get the ... And I really did not feel good about it. I actually decided to get ... because they were recommending for the younger age group, and my thought process was to just do the opposite of what they said, because they were feeding us so many lies. I also really disliked Pfizer, and really feel they are the most evil. For two weeks prior, I was extra diligent with supplements, I was on a strict protocol of fulvic acid everyday, and eating really well and detoxing from alcohol. I got my first dose of ... on the 14th of January 2022.

The day after, I had a fever and felt very sick with common flu symptoms. That lasted for about 2 days, and then I had eyemigraine like symptoms for another week after that. That passed, and I was allowed to work at Woolworths again until the 31st Jan 2022 as that was the cut-off date for your second . On the 31st Jan, I was fired again. I wanted to wait as long as possible between the , but it got to the point I had no money, so I had to go get the 2nd on the 18th of February 2022. Following that, I stuck to the same protocol and made sure I was really diligent with my health. I didn't get sick after that 2nd and felt okay to get on with things. On Thursday 10th March, in the late afternoon, I started feeling really light headed and getting pins and needles in my hands and arms. This was not normal for me. I didn't think too much of it at the time. I decided to skip basketball & footy training that night due to needing to do my uni assignments. I got in the shower around 9:30pm, and suddenly my heart started to violently beat really fast. It felt like it was bashing against the inside of my chest. My mind started racing and I knew what was happening. I got out of the shower, and told my mum, and she could feel how fast it was going. She told me to go lie down in bed, and then I started shaking from my feet and it crept up into my legs, all the way up to my shoulders. My whole body was shaking uncontrollably for about 30 minutes.

It went away for 2 minutes, and it was very relieving. I thought it had passed, and then it came back again, much more intensely for 20 more minutes. My dad called the ambulance. The paramedics came into my room and I could only just walk out to the ambulance as I was peak having an episode. They put me into the stretcher bed, wouldn't let my parents in and wouldn't treat me until I tested negative for (note: the paramedic is in full-on PPE).

During the 20 minutes while I was tested, I felt sharp pains down my left arm. The paramedics still wouldn't treat me, and said they had to wait until my test came back. I felt that I was about to have a heart attack and was still shaking. They just stood there and did nothing about it. When my result came back negative, I was relieved because I didn't want them to blame this on The paramedic says 'oh thank god, that's one less thing we have to worry about', as if I'd called in for and wasn't about to have a heart attack. They drove me to the hospital, and at this point, my heart rate had started to drop and I was only having little twitches in my leg. They wheeled me into emergency, where they plugged me into ECGs and left me for 5 hours until a room freed up. I was checked on briefly every couple of hours. They found a room for me at about 4am and wheeled me there, keeping the ECGs on and plugged me in to monitor my heart. I was left there for a few more hours. I probably slept for about 30 minutes. During that rest time, my heart rate dropped back to 48. After that, a nurse kept saying that wasn't normal (even though that's a normal sleeping heart-rate). I got an ECG scan, a blood scan, and a blood pressure test, and they all came back normal. They ruled out it being a (which was what the paramedics suggested).

The doctor then proceeded to ask me if I was on meth. I thought he was joking, and laughed - and then when I realised he wasn't joking, I had to explain I had in fact, not done meth.

After that, the doctor left and then came back to ask when I got my , how long ago, how many I had, etc., And then left for 30 minutes, came back and said we believe this is a side effect of the as this has occurred within the time frame in which we've seen similar results to other young healthy males. He stated it was pericarditis. I was sort of relieved at that point, as I thought he was going to tell the truth. The doctor leaves and comes back to tell me he didn't realise I had the nistead of the name as a cold then. I said I haven't had a cold in the past 8 months. He then said, very dismissively, 'I wouldn't expect

you to remember when you've had a cold last'. I could tell on his face he didn't care and didn't believe me, which was really scary.

At 6:30am, he comes back and says 'okay you're good to go. Can you catch an Uber home?' They obviously wanted me out of there as soon as possible. I knew that was coming. I was very frail, but I could still walk okay. My parents waited in the hospital car park the whole night for me, and tried to get in multiple times and were told they couldn't come in, and that they would let them know how I was going. They were not updated once.

I'm sitting on a chair in the emergency hall, waiting to be discharged, and I asked the doctor who served me to write down the comments on my record, and he got really flustered and awkward, and pretty much communicated he wouldn't. The doctor finally called my mum, and he said to her 'I don't need to worry about a 3rd. My mum then says 'what do you mean? We're in WA, and he's studying to be a teacher.' The doctor then started rambling and said 'oh, then he shouldn't hesitate to get another 'C' completely changing his story as the phone call went on, saying it was the cold (that I never had). The doctor also lied on my form, writing that my heart rate only got to 110, when it really was at 185. I went home and was so exhausted, but couldn't get to sleep until about midday.

The next few days, I was pretty much bedridden and extremely fatigued. My dad got on the 15th March, so I couldn't go to the doctor. Another week passed by, and I felt like I was slowly getting better. Currently, I feel mentally ready to go back to sport and normal life, but my body definitely doesn't feel 100% and I feel really off. My spleen has started getting swollen again ever since, I get a hot tingly sensation in my heart every couple of days.

I've always felt like I was really in-tune and aware of my body, but now I don't really understand it and have lost a lot of confidence in my physical performance. I'm unsure about my future in sport, and what my body can handle. I was very stressed and anxious about the 3rd, and the implications for my health and well-being. I was worried about being able to do my practical for uni, and about being able to coach and play sports, as well as work.

I had a tele-health appointment with my family doctor who I've seen for years on 22nd March, in an attempt to get an exemption. I really didn't think there was much hope, and thought maybe I'd get a 4 month one at best. My dad has a good rapport with him, so dad joined the call too. I explained the situation in full, and my dad said he didn't feel comfortable with me getting anymore and the doctor said 'I completely understand. We will sort out an exemption.'

He got me to fill out an exemption form for a permanent exemption to bring to him in person, I took it to him that afternoon and he signed it. I have never felt more relieved in my life.

The last 6 months have been really hard due to all of this. I've never been a worried or anxious person, but ever since my episodes I have felt extremely anxious. Now I feel like I can somewhat move forward and I am forever grateful to my family doctor. I'm not looking for sympathy and want to stay anonymous, as it has been very emotionally and physically draining and I don't think I currently have the energy to talk about it too much right now. I would like to try to get on with my life in these crazy circumstances. I just wanted to share my story so it could be properly documented and hopefully raise some awareness, show people they're alone, and also share a story with a semi-happy ending. Love to everyone that is struggling, I'm with you and hopefully this will all end soon.

Belinda, 36yrs, F Mackay, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cbggf-FpJs4/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/belindahadley/

P#1: FG1657 P#1: FH3219

I'm 36 years old, I work full time running my own business. My work involves a lot of running around working 10-12 hour days, it's quite physical so my fitness is great and my health has been very good for a number of years. Prior to the  $\bigcirc$  I had not been sick with anything for the last 5 years. Not even a cold or a flu.

I was really frightened of getting the ... Unfortunately with my clients all being elderly and my mum being in hospital, I would not be able to visit my mum and or attend my sons sports activities unless I rolled up my sleeve. I got the ... on the 17th of September 2021 in my left arm. I felt perfectly fine other than a little headache. Life continued as normal and I went and got the second ... on the 15th of October 2021 in the same arm. Once again, I didn't get any reactions at all. Nothing.

8 weeks later to the day I woke up and it was like someone had turned on a switch. The back of my head, my ears, my throat, my face, my tongue, my teeth, my gums and my eyes were burning. Imagine gargling mouth wash and it leaving a cool burn after or if you know what bleach burn feels like, that is also what it feels like.

I didn't really make the connection it was the eat this stage. A few days later on the 4th of January, I noticed the pain wasn't getting any better, it was getting worse and it was freaking me out so I took my first trip to Emergency. On Arrival I was able to get straight through, they ran chest X-ray, CT, gave me diazepam, Endone and an IV drip. They thought I was having an allergic reaction. The results of the tests came back clear so they discharged me a couple hours later with Endone.

3 days later on the 7th I returned to Emergency. The pain was becoming unbearable and the Endone wasn't working. They told me they didn't know what to do for me and referred me to a neurologist and I went home empty handed. On the 11th I returned again and they admitted me over night. I had to invoke Ryans rule to have a physician come and see to me because all they were going to do was leave me and give me Lyrica and Endone. The Physician came and saw me after 8 hours of waiting and he said he would organise for a neurologist to come and see me sooner. He upped the amitriptyline, Endone and Lyrica and I felt no relief at all, the next day they discharged me.

I went and saw the neurologist on the 14th of January. He said I was fine and I didn't have MS or Parkinson's but he wanted to do a nerve conductions test. I travelled to Townsville on the 24th of January. He actually decreased my medication, He told me that I might have burning mouth syndrome and Scalp Dysesthesia and said I'm not sure.. we will see. He also tested me to see if I was diabetic to which I was not.

Days later I rang him back because the pain was not going away. He said he didn't know what to do and referred me to one of his colleagues (another neurologist who I'm still waiting see) I rang my mums immunologist and organised an urgent appointment with him on the 17th of February which was in Brisbane but because of the floods I wasn't able to get down until 7th of March.

He admitted me into Greenslopes Hospital and they ran every blood test you can think of. I had MRI of the spine and brain with contrast, I had a full body PET scan, I had an ultra sound of my breasts, I had another neurologist do another nerve conductions test, they did a needle aspiration on my breasts because they found some lumps from the ultra sound. I was then also for 6 days on a Ketamine infusion pump which is a horse tranquilliser if you didn't know.

They had me on the highest dose allowed which was 500mg Ketamine and 150mg of Clonidine and 150mg of Lyrica and 100mg Amitriptyline all at the same time and none of it helped with the pain. I was having out of body experiencing which were extremely terrifying. I couldn't even walk because I was so drugged up.

They took me off the Ketamine because it wasn't working and all the doctors had said that they've done all the tests they can and they don't know what the cause is, all they can do is manage the symptoms but nothing they were doing was working. I questioned every one of the specialists if this had anything to do with the and the response from the immunologist was they can't say yes and they can't say no, "we will never know" I said that I wasn't going to get the 3rd and I was advised by them not to. My neurosurgeon said she didn't know if it could be the but her 12 year old daughter has myocarditis and they aren't letting their younger child get it now for that reason.

My pain management doctor then organised for me to have a nerve block done in the back of my head but it didn't work. The next the day, they said that they would check me in a coupe weeks to see if it worked and I was discharged from hospital on the 18th of March. I can't get an appointment for the next two months in pain management here in Mackay and I still haven't had a

follow up on the nerve block but I have a follow up on the 27th for a neurosurgeon to decide if I'm having lead stimulators put in the back my head and face which means they are pretty much going to fry my nerves with an electronic current.

Currently I'm experiencing constant burning of my face and head, I have a metallic like taste, occasionally I get random burns over my body. The pain is unbearable most days and its been ongoing for 3 months. It's cost me over \$15,000 so far and I had 7 core biopsies yesterday because they found abnormal cells when I was in hospital which are extremely painful. Today I decided to go and try acupuncture because I'm just out of options and I don't know what else to do.

Hela, 48yrs, F Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbeNe1MJVAq/
Contact: https://www.instagram.com/hela\_sydney\_best\_food/

I'm 48, mother of twin boys and a daughter, all young adults. Prior to the laws working part time hours, I was exercising regularly and living a very healthy lifestyle. About 14 years ago I had dislocated discs in my back and I had my gall bladder removed about 10 years ago. The only issue it caused me was to be lactose intolerant but even then, I was able to take an enzyme before consuming dairy and I would be fine. None of these issues had anything to do with what I have been experiencing since getting the laws I would also like to note, one of my teeth broke 2 months before the laws. The dentist said it broke the wrong way so they cut some of my gum out. I ended up with an infection which was cleared with antibiotics. When the crown was ready to be put in, he used a cement that he hadn't used before and it didn't set so he had to remove everything again. It caused Trigeminal Neuralgia which was treated with steroids which started helping but I had to stop 2 weeks before getting the laws and he told me I could continue afterwards.

I got the because my GP and specialists were recommended I should get it because it was of great importance and I had all my life and never had any reactions so I never thought it was going to be a problem. I got the 1st on the 21st of June 2021 in my left arm. Immediately my arm was sore and within about 5 hours I started feeling like I had flu symptoms, my body was aching. I woke up the next day and I was still feeling achy so I called Telehealth. I told them I just got the and the symptoms I was feeling, they said it was normal and to take Panadol and Nurofen and if it was to get worse to go and see my GP.

A few days after the flu symptoms stopped and I started getting new symptoms. My face was very sore to touch, a strange sensation mostly on the left side that felt like someone was pulling the skin off my face and punching me at the same time. I was struggling to digest food and I was getting waves of severe stomach pains. Every time I ate it would feel like my stomach would cramp up. I went back to my GP and she already knew that I had the but wasn't putting the 2 together. She told me I had to go on a special diet of eating white, bland food. I continued with the diet for one week but nothing improved so I went back to her and she referred me for an ultra sound, tested bloods and send me to a gastroenterologist who already knew me.

The Ultrasound and the bloods came back clear. I notified the gastroenterologist that I had the but he also didn't put the 2 together, he was not happy to see that I had lost a lot of weight. He put me on Somac and I wasn't able to tolerate it to the point it had me in tears. I've never had a problem with Somac before. I called in to let him know and he apologised and took me off it.. The damage had been done though and I was in extreme pain for 24 hours after taking the Somac. It felt like my body was on Fire and it didn't matter what medication I took, it all made it worse.

So I returned to the gastroenterologist and he wanted me in for a endoscopy and colonoscopy. The results came back clear but he was genuinely worried for me and wanted to do more tests. He explained that I had to swallow a tablet that had a camera on it and he would be able to monitor what was happening in my digestive tract throughout the day. The result was fine.



Everything I had been tested for came back clear. Still at this stage I hadn't quite made the connection that this was from the ... It was nearing the time of my second and my GP and gastroenterologist both said that it was important for me to get my second even though I was still extremely unwell. (I genuinely believe that my specialist and GP didn't know that this was from the ... I've had a good relationship with them for many years.)

I went ahead and got the 2nd Pea on the 12th of July 2021 in my left arm again. A few hours later, I felt very unwell. My Head was burning which felt like someone holding a fire torch to my skull and the left side of my face in particular, it was unbearable and still to this day it's the same. It is nothing less than a nightmare for me. I started to feel dizzy, weak. All I wanted to do that night was go to bed.

I woke up the next morning and went straight to my GP. It was then that I said I thought I was the but my GP still didn't know and she referred me to a neurologist and an immunologist. I wasn't able to get in for a few days so I had no option but to bare with the pain and I still wasn't able to tolerate any medication so it was hell.

Once I got in to the neurologist he knew straight away that this was from the earn and sent me off for MRI and Bloods. I saw the Immunologist a coupe days after and told me it might be a reaction to polyethylene glycol that is in the earn My GP was trying to work with the immunologist to say I should have some infusions to boost the immune system but he decided that he wasn't going to do it and that I should go back to the neurologist and compound the medication I need without the polyethylene glycol but even with the compounding my body wouldn't tolerate any medication at all.

They Tried to give me 2 different types of oral Steroids, Endep, Lyrica, Endone, CBD oil. I can't take anything. They then gave me a Steroid in 2 spots in my head to try and stop the inflammation and pain in my head but it didn't work either. The doctors said to give it a week for the medication to start working but immediately it did the opposite and caused me painful symptoms which were pins and needles on my face, my nose, and I could feel it inside my head burning all over.

I was getting no where with my doctors, and still to this day everyone is clueless, I have a long list of new doctors and specialists that are all very nice and willing to help but no one can find out what is happening to me. A number of the doctors have even told me that there are loads of people just like me and there's a 3 month waiting list because of how many people are injured by the all also want to make clear that I'm am extremely grateful for the service these professionals have been delivering to me. My pain specialist even told me that she will go out of her way to make sure I never get one of these again. They are all caring people and they want to help but there is not enough information for them to know how to help people like myself.

I got an IVIG 8 days ago. I had 2 treatments and I didn't make it to the 3rd because of the side effects. I started vomiting, I had high temperature, trembling, stabbing kidney pains. The doctors want to talk about the situation I'm in between the lot of them because they are all very concerned and unsure of what is happening to me.

Currently I'm still experiencing extreme burning pains in the head and face, my legs are getting weak to the point it's very hard to walk, my hands are weak to point of things are falling out my hands, I have a restricted clean organic diet because I can't handle anything processed and my body responds just like the medications. I also need to mention that since the 1st, I have had a rash on my chest which can be itchy in waves but because of my medication problems I can not treat it properly. I have constant headaches and low blood pressure and a fast heart beat.

I'm extremely lucky to have a supportive loving family that does everything for me.

Kenny, 39yrs, M Brisbane, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbdskB8PZiZ/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/kennyhustle/

I'm 39, most People know me as MC Kenny Hustle as I've been in the music industry in Australia all my life, I am a dad and a husband I enjoy coaching young kids rugby league, I work full time. I was not the healthiest of the lot, I have had Lupus SLE early Teens, chronic asthmatic & 3 years ago I was diagnosed with a rear heart diseases called (HOCOM) Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy - A condition in which the heart muscle becomes abnormally thick so now I have a heart defibrillator.

I didn't want to get the at all, my work had made it mandatory and despite trying to get an exemption from my long-term Doctor or other Doctors, no one would help me. On the 24th of December 2021 I went to the Rocklea Government Clinic to get my first at BUT they wouldn't give it to me. The told me it was too risky after I explained my conditions.

I thought that was enough to get an exemption, everything was recorded on the hotline and even they told me I shouldn't get one, but despite even having an refuse to me I was out of work and still no Doctor would give me an exemption, my work didn't care either.

I ended up in Hospital with pneumonia after that for 5 days I was that stressed from it all I got sick. Still, no one would give me an exemption and all the Doctors in hospital were giving me different opinions. After recovering from that (2-3 weeks or so), I was still suffering from a bad skin infection and I was on antibiotics for that, I felt like I had no choice but to get the first . No one would help and no health professional really cared enough to listen to my concerns, I needed to work.

I received the each on the 02 Feb 2022 and 7 days after my Heart Defibrillator shocked me for the first time since having it 3 years ago - I presented to emergency hospital on 09-02-2022 -. I ended up back in hospital for another few days until I recovered. No one told me it was from the one has enough courage in the hospitals. I thought it was from the antibiotics they had given me for my skin infection, I later found out the hospital had given me the wrong antibiotics to treat my infection and I was really unwell.

I had the second one on the 23 Feb 2022 because my work would only accept me double — I still couldn't get an exemption from any Doctors even after all that. On the 24th of Feb about 24hours after receiving the 2nd — I began to get a high fever and dizziness, I was supposed to go back to work that day but I ended up back in hospital again. I couldn't speak or put sentences together or text & my wife found me confused with a dangerous fever and I couldn't move much, it was clear to my wife I was having neurological issues.

I went to emergency and presented my symptoms, I had to wait to be seen I was admitted into ICU that night and was pumped with fluids. I had 4 needles inserted into my arms, and one of those needles was in my arteries because my blood pressure was dropping dramatically and they needed to monitor my vitals.

## Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbbqJPspmll/

NOVA#1: 4301NF004

I'm 27 years old. I was working full time hours and I'm extremely active, doing boxing twice a week, running twice a week and gym every day until the point of the mandates coming into play. I was the fittest and healthiest I'd ever been. I had a bad kidney infection a while ago which caused septicaemia, a blood cl0t in my arm and my appendix out but I've never had any problems with my lungs or heart ever before.

I didn't want it in the first place but I got the because a work opportunity came up that I couldn't refuse. With the mandates in full force I had to make the decision to go ahead and get the NOVA which I thought after the research I had done was going to be the safest option out of them all.

I got the NOVA on the 1st of March 2022 in my left arm. Half an hour later I got really bad kidney pain, I had a sore arm and fatigue. I went home and I just chilled out, I rested thinking this was going pass. The next day I woke up and my kidney pains were increasingly worse, only in the right one. Which is the kidney that has always been a bit of an issue for me. It felt almost like I had another kidney infection but there were no other symptoms other than a stabbing pain. I didn't feel sick or run down or anything, just the kidney pain which lasted a week.

I then started getting pain in my fingers which created a numbness and tingling down my forearm that also last week. I started drinking pine needle and dandelion tea and the pain started to dissipate around the same time for my kidney and my hand.

Things started getting better after about a week and a half and I felt actually pretty good until I woke up and I wasn't able to take in a full breath. I had a few heart palpitations which I thought was strange but I wasn't worried, I occasionally experience a little bit anxiety. I kept on going with my life as usual trying to keep up with the level of fitness I had built over the years but I was struggling to reach that level, being unable to breathe properly, I started experiencing chest pains.

As the week progressed I was at work and I had to leave early. my chest pains started to intensify to the point of me having to go to hospital, even though I was struggling to breathe it was more so the great deal of pain I was in that I wasn't able to handle.

On arrival at the hospital, the doctors were more than helpful and I can't say anything bad about them at all. They tested me for , within 10 minutes my temperature was rising and my hands were clammy and going numb, they did my bloods, ECG and a chest X-ray. Based on my ECG results, he said that I probably had pericarditis. The doctor at the hospital said that they would report my reaction to be from the NOVA. I was then discharged pretty quickly.

4 days later after my hospital visit, brings me to today the 21st march 2022. Today I saw my GP who gave me the diagnosis officially that I have Pericarditis, prescribed me Colchicine and gave me an exemption for 1 year. He said that if I get worse I will have to go and get an echocardiogram.

Currently I'm still experiencing chest pain, shortness of breath, struggling to just function normally in my day to day life. it hasn't gotten better, it just remains to be the same as before and with no end in sight.

Zoe, 38yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbbJtwmPciJ/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/z\_a\_d\_a\_12/

**P**#1: FL7649

I'm 38, mother of 2 kids, working part time. I lived a very active healthy lifestyle playing touch rugby for Australia before having kids and since maintaining my health and fitness with district and state level. So I was in peak health.

I got the because it was mandated at my work, which meant I wouldn't be able to put a roof over my head and food on the table for my family. I got the on the 27th of November 2021 in my left arm. I didn't even have a sore arm but 2 days later I broke out in what looked like chicken pox all over my body.

I decided to go to the GP because of what I thought it was, I mentioned I had the but I didn't think much of it, the doctor swabbed me and said he'd get back to me later in the week. The next day I woke up to more of red spots, so I took some Phenergan during the day but it didn't do anything. Later that night, the areas around the spots started to tingle and burn which was bearable at that stage, I was also experiencing, blurry vision and confusion. I knew something wasn't right and I went to Emergency at 10pm that night.

On arrival I mentioned I had the . I waited for 5 hours in the waiting room before I was taken through, they ran bloods and swabs and they came back all clear. I told a number of doctors I had the and they looked confused.. they gave me some strong steroids and some oxy which is a strong pain killer as my hands were burning to the point of being unbearable.

In the next few hours it got worse and my hands were swollen and numb but shooting sharp pains through my arm. Around the site of the efelt like nerve pain, it was burning and extremely itchy to the point I was drawing blood from the blisters that were appearing. It was a 10/10 pain. It literally felt like I was on fire. It didn't matter what I took, the pain wouldn't go away for weeks.

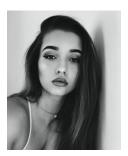
They were going to discharge me because they didn't know what to do with me but I put up a fight and demanded to speak to someone higher up. They transferred me to a different hospital where they took biopsies more bloods and swabs. Results came back clear once again and I was apparently healthy.. A skin specialist came in and treated me for an immune reaction and said that it was most probably a reaction the to the ...

They gave me a referral to a neurologist and an immunologist and discharged me with papers that stated it was from the and prescribed stronger steroids, antibiotics and anti inflammatory.

This happened back in the first week of December and I was making a trip to the hospital every week for 3 weeks to see the skin specialist who helped with my prescription and also admitted to me that he thought it was the but other than that I've had to deal with the recovery on my own and it's not until the 1st of April that I see a immunology specialist. My neurologist appointment has been pushed back so I need to follow up.

This brings me to the current day where I have mostly healed but I'm still experiencing tingling in my fingers that make them feel like they're dead. For the most part of 6 weeks I was in excruciating pain. I want to share my story because I don't want this to happen to anyone else.

Britney, 20yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbZU3YQJ6yT/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/britney.brookes/

**P#1**: FH3221

I'm 20 years old, full time worker/beauty therapist. I was always on my feet being very active, prior to the U was exercising up to 4 times a week at F45 and I never had any health issues related to my heart. I had an ECG done on my heart a few years ago due to anxiety, just to rule out any problems and it was clear that my heart was good.

I got the because the mandates in WA came on abruptly. The fear mongering coming from our premier was enough for me to question my own thought process and therefore went and got it out of fear of not being able to work as more mandates were threatened to come upon us.

I got the Pe on January 14th 2022 in my left arm. Other than a sore arm I didn't notice anything and just continued on as normal up until the on the 17th. I started getting palpitations which lasted hours. I knew something wasn't right but I just kept on pushing it aside. The next day I woke up to heart palpitations still happening but not as intense as the night before. As the day went on the heart palpitations increased but I still kept on going. I was out shopping and I was struggling to breathe. Here in Perth we have to wear masks so I thought it was because of my mask that I was having this issue. I went home and tried to relax and do nothing as that was what put me at ease.

The next day (19th January) I woke up still struggling to breathe but it felt like someone was sitting on me and crushing my chest. I went to work and it got worse so I left work early and went to the royal Perth hospital. On arrival I mentioned that I the and as soon as I said that, they got me a wheel chair and took me straight through. They hooked me up to a 12 leg ECG and I was showing signs of tachycardia. They then tested Bloods, X-ray and ultra sound.

I was in an emergency bed hooked up to the monitors and I watched my heart rate bump up a couple of times before I felt a sharp shooting pain go up the back of my neck. I was gasping for air like someone was sitting on my chest and the alarms started going off. The nurses and doctors came rushing in and they laid me down. I had gone unconscious for seconds before they stabilised me.

A doctor then came into the room saying that he believed I was having a reaction to the and I'm one of the lucky people, he mentioned I had a serious cardiac event (heart attack) later explaining that I went into cardiac arrest and he diagnosed me with pericarditis.

6 hours after I first arrived at the hospital I was discharged with the papers saying I had the diagnosis of pericarditis but no mention of it being an adverse reaction to the in writing, only that I had the 5 days prior. He also prescribed me with colchicine for 1 week and told me to take time off work.

A week after I had come off the medication all my symptoms had returned as if nothing had changed so I went to a different hospital. They were extremely dismissive of me to the point that they offered me a while I was waiting there for 45 minutes to be seen for my chest pains and shortness of breath. They were telling me that I shouldn't be blaming, "it could have been anything" so it left me feeling angry and anxious.

They ran the same tests which all came back the same as before which was elevated white blood cells and signs of pt. depression in my ECG but they didn't spend a lot of time on me, even telling me that I couldn't have a bed and to sit in a chair. I was prescribed colchicine for another 3 months and sent me on my way.

For 4 weeks after my last hospital visit I continued working and taking colchicine with no improvements whatsoever, still experiencing all the symptoms as before. On the 4th of March I saw a cardiologist for the first time, he did and ECG, my resting heart rate was sitting at 115bpm and said at this point it was officially pericarditis and I now have POTS from the pericarditis. He tested me from sitting to standing heart rates and it would shoot from 115bpm to 162bpm. He told me not to have anymore gave me an exemption for 6 months and said I wouldn't be getting another until I was in the all clear. He also mentioned I was showing signs of a blockage in left the ventricle so I have to wear a 24 hour monitor next month. He has me on colchicine indefinitely and Ivabradine.

On my next visit to the cardiologist I will be doing an MRI which they will be exploring the possibilities of me having myocarditis. This brings me to the current day where I'm still experiencing all of the symptoms with no improvements. I'm 20 years old and it feels like I'm 70 years old at the end of my life. Every day I am questioning my own mortality wondering if this is the episode that is going to send me to my grave.

Rach, 24yrs, F Bundaberg, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbYyRWQJEt9/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/rachsamuels\_/

I'm 24, 25 next week, mother of a toddler, Prior to the U was working in administration full-time, living a very active healthy lifestyle, I had SVT (Supra-ventricular tachycardia) when I was 12 and experiencing the symptoms for the first time. I had a small operation to fix it and it's never been a problem since. I've been perfectly fine.

I got the because my work mandated it and told me I would have to go on unpaid leave if I didn't get it by the cut off date, I refused to get it and went on unpaid leave to try and look for new work but was unsuccessful and needed an income to support my son and save for a house. Not only that, my work place was making a huge deal out of me not wanting to get it and ever since I've got it and been injured they have been making me feel like I'm a hypochondriac. My boss told me that I was purposely reading bad reviews instead of doing actual research.

I got the Pa on the 8th of November 2021 in the right arm, I had a bit of a sore arm but nothing other than that. I got the second and the 30th of November 2021 in the same arm. I didn't feel anything immediately.. it wasn't until about 3 days later I woke up experiencing a sharp shooting pain that went up my rib cage into my heart. It concerned me but I wasn't too alarmed at this stage and just thought to monitor it over the next couple of days.

I took Nurofen and carried on with the day. I was extremely fatigued from the pain and barely being able to make it through the day. I was at work and I mentioned to one of my colleagues what I was experiencing and made the decision to take myself to ED, on arrival I was taken straight through. They did an ultrasound, bloods, blood pressure, ECG and all came back clear. I mentioned that I had the and they told me I didn't have any problems and sent me home without medication or a diagnosis.

I went home and the symptoms continued but I had no choice other than to go back to work. A week later I was sitting at my desk and my resting heart rate was sitting at 110bpm so I presented back to the ED and explained that I was in here last week with the same symptoms I'm experiencing now but much worse. The triage nurse was dismissing me and telling me they would not be able to find anything as they have already done the tests and I should just go back to my GP so I left knowing they weren't going to help me.

I went straight to my GP after I was refused help from the hospital, thankfully she was very receptive and willing to take me seriously. I was able to get a diagnosis on the day for Costochondritis. She told me there was nothing I could do other take Nurofen for a couple months daily and rest to stop the inflammation.

I couldn't afford to take time off work so I continued to take Nurofen and push through the days ahead. I started a new role which included a lot of walking around. It was then that I noticed I would become out of breath entirely for just 1 to 2 minutes of walking and I had never experienced anything like this before. I started having episodes where I would feel like I was going to black out, heart palpitations at 145bpm, really bad headaches, Intense pins and needles/numbness in my hands and feet, Heavy Brain fog to the point of not knowing what I was saying mid sentence and forgetting everything. I was Losing sleep with only getting 4-5 hours a night which was giving me extreme anxiety.

February 9 It got to the point I couldn't walk 5m from my lounge to the kitchen without blacking out. I went back to the hospital and demanded treatment. I told them I have POTS after doing my own research and I was not going to leave and made that very clear as that was the only way I could get them to listen and give me any kind of medical assistance.

They tested me for POTS, Blood pressure and heart rate laying down vs standing up and it would go from 77bpm to 145bpm in a matter of seconds. They did a CT on my chest to rule out blood cl0ts and then touched base with a private cardiologist who went though some of my recent tests and ended up admitting me under himself in a private hospital. I spent the next 3 days in the medical ward under cardiology where they had me permanently hooked up to an ECG to monitor my heart rate and put me on a trial medication to see if my body would handle it. It was successful straight away.

Back home I was trialling Ivabradine daily for one week and then after that to halve it, when I did, all my symptoms came back even harder to the point I was struggling stand up. So I made the decision to start taking the full d0\$e again that night and I started to feel better again.

I returned back to my cardiologist who then explained I need to stay on the full d0\$e and start cardiac rehab to get off the medication. I'm now a week and a half into the rehab but I'm still struggling. I'd say I'm 50% of my old self, I still get blacked out vision, still experiencing 8 out of 10 pain on a bad day, good days 2 or 3. I'm losing sleep still and just can't function properly past a certain point in the day. My whole life has been flipped upside down and I just have no idea where this is all leading to for me.

Kasia, 44yrs, F Gold Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbWMi9Gpvv6/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/kasia31/

P#1: F00927 P#2: FC5029

I'm 44 years old, I'm a mother of two and a teacher. I'm originally from the UK and moved to Australia in 2014. I have volunteered as a welfare officer with Walk with Us, a charity focused on helping homeless & disadvantaged people in our community, particularly working with our younger people. I was initially hesitant about the  $\frac{60}{3}$  - something felt off to me about

this particular one, I felt it was rushed out too quickly. I have regularly gotten the flu each year and have never had a problem with any past or medications. My only health issues previously have been eczema and bad hay-fever.

I received my first e on 28 June 2021. Working close with kids and vulnerable people, I thought that if I passed something onto them that really harmed them, I couldn't live with myself. I also knew a mandate was looming and I have a family to support and a mortgage to pay. Our people at Walk With Us are like family too, and my job is very close to my heart. The was presented to us like taking it was an act of care. I thought it was the 'right thing' to do for the people around me, despite my gut feeling of hesitation. My mum and dad are in the UK as well, and at that stage, the Federal government were saying we had to hit 80% before we opened up, and I felt it was the only way to be able to see my parents or get them over there.

The first  $\bigcirc$  was okay. I got the usual achy arm, but I met with friends the next day and continued on as normal. I received the second  $\bigcirc$  on 19th July 2021, and had to take the next day off work due to extremely painful headaches, a terrible fever and intense brain fog and fatigue. My husband left the heater on at home for me, and I had 4 blankets and layers of clothes and was still cold. I decided to fight through and try to go to work 2 days after the  $\bigcirc$ . I never miss work and it's important that I'm there for my students.

2 weeks later, the headaches still had not subsided and I was still feeling very fatigued, but I took painkillers and being with my students took my mind off things. Lockdown had just begun in Queensland, and things were changing at work. On the 5th August 2021 after work, I went shopping with a friend. She was driving me home, and suddenly I felt my body getting really heavy, and I couldn't hold my head up. I started drifting in and out of consciousness. When we got home, I managed to open the car door and then I fell out of the car, starting throwing up and collapsed on the driveway. I could hear my husband run out and my friend saying 'Kasia, can you hear me?'. I couldn't move a muscle, and my husband had to carry me in.

He drove me to Robina Hospital and got a nurse to put me in a wheelchair. I couldn't sit up. They took me into the crash room, and my husband had to fight to get in due to the regulations. The nurse kept asking 'what have you taken, what have you taken?', and they put me into an emergency bed. A doctor came in, and incessantly asked 'what have you taken, what have you taken?', to which my husband tried to explain I hadn't taken anything, but I had taken the I couldn't speak, and I was mumbling. The doctor pointed to my eczema and eczema scars on my arm and said 'these look like needle marks', and kept asking what I had taken.

Eventually, due to my clinical notes listing my eczema, the doctor understood it was not drugs, and wrote down that it was a reaction to — not listing which one. He said I should get CT scan and a lumbar puncture, believing it could be meningitis. I got the CT scan, which came back okay, but never got the lumbar puncture. The doctors did a changeover, and the new doctor kicked my husband out after the first doctor said he could stay. I stayed overnight on a drip, and the next morning, a new doctor told me to take a few days off, go home and have Panadol & Nurofen. If it wasn't better in a week, I was to come back.

A week later, I was not better after resting at home, and presented back to the hospital, still extremely fatigued, often in and out of consciousness with intense constant head pain and pressure. They said I was tachycardic and I was put in the cardiac ward and left there for hours. No bloods or tests were done, and a nurse came in later and started to tell me things like 'look, there's people here far off worse than you and we need your bed, we can put you in short stay' etc., and they clearly didn't believe the symptoms I was describing. I felt gaslit, and like I was an inconvenience or something stuck to the bottom of their shoe. I discharged myself and the nurse wouldn't give me a discharge paper. The Sunday after that, I got really sick again and kept vomiting and had to drag myself to the bathroom constantly. I never vomit or throw up from things. My husband took me to a different hospital - Gold Coast University Hospital. After waiting in emergency for 4 hours, the doctor checked my heart, but didn't see the point of blood tests, told me I had to go home and rest and prescribed Panadeine Fort. I pleaded for more tests/checks/help but was again, dismissed and told to go home. After taking the Panadeine Fort, I reacted badly to it and felt sicker. My husband would sometimes have to pick me up off the ground, finding me collapsed on the floor trying to get to the bathroom.

I got dropped to the hospital again on the Friday following. The nurse collected me and as we were walking says: 'this is your fourth time here now, we're going to take it seriously'. They took my bloods and moved me to short stay, giving me medicine in a fluid, saying it was a migraine. My head was in so much pain and my brain fog was intense. The medicine made me feel like I was tripping (in a bad way), and they told me 'we're going to try this, and if it doesn't work, you're staying'. It didn't work and was moved to a different ward and I kept asking to see a neurologist, but every doctor that came in just quickly read my notes and kept telling me it was 'just a migraine' or 'just a headache', and continued to prescribe me migraine medication.

There was one doctor, a neurologist, who just actually sat and listened to me. He prescribed half an endone and I finally slept pain-free for a few uninterrupted hours. He said I would need an MRI and a lumbar puncture, and didn't say it was a migraine. However, the next day, I got a new doctor. I was informed the waitlist for an MRI was 1200 people long, didn't get a lumbar puncture and was told it was definitely a migraine again. I was prescribed new medicine, sent home, and said they will fit me in when they can.

The medication did not ease my symptoms, and I was still unable to work. I requested the neurologist that had actually listened to me and he explained that it could take years to recover, there's no 'cure' and I simply needed to make sure not to do too much and to rest. My condition was never named or diagnosed, but 'post- encephalitis' was mentioned, and so were the terms 'brain trauma and swelling'. He wrote me a medical certificate for a month initially, booked me in for a lumbar puncture and I had to opt for an MRI privately with a GP referral. My lumbar puncture came up negative and nothing showed up on the MRI. Flash forward to today. 7 months later, I am bedridden for most of the day. I am traumatised about going to the hospital after being dismissed so much. It felt like no one wanted to help. I am very lonely. A few of my friends don't even believe what has happened to me. My B12 levels were at 101, when they were meant to be 300, which has been shown to be linked to and each reactions.

I have to have B12 's and steroids once a month, which flare up my symptoms and bring out my eczema. I cannot work, I cannot go out, I struggle to hold conversations sometimes, and don't really get to socialise. I just lie down at home, and can't even watch TV or listen to things much because it hurts my head. I still struggle to get to the bathroom some times. I continue to have knife like pains in my head, spinning, pressure, intense fatigue, I have developed tinnitus (with a high pitched noise in the left, and a low pitched noise in the right), poor fine motor skills and balance, and nausea.

Behind all this, my amazing husband has to do everything for me and for our family. I am running out of sick pay, we are worried about our mortgage and losing our house as I cannot work. I have two children, one is moved out, but I know my family really struggle seeing me like this. My students miss me at school and the kids miss me at Walk With Us, and I have gone from someone who lived such an active and full life, to being in constant pain and having to lie in bed.

My mental health is through the floor. I can feel myself developing an eating disorder, as the only thing I know I have control over is what I eat and I can't plan anything else. I can't control when I do things, but I started fasting as I was putting on weight due to not exercising. I am very obsessive over my diet. I struggle with suicidal thoughts, there is no silence or relief, and as my friend who's struggling with a similar condition said: there are no good days, there are only bad days or worse days. I feel left behind and forgotten by our Government, and the medical industry, when I just wanted to 'do the right thing'. I am very scared for what lies ahead.

I just hope that if more of us share these stories, something can be done to help us, as no treatment or medication I am receiving has helped. I hope that people become more aware of what has happened. I would love more people to talk to, and I hope that maybe, I can help others going through similar things feel less alone. I don't want sympathy, I have just stayed silent for so long out of shame, that I had to share my story.

Jo, 42yrs, F Brisbane, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbPWDQzJyKw/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/livinthehighvibelife/

I'm a 42 year old wife and mother to two young boys. Prior to the use I was fit, healthy, would gym 6 days a week but most of all I was always happy and grateful for every single day.

I received my first each on the 6th of December, no obvious reactions however I noticed I was shedding more hair than usual. I didn't think much of it and got my second on the 28th of December. After my second dose I was finding myself having to vacuum my house every single day due to the amount of hair on my tiles.

Finally I asked my husband to comb through my hair which we then discovered my hair was coming out in chunks and then he counted 6 bald spots on my head..

I saw my Dr which diagnosed me with Alopecia areata, which doesn't have a clear cause however can be linked to stress. Prior to the  $\bigcirc$  I would not call myself stressed. If anything I was the complete opposite and I considered myself quite blessed in life.

I initially just tried to style my hair so you could not see my bald spots however this was becoming mentally draining. So two weeks after my 2nd dose, I shaved my head. I was also experiencing ovarian pain, irregular periods and unusual cramping.

I've started PRP treatment which I'm told if successful I will do each month for about 12 months. I have had one session so far and it appears to have slowed down the progression of my alopecia however has not brought back my hair.

Neither my Dr or specialist have linked my alopecia to the however I am hoping to prove otherwise as the treatment I have to now pay for is quite costly. Especially now that my mental health is also suffering due to this disease.

My once bubbly self is around less often and I find myself staying home when I would normally go out and do things. I dread school pick up and drop off due to the constant stares. Things I once found to bring me joy, I now don't want to do. My confidence has been hit the hardest, I'm very blessed to have such a supportive husband however naturally I worry about our marriage.

I am booked into see my Dr again soon to talk about my current mental health and will consider medication if that's what it takes. I am also booked in for a mammogram early April as I now have a lump in my breast. And I am due to start steroid early June.

Going to the gym is still a massive priority in my life however now I have to work out in a wig and to say I hate it is an understatement. I got this  $\stackrel{\square}{=}$  so I could take my Son's places where we wouldn't otherwise be able to go without it and now I don't even want to leave the house.

I'm hoping by sharing my story it will encourage anyone else going through the same thing to come forward.

Scottie, 31yrs, M Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbO-SXYJwRo/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/scottie\_octane/

I'm 31, I was previously a full-time worker, I've been very active in my lifestyle. Before the 😀 I was cycling to work every day and swimming 30 minutes in the pool every week so my cardio was great. I've never had any health problems prior to the 🤐.

At the time I was working in the Children's hospital and the was mandated so I decided that It was the right thing to do. I got the in the middle of August. I felt the standard sore arm and a headache and life continued on as normal until I had the second on October 8. A week after the second I started feeling a gradual increase in symptoms starting with headaches, nausea and 9 out of 10 chest pains. At this point I didn't connect this to the and I kept on trying to push through life as usual just thinking it would go away.

I pushed for almost 4 weeks until the point it was unbearable, I was experiencing 24/7 dull pains that felt like a 30kg bar bell resting on my chest. I couldn't even lie on that side because it would aggravate my heart too much and I would then experience extreme shooting pains through my heart.

It was time to go to hospital. When I arrived they did CT scan, Bloods, X-ray and ECG and they said from the bloods and the CT that I had some inflammation around the heart and diagnosed me with Pericarditis and told me to take ibuprofen and sent me on my way. While I was in there I mentioned that I thought it was the and they were talking between themselves like it was but weren't willing to say that to me or write it on paper. On the discharge notes they just wrote pericarditis and to medicate with ibuprofen.

The next couple of days I took the ibuprofen and booked myself in with the local GP he said straight to my face that this was a post pericarditis and wrote it down on the document and sent my referral off to a cardiologist. He prescribed me colchicine which I have not stopped taking for the last 4 months and I have seen absolutely no change other than a slight reduction in pain. on a good day I'd say its a 7 out of 10 other days it would be a 9.

I have seen a cardiologist twice in the last 4 months and I have not received any further diagnosis or answers which makes me feel completely defeated not only from a mental perspective but financially as well... I wouldn't wish it on my worst enemy. They can't even find any further symptoms of pericarditis.

To this day I am still experiencing constant dull chest pains with the wave of sharp shooting pains a few times a week, I struggle to sleep at night and I'm averaging about 4 hours a night and that's been ongoing the whole time, sometimes I get brain fog and headaches from extreme fatigue, I've changed my eating habits to eat an anti inflammatory diet.

This has effected every part of my life and I'm no longer able to function normally as I would before, it's been extremely debilitating and with no support to help me get through this.

Brent, 34yrs, M Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbOYA4RvDSY/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/brentfowler87/

P#1: FD0927 P#2: FE8163 I'm 34, full-time company owner, my work is very physical. I'm extremely active in my day to day life. I was a professional sailor for 15 years. I've lived a very healthy lifestyle and have never had any health issues, just a bit of Ankylosing Spondylitis which been manageable with treatment from a rheumatologist.

I got the expectation because my doctor, rheumatologist and state advice told me due to my Ankylosing Spondylitis I was immune compromised and I would 100% die if I was to get so I rolled up sleeve for the expectation on the 25th of July. I didn't feel anything immediately but the next day I woke up feeling flu like symptoms, body aches, fatigue and joint pain. That went on for about 4-5 days, I just put it down to my Ankylosing Spondylitis and just thought it would pass, justifying to myself so I didn't have to go to the doctor.

I got the second ( on the 15th of August In my left arm. I didn't have any immediate reactions until a couple days later I started feeling tightness and pain in my left shoulder radiating through the chest and into my back. This went on for a couple of weeks progressively getting worse until things intensified to the point I had an incident where I thought I was having a heart attack.

I was driving home 3 hours out bush away from hospitals and suburbia and I started getting clammy hands, tight chest, blurry vision and a sharp stabbing pain that started in the back of my skull and shooting straight into the middle of my head, I thought It was possibly a blood cl0t or a stroke at the time, I had no idea.

Since we were so far away from home and how much I hate hospitals, I just thought I'd overdone it on my trip and stopped at a campground for the night and took some nurofen and tried to sleep it off. I woke up the next day with 5 out of 10 chest pain and headaches. I never had taken anything for headaches let alone getting headaches at all but I just kept taking nurofen for the next week thinking it was going to pass. I hate hospitals that much that I just didn't want to go.

It got to a point at work where the pain was so bad I couldn't sit at my desk. I booked myself into the GP and I was told to go straight to ED, They kept me in for about 8 hours, Did ECG, X-ray and bloods and they all came back clear but because I waited so long to come to hospital they said that a d-dimer wouldn't pick a cl0t. They kept me there for 8 hours and discharged me 11:30pm because they had no beds. They told me if nothing improves within 48 hours to return to hospital.

Things got worse and I turned myself into a private hospital, They treated me straight away as a heart patient and put me on a permanent ECG. They injected me with an emergency anti inflammatory and put me in a place with no stress or noise until they could get me a bed. The Nurses at St John of god Murdoch were Great and treated seriously.

It was about 18 hours before I was admitted and they signed me a rheumatologist and a cardiologist. Immediately they tried to tell me that the cause was my Ankylosing Spondylitis and they were trying to convince me that I had Costochondritis so I humoured them and told them to give me the treatment for it. My pain subsided about 20% which was mostly the chest pain but it didn't get rid of the feeling of someone trying to grab my heart and rip it out of my chest.

I was in hospital for 2 weeks, they did every test they could possibly do, the cardiologist told me I had anxiety and I stood my ground which he was not happy about and didn't return to see me again. The rheumatologist said she could only treat me for my chest pain and The treating doctor was under the impression that this wasn't an adverse reaction as it came up but he would then go on to say there can be inflammation caused by the ...

so I was left confused and further confused that they were prescribing me colchicine but at the same time telling me it's not pericarditis. I left the hospital with a diagnosis of undiagnosed chest pain and was told I would be living with a pain management plan which was opioids. I went home, and took it easy not working and resting for just under month. On New Years eve an ambulance was called by loved ones concern due to my appearance of being grey in colour and the unrelenting chest pains that had not disappeared since my last hospital visit.

On arrival the doctor treating me couldn't get me out of there quick enough, treating me like absolute garbage and because it was New Years eve, I had a couple of drinks so he was blaming everything on the alcohol even though I was completely coherent. They tried to call me an UBER and I refused to leave. I said "The ambulance brought me in and believed I had a problem and you can't discharge me". they refused to treat me and I waited for my wife arrive early in the morning to take me home. I left the hospital, with no diagnosis, no, prescription, no paper work, absolutely nothing.

I found a new GP, she deals in adverse reactions and chronic pain management, she straight away applied to Medicare for a exemption going forward. She stated 'these injuries weren't new and we have seen these before in other experience prior to . She started me on colchicine again and to see if that makes an improvement and to go on from there.

This brings me to the current day where I have been able to manage my pain, I still have my days where I experience 8 out 10 pain on the worst days and I have to mention that through this whole time I have also been suffering brain fog. The headaches have dissipated but it's the constant chest pain and not knowing how to heal myself which is costly and draining.

Since this has happened to me I have turned my anger into positive change and I'm trying to get injured peoples stories across to the mainstream in clear and concise ways leaving all the conspir@cy jargon behind.

Simon, 48yrs, M Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbMwEdtJhkl/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/picaso70/

I'm 48 years old father of 8 kids, full-time fly in fly out worker, always very active, I never stop. Always been fairly fit. I have had type 2 diabetes for the last 8 years which has been fully managed and stabilised so it hasn't caused me any real issues at all.

I got the because I have to provide for my family, 8 kids isn't cheap and I have to be able to put a roof over our heads and food on the table, I didn't want to get it initially because it didn't make sense that people were still getting after having the in my left arm on the 7th of October 2021, I felt very lethargic and had a very sore arm up until the next which was in my right arm on the 4th of November 2021. Within 24 hours I felt extremely fatigued and drained. My muscles were sore and I was unable to keep up with my kids. If I was home I would be in bed whenever possible. I was just able to push through work but I would be in a complete deficit at the end of the day.

This went on for a couple months along with a bit of chest pain and loss of appetite, until one day I came home from work with a sore stomach. This was higher than a 10 out of 10 stomach pain. Pain that I'd never experienced before and I broke my back as a kid and it was nothing compared to this.

I was taken to the hospital on the 10th of February 2022 and it felt like someone was poking me with a hot iron burning sensation. They started with me in the ED and they tested me for bloods and ultra sound. They found 2 kidney stones which were 2mm and in my bloods they found the white blood cells count to be very high. They said because they were very high my body had been fighting an infection that had been there for over a month.

They Sent my bloods off to a haematologist and did a bone marrow biopsy and the results came back that I had Acute Lympho balastic Leukaemia which in simple terms means I have blood cancer. They have told me that I need to take 6-12 months of work and I now have to do chemo therapy and a possible bone marrow transplant too.

My GP has since said that I'm way too young to get this and he inadvertently said it could be from the but because of his status he is unable to say so directly.



I believe this is 100% from the expectation because before this I was perfectly fine and living my best life. From this point on it's costing me money and time I don't have and I question my own mortality on a daily basis. The thing that hits hardest the most is that I fear leaving my wife and kids behind.

Lisa, 34yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CbEX6BOJyRf/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/facesbylisathomas/

P#1: FG1657 P#2: FG3712

I'm 34 years old, a full time mother of 2. I live a very active and healthy lifestyle, I never drink, never tried a cigarette or drugs. I was born with half a kidney but its never caused me any issues.

I got the control on the 21 September 2021 because of peer pressure and believing the narrative that it was the right thing to do. Everything was fine other than the standard sore arm and lethargy. I got the 2nd con the 18th of October 2021. Everything was all fine until a week later I experienced a stomach f1u but it was then back to normal.

5 weeks later, It was 1am in the morning and I had woken up scratching my arm to a rash that had appeared suddenly, I took some antihistamine and thought that I had just been bitten by something. Over the period of 2 weeks, the rash progressively got worse and spread from my arm to my entire body. Out of the chance that It was my bed, I changed the mattress over but it still didn't improve.

I sought medical advice once I knew there was no improvement from changing my environment. The doctor confirmed with me that it was in fact hives and prescribed me with oral steroids. Even on the steroids the full body rash continued to worsen, it was extremely itchy but to scratch would feel like I was burning, it was unbearable to the point I wasn't able to sleep. I ended up in ED from shortness of breath and utter exhaustion.

On arrival they were not concerned about the hives at all and they thought I had initially but they did my bloods and the ddimer came back showing that I could possibly have a cl0t. They did a CT on my chest and said that there was evidence of a micro cl0t but said that it had cleared and discharged me without examining my hives, treatment or medication, not even a piece of paper.

I contacted my kidney specialist to let her know what was happening and she admitted me to hospital straight away, they were pretty shocked on my arrival because of the extent of the hives, they tested to see if I had lupus or any auto immune diseases, cancers and took a biopsy as well. The results were inconclusive at that point and discharged me after 4 days of being in hospital once they were able to stabilise the hives.

I went Back home and they had me on a triple dose of steroids which made suicidal and aggressive/out of character. I just wanted to get off them so after 3-4 weeks I stopped and the hives returned with a vengeance. My entire body was red raw and swollen to the point of being unrecognisable to my children.

I saw an immunologist who diagnosed me with neutrophilic urticaria which had limited treatment and would be a life long condition that I will have to manage. My only option has been to return back to steroids which I was extremely hesitant about due to my mental state from the last time.

My hives are under control while I'm on steroids but I'm on suicide watch. If I get off the steroid it's just a matter of time before the hives flare up again so it's left me in a position of not know who to see, where to go, what to do.. there's just no end in sight.

## Anonymous, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cavrhmnpc7b/

Contact: onemilebeachside@gmail.com

I am a single mother of 3 children – 2 who are grown and 1 daughter who lives at home with me still. I'm work full time in a career that I love, and spend my spare time playing soccer, and netball and coaching my daughter's netball team. I was an extremely active person with no underlying health conditions, other than I had heart surgery when I was 8 years old. However, I have never had any further complications from that.

The was mandated for my workplace. I honestly didn't want to have it and I had a bad feeling about it. But as I am a single parent who couldn't afford to lose my job, I felt as though I had no choice. I figured that the side effects were rare and it would never happen to me.

August 2021, I had my first en on the Thursday and woke up Friday feeling fine. I went to work as usual, however on Saturday morning, things had gone dramatically wrong. As soon as I woke up, I felt as though I had had a stroke. One side of my head felt like there was a crushing weight on it, my legs were aching, I had slurred speech, brain fog and was unable to put sentences together. I also was struggling with my balance and felt as though the room was tilting.

I went straight to the €R and they told me it must be related to my childhood heart condition, which didn't make sense at all. The doctor ordered blood tests and said I was fine. The medical staff dismissed me when I tried to tell them I thought it was related to the ♀ I just had 2 days ago. I was sent home with no answers.

Two days later and my symptoms had not gone away. I went to see my GP who became defensive about the possibility of the being the cause. "You can't say that, it could be from anything" he said. He wrote me a referral for a CT scan, but all he wrote in the notes was "light-headedness", which was far from accurate.

I told the CT scan technician about the possible link, and they said I'd need to go back to the GP and have them write elated on the form, as there are different scanning protocols for elated symptoms. I went back to the GP and asked him to amend the referral. At that point he got angry and upset at me exclaiming, "I shouldn't have to write this!". The CT scan showed nothing anyway.

It took around 4 weeks to recover from these symptoms, although I could only take 3 days off work, so just pushed on despite how bad I was feeling. I really didn't want to have a second ; however, no one would write me an exemption. I waited until

the last possible day, before taking the second on the 20th October 2021. Miraculously, I felt fine after it. I was so relieved and thought this might be the end of it.

Fast forward to 23rd December and I was away on holidays with my family. Again, I woke up and my symptoms had returned – the crushing weight on my skull, but this time it was worse. This time I couldn't walk, and my shoulders and arms were stuck in a violent spasm. I attended the local hospital in the area and was given a referral for an MR1 and sent home again. The following day, my symptoms had thankfully subsided somewhat.

Approximately 1 week later and I came down with . I couldn't believe it. I was so sick and still sick and testing positive two weeks later. I can only assume my immune system was destroyed; I just couldn't shake it. My symptoms all came rushing back, with more new ones. I now was fully paralysed (but active in my mind) and had a crushing headache. I called an ambulance and blacked out. I do not remember the ambulance ride at all. At hospital, I was told I have "long "", given some fluids for dehydration and sent home.

2 days later, my shoulders and arms were still spasming, my headache was still present, and I now had lost control of the top half of my body. My eldest daughter had come down from QLD to look after me and drove me back to the hospital. This time I was so bad, I was admitted for the next 8 days with the doctors trying to explain away my symptoms: • Arms spasming uncontrollably • Sensitive to light and noise • Spasming heart – tachycardic • Lost control of my legs and had to use a walker • Resting heart rate of 130-170bpm. A raft of tests were performed – all coming back clear, before the Doctors told me I have "FND". However, the medication for FND didn't do anything, so after 2 days they told me not to take it anymore. I was only discharged for 2 days, before we had to call the ambulance again for a resting heartbeat of 170. The paramedics were watching my heart on the ECG but refused to talk about the ... Blood tests showed a possible cl0t; however, the CT scan was all clear. The doctor tried to tell me that I was just dehydrated and anxious. He also asked if I'd had some kind of trauma I might have forgotten about. I was shocked and dismayed. I was discharged home with a fever and a heartbeat of 130bpm. By this stage I knew I was not going to get any help, and just wanted to go home anyway.

A few days later I then developed a kidney infection, and this time my new GP sent me to a private hospital. I was hooked up to fluids and admitted for 4 days. In the private hospital, a senior Doctor came to see me. He grabbed me by the arms and pulled me across the room to see if I was faking my leg weakness. Everyone settled on a diagnosis of FND and I left with a care plan which consisted of 5 physio sessions.

I am gradually getting better on my own. The physio is wonderful and has recommended an endocrinologist and a naturopath as well. I have taught myself to walk again and now use a walking stick instead of a walker. I swim most days, to build my strength back up and my spasms are slowly getting better, but I am unable to have a normal life.

I am still sensitive to light and noise, and doing anything like the shopping, or seeing friends becomes overwhelming and I need to lay down.

I have been unable to work and have used up all of my sick and holiday leave. I am currently on unpaid leave, and I don't know what will happen if I can't go back to work after this. If my workplace mandates the •• I will lose my job, as one more would likely kill me.

For anyone reading this. I was told by all the medical professionals that this was a coincidence, or anxiety, or dehydration — and I started to believe it myself. Just know, this is NOT a coincidence. You're not alone, there are hundreds, if not thousands of us out here with the same symptoms. I wish I could go back and not take these . Knowing what I know now, I would rather have lost my job.

Ciara, 30yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Catqc0mJWF8/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/mrsclowesy/

## O#1: 4301MF004

I'm 30 years old, from Italy, I've been in Australia for the last 8-9 years, working full-time and always been incredibly active and healthy, I train about 3 times a week and I have never had any health problems before.

I got the epibecause I have not seen my family in 3 years and to see them, I need to be fully epile. I didn't want it and I didn't need it for work, it just came down to me needing the green tick.

I got the NOVA on the 17th of February 2022, It just felt like someone punched my arm and It wasn't until exactly 24 hours later when I started to feel mild chest pain and trouble breathing. I had extreme fatigue, I couldn't even keep my eyes open towards the evening. The heavy brain fog and confusion I was experiencing was causing me to be very forgetful to the point of forgetting what I'm doing while I was doing it.

2:30am I woke up suddenly gasping for breath with a 9 out of 10 continuous chest pain. It felt like someone was sitting on my chest around my heart area. It's hard to explain because I have never experienced anything like this before. my hands also felt unusually hot so I got myself out of bed and took myself to the hospital.

On arrival they took me in quite quickly, I mentioned the , they didn't dismiss me and asked me many questions but they didn't admit straight up that it was from the , they did bloods, ECG and an X-ray on my heart and lungs. All the tests came back clear and they said I was fine and to go back home. They did however say on the discharge papers: chest pain post NOVA, Inflammation post and to come back if the pain increases and gets worse.

I went back home and with a lot of research, I bought all the supplements under the sun to help detox my body. I stopped taking Panadol and took nurofen instead and I started to feel a bit better. I was experiencing some new symptoms at this stage which were swollen lymph nodes and my left upper side of my body was visually swollen, my left breast and my ovaries were very sore.

I went to the GP and was referred for a stress test echo and a pelvis scan, I told him that I thought it was because of the early and he said it was impossible.

For the next 4 days my symptoms persisted until that night the heart palpitations were constant and keeping me up. I couldn't sleep and worried, I took myself back to the hospital. They gave me the same tests other than the X-ray and all tests came back clear once again. I was told that I was fine to go home and to come back if it gets worse.

6 days later I had the stress test and I'm currently waiting on the results, on the 7th day I had the pelvis scan. The results came back saying that I had a 6cm cyst inside my ovaries. I've since been referred to a gynaecologist to further investigate.

That brings me to the current day, I'm currently monitoring my heart and I'm still experiencing symptoms of palpitations, fatigue and mild chest pains. I feel like I'm improving and I know people experience more severe injuries than myself but I just want to let people know what is happening so you can make an informed decision.

Carlia, 36yrs, F Newcastle, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Caq7\_s3JclL/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/carlialoui5e/

I'm a 36 year old mother of 3. I'm usually a very active multitasker as I'm a full time classroom teacher as well. Prior to the 🤐 I never had any health issues other than mild asthma. I didn't even have a GP, now I have a whole team of specialists.

I got the because I was worried about losing my job and not being able to feed my children and support the kids in my class that had already been through so much with lockdowns. Other members of staff had already been stood down for non compliance and I felt like I had to step up to the plate and look after these children. I couldn't abandon my class.

I got the  $\square$  on the 21st of August 2021. I had the standard sore arm which I expected, a bit of a fever and a headache. I noticed my shoulders were a bit sore but because I was so busy I just got on with it and didn't really think it was anything of concern. Now that I have had , I can say that it felt very much like that for about 3 weeks.

The 11th of September was the morning I was booked in for my second . I woke up to my Husband telling me the ambulance is on the way. Before I get into the details I want to mention that my daughters and husband had the most traumatic experience from this. My husband spent 5 hours not knowing if I was alive or dead, not being able to go inside the hospital or communicate with me because of the rules. The last he saw was of me not breathing, blue in the face with blood coming out of my mouth convulsing. It's a bit of a blur but I remember waking up in a resuscitation bay roughly 5 hours later, talking to him on the phone being totally distraught and out of sorts.

They ran Bloods and CT. The CT came back clear but the blood work was consistent with somebody who had a tonic clonic seizure. They gave me a discharge summary and told me just to follow up with my GP and a neurologist and sent me home. They saw that I had that I had my second pappointment today and told me not today and to hold off at this stage.

I got home and I had to nurse myself, my tongue was red raw with lacerations from me biting my tongue during my seizure, it was extremely hard to eat anything and I was just pretty much just living off icy poles and soft foods. I Had severe brain fog and I couldn't put a clear thought together. I had extreme tinnitus (like over the top of the tv loud), it was driving me mad. I can understand why Van Gogh cut his ears off now!

On the 17th of September I went to a GP who was very dismissive of me. I was asking him for an exemption because I had a seizure but he was treating me like I was making the whole thing up and said there is no correlation between the early and seizures. He told me I'm fine and to just get the second one which left me feeling defeated and stupid.

So that day I bit the bullet.. and went though with it. I got my second  $\bigcirc$  on the 17th of September because my work was pressuring me that school was a high risk setting and if I didn't have the  $\bigcirc$  I would lose my job and therefore let down 50+ kids who'd already lost their teacher.

I continued to experience the symptoms that I explained above for the next 2 weeks until I had my next episode on the 3rd of October. My husband wasn't home this time, my poor brother in law was here and from what I was told.. 'I went stiff and fell off the couch and proceeded to convulse in a seizure'. Again, I went blue and blood was coming out of my mouth from biting my tongue.

I was taken by ambulance again and put in an emergency bay. They were run off their feet so they were quite dismissive of me until I woke up in the resuscitation bay again with a neck brace on after having another seizure while in hospital. They then started to take me a little bit more serious and started asking me about my timeline.

The bloods came back with low platelets and high potassium and which explained all the bruises over my body and why they were worried about me having a heart attack. They admitted me overnight and discharged me at 8am the following morning without papers and told me I had epilepsy and Keppra was given to me which is an anti seizure medicine that I apparently have to take for the rest of my life.

These days, I started experiencing blood in my urine and in my stool, infections/swelling in my lymph nodes, Extreme tinnitus and heavy brain fog. It was time to get serious so I did my research and found a GP who genuinely cared about what was happening to me. He ended up putting me in hospital under the care of a specialist GP. He did lots of tests, pretty much all of October, I had a blood test every single day, MRI which came back clear. lumber puncture which showed protein in my CFS fluid which meant damage to my blood brain barrier. All my symptoms were pointing to MS or brain tumours but they couldn't find anything. I had an EEG for 7 days but it showed no sign epilepsy. They said there was one spike but it wasn't consistent with epilepsy.

This brings me to the current day, it's 7 months since my first seizure and 5 months seizure free. It just leaves me more convinced that if I never had the 'I'd be seizure free. My current symptoms are tinnitus, anxiety, heavy fatigue, brain fog, muscle pain, headaches, noise and light sensitivity and loss of appetite. I am no longer able to drive and can't work due to at the moment because I'm in isolation. From here on I have no idea where this path leads me. Now that I have, I have had several phone calls from doctors giving overwhelming support but when I was critically ill there was nothing but me fighting for my own life.

Lee-anne, 45yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaqGXK6vXN5/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/leelovespink/

O#1: 4301MF004

I'm 45 years old, mother to 2 adult children, Prior to the like I had a couple of health conditions which were aortic stenosis and bicuspid heart disease which means I would probably have to have a heart valve replaced in my mid 50's-60's. I was medicated for it and I never had any major issues still being a very active person doing 80 hours a week work and studying full time as well.

I got the expectation because I teach in disability and aged care which meant it was mandated. I didn't want to get the local or the due to my own research and the likelihood of it causing me to have a blood cl0t or any heart complications so I waited as long as I could to get the @OVA but that never went ahead because the government didn't approve it so the only other option in my case was the NOVA. I never believed any of them were going to protect me from but for the sake of a piece of paper and also needing to see my GP (who wouldn't allow me to see him unless I was expectations).

I went ahead and I got the NOVA on the 18th of February 2022. Immediately I felt a metallic taste down the back of my throat. I felt like I was going to feint but I hadn't eaten all day, I thought I was overthinking it so I went next door to the shops and grabbed something to eat. I didn't feel any better so I went home and slept.

The next day I woke up and I was fine other than a bit of a sore arm, I kept telling everyone I was great and it wasn't an issue at all and I was fine for a whole week afterwards.

On the morning of the 26th of February which was a Saturday I woke up with a rash on both of my inner thighs, I put it down to heat rash and ignored it because it wasn't causing me any issues, the day passed and I went to bed that night. I woke up about 1am Sunday morning and it was now down to my ankles and extremely itchy like a 20 out of 10 itchy that I have never experienced in my life. I was literally scratching myself till I was bleeding. I took about 8 antihistamines over a 5 hour period and I slept the rest of the night in the bathtub.

I got out of the bath at about 6am and now the itching was so aggravated it was burning. I could literally feel the heat radiating off my leg, I was sweating profusely but when I took my own temperature it was normal.

I went to my dads to get his advice (ex nurse) on what I could take, he recommended to call the doctor straight away, my local GP said he would only take phone call with me so I wasn't able to show my rash. I asked if I could send a photo through to the reception but they declined. I mentioned that it was the NOVA and he dismissed my claims and said it wasn't possible being a week later and if it was, it would have been on the day I got it, which if you look it up it says up to 7-21 days later (for NOVA) He stated that there wasn't enough evidence for it to be an adverse reaction because it was so new and he hadn't seen it happen to anyone. He wrote me a prescription for a large dose of steroids and sent me on my way.

As the day progressed it got worse and worse, I went to the chemist out of desperation wanting to know if there was anything I could take to give me some relief from the extreme itching. The Chemist could see I was desperate but didn't want to give me anything, they said that I needed to go straight to hospital. My eyes were stinging, red and weeping a yellow liquid, the back of my throat was stinging itchy as well so off I went to hospital.

On arrival I got told off at the door for not being double and they made me double mask and put on a gown which I begged them not to make me do because I was so itchy but they didn't listen. I waited for about 3 hours to then finally get some observations done, my blood pressure was very high at the high end and very low at the low end which is very unlikely for me.

They then put me out the back and many people came to witness my rash, they put a cannula in me, they kept on repeatedly asking me if I had eaten something to cause this reaction, I just said no I haven't eaten anything that had caused my eyes to weep a yellow liquid, they wouldn't even give me pain killers.

The treating nurse at the time was going to give me an EpiPen or put me into ICU because my oxygen levels went down to 83. She was getting authorisation from the head doctor. The head doctor came and saw me, he took the cannula out and told me to go home. Told me to keep taking the steroids and it would settle down within the week.

I got home in the early hours of Monday morning, still extremely itchy, the only way I was able to deal with the itchiness was to go to the servo, pick up 3 bags of ice and fill up the bathtub and sit in the icy cold water and that is how I slept the entire night.

I woke up the next day and the rash was still there, red hot but it wasn't itching anymore however a new lot of symptoms arose which were based around my cognitive abilities declining and the right side of my body wasn't working either. I wasn't able to have proper conversations, I couldn't work properly, I was extremely forgetful and I was so fatigued I could barely keep myself awake. I could literally fall asleep anywhere at the click of my fingers which is not like me at all.

This has been going on for a couple of days, I'm still experiencing all of the above and the itching has started to come back again. The rash never disappeared but its not red raw like it is in the pictures. It often feels like I'm disconnecting to my body, I feel like I'm getting dementia. I couldn't even remember my sons name yesterday.

Today I tried to work and made a number of calls to health professionals all of which denied it being anything to do with NOVA and suggested not to get the same one for my second and to go and get another brand. Suggesting I get the instead. I've tried to get discharge letters multiple times but no one will give me one.

Nadeen, 31yrs, F Adelaide, SA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaoNQ5IJtld/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/sweet\_anarkhy/

P#1: JH1234 P#2: FL7649

I'm 31 years old and a mother of 3. I worked as a disability support worker for the last 5 years, always been very fit and active having to multitask life in general. Prior to the •• I had no health issues.. I was born with one arm and had PTSD since I was 4 but it has never caused me any physical problems at all.

I got the because I am the main source of income in my family, My work was mandated and I decided it was best for me to take the risk, otherwise we wouldn't have a way to put a roof over our heads and food on the table for my family.

When I got the Pe on the 19th of November 2021, Immediately I felt like passing out, my heart rate was up and my chest hurt with 10 out of 10 sharp stabbing pains along with the feeling of an elephant sitting on my chest. Every time I would breathe in the pain would happen and this would continue for the next week. It was about 4 days after I woke up and my legs were like jelly and heavy to walk. It was always worse in the mornings. I was also experiencing hot and cold sweats and mild cognitive decline but I just kept going on with life as usual not thinking it was anything more than anxiety and my PTSD so I didn't go to the doctors.

I got my second eo on the 10 of December 2021. I didn't get any immediate significant reactions until the 13th of February. I did however feel a bit funny on days and I would just have a couple drinks of the evening which would make me feel a bit better and I didn't think anymore of it.

On the 13th of February I woke up with a strange feeling from where the spine meets the base of my skull, it felt like I had little spiders in the back of my head, visually I'm imagining tv static. I had extreme pressure on the front of my skull which wouldn't leave for the next week along with confusion and severe cognitive decline. I knew something was wrong but it still didn't occur to me that anything was going on in relation to the ... I took 2 days off work just thinking I needed a break, I returned after my days off for a small shift but the pressure in my head kept on worsening to the point I collapsed on the job while I was helping a client do her shopping.

I woke myself up out it and carried on, I made sure my client got home and I went and picked up my son from school and I went home. That night things took a turn for the worse, My heart rate went through the roof, I lost my vision and felt like I was losing consciousness. I felt like I was continuously going to pass out. I felt like I was having a heart attack, My chest pain was extremely debilitating and I was having a lot of trouble breathing. It was then that I finally decided I needed to call an ambulance.

The Ambulance arrived and did an ECG, my heart rate was around 140 resting and they took me to hospital. They did my bloods, ECG, X-ray and everything came back clear. They seen on my records that I had PTSD and told me that I was just having a panic attack and sent me home even though my heart rate was still through the roof and I was in excruciating pain... they didn't even give me any medicine, just told me to go and see my GP.

I went home and couldn't sleep that night. I tried to sleep it off all the next day but I felt like I was losing consciousness. The best way I could describe it would be like the fine line between this reality and death. My brain felt like it was shaking, I was hallucinating and I was completely unable to function to the point of losing my bladder function. During the day I also started getting full body tremors and I vomited bile 4 or 5 times.. This went on for 2 days and I've always hated hospitals which is why I didn't bring myself to go in the first place but I had enough at this stage and I returned to make them listen to me.

On arrival, they asked me what was I doing here. They said "you're fine and we can't help you" but I persisted and they put me back on an ECG and tested my heart rate again. They suggested that I had POTS and gave me an MRI and a CT scan to see if it was anything else. Everything came back clear again and they sent me back home with nothing. straight away I called my GP to let him know the hospital wouldn't do anything for me and he was at least willing to give me anti nausea and Panadeine forte and wrote me a referral to a cardiologist which I can't afford to see now because I can't work.

The next few days are a blur and I was at the point I could no longer walk. My partner was literally picking me up to take me to the toilet and looking after my kids on his own. This went on up until this Saturday just gone (which was the 26.2.22.) I called up my GP in desperation and he gave me a beta blocker which made me feel much worse to the point I thought I was dying. Thankfully one of my friends told me to get off the meds and I got a little better on the Sunday.

On Monday I started to walk around a little bit, all of a sudden my leg started giving way and I was paralysed in my left leg. The ambulance was called again and I was taken to hospital. Same response on arrival, the doctor rocks up and says in a mocking manner, "why are you here again?" I just responded I can't move my leg... They did a reflex test and they could see that my leg wouldn't work. He kept insinuating that it was my mental health and that I was on drugs and told me he didn't know what to do with me. I told him this wasn't good enough and a higher doctor in charge was called to be involved and the treating doctor changed his tune and even apologised.

They diagnosed me with FND and told me they've seen a few cases recently. [I forgot to mention that every single time I've had an encounter with the medical professionals I have told them the only thing different is that I have had the and I believe this is why they have been dismissing me.]

They told me that I needed to see my GP for more tests to see if I have a tumour in my spine however I can't afford anything and all he gave me was Seroquel, which has helped me sleep but not with my tremors. He also gave me a referral to get another MRI at the hospital which is a 6 month wait at least.

Currently I'm experiencing full body tremors, I lose control and feeling of my limbs, my throat collapses, my face droops, my jaw drops, I go in and out of consciousness, I can't talk properly at times or make sense of conversations, loss of appetite, can't walk properly (kind of like imagining a baby trying to walk), I'm losing my vision, noise and light sensitivity (disorientates me) and chest pain in waves for about an hour each day that feels like fire.

Nat, 42yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CalfMKypzlW/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/tasha79sa/

I'm 42, Mother of a daughter and an active worker. Previous to the  $\bigcirc$  I had mild case of FND and sub clinical thyroid disease (graves disease) but I'd never been medicated, just blood monitored. It didn't really cause me any day to day issues other than a bit of fatigue.

I had to get the because it was mandated by my work and due to my conditions I have to see specialists, which no one would see me unless I was including my own GP.

I got the NOVA on the 21st of February 2022, about 5 minutes after having the I felt a hot gushing feeling down the back of my throat which tasted metallic/blood like leaving an icy cool feeling for about a minute. I told my husband next to me and a few people that had listened in (being squashed in a waiting room) and they all looked at me in shock.

I waited the 30 minutes and they sent me home. 4 hours later at home I was on the lounge when I started getting a deep throbbing headache which reminded me of the worst hangover I'd ever had. I thought I'd just wait it out as it was "known" to be a common side effect and nothing to be alarmed about.

I woke up the next day with a temperature, I didn't feel good at all but I had to go to work because it was my long service celebration. I was feeling hot all day long. I took Panadol but nothing changed.

The next day things got worse, after finishing work I was lying on the couch and I started getting the worst chest pain, it felt like a tens machine zapping my chest, I literally had to grab underneath by left breast bone to help subside the pain, I couldn't sit up or it would feel like I was being zapped again, even the thought of it sends me In a spiral.

I then rang healthcare direct to speak to one of the nurses about it, the first thing I mentioned was that I had the and the nurse responded asking me "was it "I responded no, it was the NOVA. Based on the symptoms I was presenting she told me that I needed to get to the hospital so my husband drove me to the hospital. I was seen pretty quickly, they ran bloods and ECG. I was there for less than 2 hours, my result came back clear and they sent me back home with nothing and said it was most likely anxiety.

That night I couldn't sleep, I was experiencing electric like zaps/pulses in my brain. Like a 9 out of 10 sharp nerve pain which would come and go in waves, I was also experiencing random sweats which would leave me drenched and whole body jolts similar to the feeling when you're going to sleep and feel like you're falling off a cliff except you are wide awake.

The next day I talked myself up to complete my three hour shift at work, later that day I was with my daughter at the shops, I let her know I wasn't feeling well and I had to go to the chemist to get my blood pressure checked because I was feeling dizzy. My daughter mentioned there was a pop up clinic nearby and that I should go there instead.

So I went to the pop up clinic and told them what was going on. They ushered me behind the curtains as they didn't want anyone to see what was going on and they laid me down on the concrete. I was white as a ghost by this stage and immediately my body started going into a full tremor which I couldn't stop even with the force of my own hands. My pulse was down and I wasn't improving so after 30 minutes, they decided to call an ambulance but they wouldn't come until the shop had closed which was 2 hours later.

The ambulance came and had a chat to me still in a tremor this whole time. They said that I should go to hospital with them and I told them I couldn't afford the ride because It was going to cost me almost \$2k, They helped walk me to my husbands car and because I was so drained and not ready to deal with the hospital again, I just went home. All I wanted to do was sleep, I was wiped out and felt like I just ran a marathon.

The next day I did a Telehealth call which put me in contact with a different hospital, I Had really bad chest pains coming on so It was time to go again. When I arrived I waited for 4 hours to be seen. When they saw me they asked me if I'd had the straight up. They then did ECG, bloods and a chest X-ray. They all came back clear and told me they know what to do with reactions to and and but they don't know anything about the adverse reactions to the NOVA because it hasn't been tested on enough people.

The doctor in charge told me it was either my body's immune response was a little different to other people and I would just have to wait it out or it was "a response to the vagus nerve which was signalling to my stomach telling my body that I was creating unnecessary pain" in other words he was telling me the pain I was feeling was created in my head. I was sent home after 7 hours without any medication or solution to what I was experiencing.

This brings me to the current days, the next day was yesterday, the 1.3.22. I was pretty much bed ridden all day and it's no different today. Any time I get up I'm instantly feeling defeated and tired and I just want to go back to sleep. I did go to the local GP yesterday and he basically said that 'some people just don't have luck with the and I'm going to have to get a different brand for the second'. He wouldn't give me an exemption, just told me to 'wait 5 or 6 weeks and not to get NOVA'.

My symptoms are getting worse by the day and today I've just started experiencing 8 out of 10 itchy gums and eyes. I feel hot all the time but when I check my temperature it is normal. I've lost my appetite and lost a lot of weight, I have noise and light sensitivity, black squiggly floaters in my eyes along with chest pain and full body jolts. It feels like my nervous system is under attack and my cognitive ability is in decline also.

Sean, 6yrs, M Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cai7J9WJXz1/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/audreyannas2021/

My name is Audrey and I'm writing my 6 year old son Sean's story. Sean was a happy healthy, active child. He had mild asthma and has autism nothing which would not have had any link to his now current injury.

As a mother, I decided to get Sean because we needed to move back to Ireland, it's complicated but I need to be with my family as I'm all alone here. My other son who's 9 also has a rare disease called Hirschsprung which according to the narrative and governments advice we thought that he was at risk so at the end of the day I decided for all of us to be protected and back to where we need to be and that we should all get the . I never thought in a million years that I'd be sitting here but boy was I wrong.

Sean got the Pe on the Friday the 4th of February 2022. That night he was complaining of a headache, he was a bit unsettled so we gave him some Panadol and he went off to sleep fine.

The next day (Saturday) he was extremely lethargic and not his usual self with more headaches. We didn't really think much of it at this point and I thought he was a little anxious about school because he was just starting. The next day (Sunday) He had bit of diarrhoea and the headaches, lethargy continued. At this stage It crossed my mind that he did just have the but because he was presenting a "commonly known" side effect I wasn't too alarmed at the time.

On Monday Sean went school for the first day of year 1 and he came home lethargic again with headaches, this is when I started to ask more questions, Sean had never had headaches before. That night he woke up upset and unwell for 3 hours, we just couldn't get him to sleep.

Tuesday Sean took a turn and started vomiting, getting temperatures and sore arm pits (lymph nodes) so we called health direct, I said that I thought it might be a reaction to the and they told me to take him to ED. When we arrived the first thing I did was notify the nurses that I thought my son was having an adverse reaction to the . He was monitored for a few hours and then discharged with the diagnosis of Gastro. They told us to keep on doing what we were doing and to give him Panadol and keep the fluids up. If he wasn't to get better in 5 days time to come back.

Upon arriving back home Wednesday morning Sean continued to vomit all day long with all the other symptoms mentioned above. Thursday the same symptoms were occurring but this time his arm pits were noticeably swollen so I contacted the hospital to tell them what was happening, they told me to go into a walk-in because they were so busy. Once we got to the doctor he completely dismissed us and treated me like I was stupid to even think that this was a reaction to the ... The doctor

treated Sean with nasal spray and said he was vomiting because of the sinus and the snot in the back of his throat along with Gastro but that was it. I was a bit worried about his dehydration but the doctor said he looked fine.

Friday, nothing had improved and his temperature rose to 42c, I was doing all the things that the doctor told us to do (treating for Gastro) and I couldn't get his temperature down. Even though Sean was experiencing much discomfort, he was so lethargic that he was bed ridden and sleeping through it all. This continued through to Sunday morning when we noticed he started to break out in a rash, his ear lobes were swelling and he was telling me he couldn't hear properly so we returned to ED.

When I got in there I made it clear we weren't going anywhere unless we got proper testing, I was telling them 'this is not Gastro! this is a reaction the ''. They ran bloods, heart trace and a urine sample. As they were just about to admit him the results came back clear and the paediatrician said he was all good and could go home, even to stop the nurses from doing further observations which I interrupted to say 'no you have to check his temperature at least'. They tested his temperature and it was 37.8c and they still sent us home.

We got home about 6:30pm and we put him to bed by 7:45pm. Something got to me and I decided to walk back in his room 10 minutes later to find Sean having a severe seizure in his bed, he was gone. Half of his body was soft and the other half was clenched stiff with his eyes rolling in the back of his head and foaming out the mouth. We called 000 and the ambulance came in about 15 minutes. Thankfully Sean's seizure only lasted 5 minutes and Sean came back to us before the ambulance arrived however the left side of his face was droopy and his speech was slurred, he couldn't walk properly either and was dragging his left foot.

We arrived at the hospital and had to wait just like all the other patients. At this stage I was starting to feel angry. While we were waiting his face started twitching and he kept saying he couldn't hear properly and his hands were in a tremor, he also started having a seizure, it got to the point I literally had to scream at them to do something.

While he was in a fit for 15 minutes they moved him into another room where they tried to put a catheter in him at least 15 times, they couldn't get it in because of how dehydrated he was which was something I had brought to the attention of doctors over the last so many visits. They were holding him down 2 people per limb while he was screaming and kicking in pain. I literally had to scream at them to stop and 2 of the nurses were backing me up to stop the paediatrician from continuing. It was all a bit of a blur and we were transferred to the main children's hospital where we started to get a bit better treatment. on arrival he started twitching again, I was starting to be able to predict that a seizure was coming and I was right, this time it went on for 40 minutes straight and once again he was gone, like he had left his body, his eyes just staring off without blinking the entire time. For another 45 minutes after he was basically unconscious.. I was just praying and begging, I thought that my son was dying .. I thought that was it.

They were about to put him on a ventilator and they managed to get a catheter in while he was mid seizure, they said Sean could hear me, I then yelled at Sean to come back as a last resort and he came back. He opened his eyes and looked at me.

Over the next 30 hours he had a lumber puncture, MRI and CT, bloods and infectious control team had come down to investigate. All the tests that had been done came back clear. They didn't find one single negative marker. I was telling them that it was the earn and they weren't outright denying it but they couldn't give me a straight answer as of yet because they were still investigating.

16 days later I'm still in hospital with Sean by his side every single night, what we have experienced up to now has been nothing short a nightmare, all the while my other son who I have in full time care, is due for an operation next week so I will now potentially have 2 sons in hospital at the same time.

Since being here Sean has forgotten how to eat, he has forgotten who I am at times and thinks I'm trying to attack him, he thinks he is dead sometimes, I've seen him deteriorate so badly that his fine motor skills and speech has all disappeared, it's like he's a 2 year old again. His behaviour is not like my son, it's like he has 5 different personalities. He's still vomiting, getting headaches and red rashes.

He hasn't been officially diagnosed but they are clinically treating him as someone with Limbic Encephalitis because of how he presents but he doesn't have the tests to back it up. Everyone is still left scratching their heads.

He is slowly improving with a long list of meds but with every step forward there's always a step back and even though he's being looked after here in the hospital, I know this is going to come to an end and there's a lot of after care for a very long time to come.

Carly, 31yrs, F Adelaide, SA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cag6QtapYr2/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/carly.d

M#1: 3005842 M#2: 000031A

I am a 31 year old female, dental hygienist who has a loving partner, family and friends. I've always been a social butterfly and love meeting new ppl, I love adventuring and going on spontaneous trips. I was a fit healthy woman who would exercise daily from boxing, gym, bike riding to hikes. Medical history Nil, a minor neck injury which is caused by the field of work I'm in. Physio maintenance keeps it in check.

Like the general public, I was pretty much forced into getting the — - because I'm a health care professional it was made mandatory. Otherwise I would be stood down from work. So therefore I was given no option: no —, no income. My work had no option and I was reminded daily of the "deadline" to have at least the 1st — done as they were following the SA health guidelines;

I left it to the last day before this deadline had been reached.. On Sun 31st oct 2021 with such hesitation and sick feeling in my stomach - I got the 1st We Within 20mins I had a dead arm which lasted for 2 days, Tender at estimates it. Exactly a week later a rash/bump appeared on the arm of site. So I took an antihistamine tablet before bed and it disappeared in the morning.

After that I felt fine...until I was told to get the 2nd 4 weeks after the 1st which sounded too soon, but was told by the pharmacist that this is the recommendation. So there I go again and get the 2nd as I was told to get it, along with work ensuring I have it booked and done but again another deadline date - which of course was set by SA health/Government guidelines.

2nd ereceived on sun 28th November 2021. The guy who had administered it didn't seem too confident as he was loading up the syringe in a nervous way right in front of me and basically used my arm as a dart board. Since then - changes had started to happen.. Within 1-2 hours I started to feel off and feverish. I couldn't get out of bed nor go to work for 2 days. I had fever chills, sweating, heavy chest feeling and a very strong tension headache, I couldn't even lift my arm up past my waist it was that dead. I was also seeing weird squiggles and black dots in my eyes.

I went and Saw the Doctor on 29th November and he could see I didn't look right, He did some basic tests on me: - heart rate which came up at Low heart rate of 47 at resting. - Temperature 37.4 - He couldn't answer why I could see squiggles in the eyes and said give it another day or so and see how you go. - he notified SA health of my side effects I'm having.

SA health called me the following day and had asked me what side effects I am experiencing since the . They couldn't say or even recommend anything as she stated "well the haven't been out that long and we're trialling but we need to make a record of any adverse reactions people have or are experiencing."

It's now day 6 and still have: Constant tension headache, Fever chills, Heavy chest and shortness of breath, Light headed and nauseous, along with joint pain, lack of strength. I noticed on my Right leg near shin was in and out of numbness with tingling. I also Worked out myself from searching online what the black dots and squiggles were.."Floaters"

Now Thursday (4days after ), I woke up with Fluttering of the left ear, went to get my eyes checked - I had to leave work at 3pm due to floaters getting worse with a random flashing. Day 6 and still there. - Fluttering of the ear started hasn't stopped - Friday night cleaned out ears with a candle burner and spray - no changes. - Haven't felt 100% since , I feel weak, tired like there's a cloud above my head, can't think straight or clearly .. and noticed I'd forget what I would be saying to someone or jumble up my words. - Fluttering of ear kept me up Friday night - worked on sat 5th dec instrument too sensitive for my ears - Saw doc again on Saturday, he is concerned and suggested to get a hearing test. - Advised me to take 3 days to a week off of work.

Monday SA health called me again to see if I had any improvements.. and my answer is No. this lady was actually nice and listened to my concerns.. She told me she was concerned and more so about my reactions of the chest and eyes.. so she said see your Doctor again as that doesn't sit with me right.

Monday 6/12/2021 I got a hearing test. No abnormalities, ear drum looks fine no issues. Could be the inner ear muscle spasming but can't explain it. -To monitor for a few more days to a week and see if any improvements. Tuesday 7/12 bad fluttering in the ear for the past 3 nights in a row waking me up.

Saw a naturopath this day too, where she hooked me up to a indigo device to assess my levels in all areas - shocked me to balance them all out, and had given me a few bottles of vitamins to help. - Woke up wed morning head wasn't as foggy. - Wed 8/12 went back to work - eyes still not great, fluttered once in ear throughout the entire day -

Wed night first night with no fluttering in ear. - I work in healthcare (dental)and am being told to get the (B) as its mandatory.
- I have a small window left until I'm technically due to have it. Otherwise I will be stood down from work.

- Every day I struggle at work but I just get on with it because that's what I do.. - 10/12 still no improvement - The last month when I exercise I get a lot more floaters. - Chest still feels tight and sometimes shortness of breath.- Seeing GP and optometrist again.

Now Jan 2022, still floaters present, chest tightness during exercise. 15/1 saw doctor - Applied for exemption, the doctor didn't think it was severe enough side effect but applied for one anyway for the floaters but didn't mention my chest pain.. Of course on 17/1 I received an email for unsuccessful for exemption due to insufficient information needed. I mean how is your eyesight not good enough?

- At rest dull pain sporadically Saw optometrist 21/1 he was unsure why and has strongly recommended to see specialist now.
- 24/1 doctor appointment, saw another doctor. Explained same issues he had referred me to get a chest X-ray and full blood test and to see a cardiologist. He believes I have mild pericarditis.
- Since Thursday 27/01 have had a constant tension headache, went on for 7 days, since today 3/2 it's only starting to settle down. Monday 31/1 had Monday off due to a bad headache migraine and eye floaters worsening all day. saw doctor again on 01/02 chest X-ray looks normal and bloods in good range.
- 02/02 was laying in bed and had random chest pain for approximately 1 min. Seeing eye specialist 10/02 at 2.15pm Saw specialist on Thursday 10/2 he can see the floaters and wasn't very helpful, basically told me I'll get used to them and that he cant see the link of it happening from the And I'll be fine to get the , which I didn't discuss with him he's isn't a doctor. So left there with no help given what so ever. Seeing the doctor who referred me to get the bloods and X-ray as he wants to know the outcome from eye specialist. I am very disappointed and getting no where with all of this.



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaYoRDBJPnv/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/pbaldwin02/

I am a 19- year old woman that studies full time and works full time, well that was until the 2nd February 2022. Please keep in mind this is my experience and I understand not all have this experience. I would also like to state that although I am a plus size women even my doctors say I am a fit young women that hasn't had a history of the issue about to be mentioned.

I made the choice to get the as it was mandated in my job and I had to work to be able to support myself. However, I did not want it and believed that not enough research was done. I also do have PCOS and an auto-immune condition, however the doctor refused to give me an exemption so I felt my only choice was to get the. I also would like to mention all were.

On the 1/2/22 I received my . However, I will back track to my first two . Under the mandates I was required to get the otherwise I was not allowed to work or complete my degree for placements etc. I made the decision so I was able to support my fiancé and myself. I was not comfortable and confident getting the .

Both times I went the emergency department with chest pain and shortness of breathe. After being told I was just having an anxiety attack, I said that wasn't good enough because I know what an extreme anxiety attack was and this pain wasn't it. I gave up in the end after the X-rays came back inconclusive.

Skip forward to the •• on the 1/2/22. Instantly I felt nauseas and unwell however ignored it as I thought it was going to be a reoccurring thing. It wasn't until I was seeing my GP for another issue on the 2/2/22 that I got an out of the blue excruciating migraine (I am normally aware when getting one) and I had chest pain again. I was sitting there dizzy. My GP took my vitals and my heart rate was 130bpm even after sitting down for 20 minutes. Least to say she recommend I go back to emergency in the hospital.

I did as she recommended as the pain was increasing. All my blood work, blood pressure, X-ray, ECG and everything came back fine, but there was no explanation for what was going on so they sent me for a CTP scan. This scan showed a pericardial effusion and evidence of pericarditis. The doctor consulted with a cardiology team to come with the diagnosis of pericarditis. This then meant I would have to follow up with a cardiologist and have an echocardiogram.

I was monitored over night where I was slightly improving and they were going to discharge me on the 3/2/22. That was until the pain started increasing and I had to stay another night. I was discharged on the 4/2/22 with medication but was still in pain. I was also told this would be a 3-6 month recovery and I wasn't allowed to work until further notice. The following Monday my parents drove down from Queensland to assist me so my fiancé could continue working. Pain and energy wise I was not able to even hang clothes line without making my heart rate go to 120bpm.

That week after further consultation with my GP, I was informed the job I got the for, I was told I was not allowed to do for a minimum of 3 months due to the physical aspect of it. I am a disability support worker. This meant I had to resign or at least inform them I can't work. I was employed as a casual which means I am and wasn't getting paid while not working. The echo results also came back saying the effusion had subsided which was great. My fiancé and I then had to make the heart-breaking decision to do a long distance relationship to allow me to move back in with my parents to take the financial stress off him as well as allow me to be closer to the facilities and support I need to try and get better. This was only going to be a short term solution.

On the 14/2/22 my parents and I moved me back to Gladstone, Queensland. I'm still not allowed to work as I cannot physically do the tasks expected yet. On the night of the 17/2/22 I became very nauseous, dizzy, lethargic and the pain was terrible. I was

also experiencing very low heart rate readings. I consulted with 13HEALTH and they suggested I go to the emergency department. So I woke my dad up and off we went.

At the emergency room my vitals and ECG showed fine but they were concerned about the pain. They were going to send me home however they decided to keep monitoring me while my heart rate was all over the place. My pain and symptoms were getting worse and they didn't give me anything for the pain or to help with the dizziness and nausea until about 5am Friday. I was moved to short stay and then to the general ward. While in short stay my bloods were taken and they came back fine. While in the ward or short stay not once did they offer to do more scans to help find out what's happening.

Later on the Friday they did an x-ray, it showed nothing. The doctor came around at 2pm Friday and pretty much told me the complete opposite to what I was diagnosed with in Cowra hospital. None of his theories or diagnoses were making any sense. He acted as if we were stupid and would avoid answering our questions and was getting very annoyed at the fact we weren't happy with what he was saying. So we invoked Ryan's rule. A new doctor came and suggested that the pericarditis (still going with this diagnosis unlike the other one) will occur like this and will fluctuate. Which mum and I understood but we were just asking them to run at least another CT so we can see if it's gotten worse or better. He agreed.

I went and got my CT and was asked to stay another night for observation. Throughout the day and night my vitals were still within range apart from my heat rate fluctuating. I had an ECG but the doctor wasn't concerned. All other tests came back okay.

On Saturday I was feeling somewhat better but still lethargic, dizzy and had a low heart rate and blood pressure. They were however happy to discharge because there was 'nothing wrong' with me. While waiting to be discharged I got a phone call from the radiographer saying that I should be going for an echocardiogram as there is something in the X-ray. The doctor ignored this even when the doctor called them. The nurses and doctors wouldn't give me pain relief or help me while there in the Saturday. I was discharged and have felt okay on and off since however, they didn't give me any form of management plan to move forward and cancelled all the medication that I was on.

Since then I've had to see a medical team and am still going through the process of following up with a cardiologist. However when trying to access my records from Gladstone hospital, they are locked from this visit. All my other records are accessible. I currently have to take colchicine (twice) and a reflux medication daily. I am not sure what is ahead for me and I am scared as I am only young. But at the moment they will not clear me to do work or placement for University. I still have new symptoms daily but most commonly bad chest pain. I struggle breathing, low heart rate and blood pressure, dizziness, I'm tired all the time, weak and my mental health is declining.

Michael, 63yrs, M Redland City, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaWhHJcp6Q2/

Contact: mickbuddha50@bigpond.com

I'm Michael, a 63-year-old partner, father and grandfather. I have cellulitis (managed), arthritis(...Hypertension(managed) am 'overweight' (managed)...and have had these issues for quite a while. I receive a Disability Pension. I have NO history of Heart or Lung problems. I also have Low Cholesterol, High Red Blood Cell count and exemplary oxygen uptake.

I am a Flexitarian (vegetarian with occasional meat) I gave up cigarette smoking 4 years ago, drink alcohol rarely and have had to stop 'running' due to my Arthritic knee issues.

I was hesitant to receive the eand preferred to wait for the NOva to be available, as I wasn't comfortable with any of the current being offered, and was sceptical about whether they were beneficial. I sought advice from my GP and he also stated that for my age bracket, it was my decision, it was a numbers game at that point....the choice given being No at all or . I felt as though I had no REAL choice because I was informed that I'd no longer be able to visit my father in a nursing home in Northern NSW without being double a, so I reluctantly booked in for the ....as the lesser 'evil'.

I received my first 49 9/8/2021 and apart from some Left arm soreness and stiffness/cramping could not report any particular side-effects.

In the afternoon on Monday the 1st November 2021, I received my second . On Friday 5th November, I woke and had a light breakfast, took my medications as usual but within 30 mins I felt a hard pain in the left side of my chest which radiated down my left arm. I informed my son, who was staying with us..and together we used a massage 'gun' to try to settle it. This didn't work....the pain wasn't easing, and I knew in my gut that something was seriously wrong. Soon after, my partner came from the bedroom and I asked her to call 000.

The paramedic arrived quickly, and I told him straight away that I had just received my only 96 hours prior. He didn't engage, just worked on my pain. I walked to the waiting ambulance. I was 'stabilised', and driven to the Russell Island Jetty where the Ambulance Boat was waiting. I was transferred to the boat, with the paramedic.

After a smooth fast trip to Redland Bay Jetty, I was wheeled to a waiting ambulance and we continued on to Redland Bay Hospital where an extra Paramedic came aboard the vehicle. Off we went again...this time towards the PA Hospital. I had copious pain meds and during the banter told the 4? attendees that I had received my 2nd 3 days prior. They seemed to go very quiet, giving each other glances but not really acknowledging what I had said. Onwards we went..at times the siren was employed. During the trip my shirt was removed, shorts cut off and I was dressed in a gown. (a story for another time)

Upon arriving at the PA, I was wheeled through the 'side'? Door ....part way up a corridor, and into an Operating theatre where a team was waiting. I was X-rayed..MRIs were taken...a line was put into my right arm, and I proceeded to have 2 x stents into my anterior Heart artery (it was identified as 80% blocked) Extra to that, other 'lesser' (<70%) blockages were identified, medication sorted out and a 2nd Procedure booked for December 15th.

I believe that I may have mentioned my during the operation, but I certainly DID to my attending surgeon later....and to attending nurses. The surgeon didn't engage with me about that, but described plaque & cholesterol, and what had occurred. The nurses appeared alarmed but didn't engage either.

In the hospital I was placed in an adjoining cubicle (later a room in CCU) with 'Bob". I struck up a conversation with him,....'Bob' was 71 years of age and fit and healthy prior to receiving his

HIS Story was that One day after being , he suffered heart failure, and was in the PA awaiting a procedure to install a pacemaker. He too was adamant it was the that had caused the damage, and was following reporting procedures (as I did later)

NOTE: I can't fault the medical care that I received and continue to receive. It was exemplary from 'Alpha to Omega'

2nd procedure: During the procedure, I had an intense chest pain, and I found it difficult to stay on the table. This was later explained as a BLOOD CLOT in one of the arteries being repaired, and was alleviated by removal, stents & subsequent medications. I now have a total of 5 stents and am on a lot of medication for the remainder of my life.

To add insult to very serious injury, whilst I was in and out of hospital receiving care for my damaged heart, my father passed away before I had the chance to visit him. I'm absolutely gutted....regular phone contact just wasn't enough. This all feels like it was for nothing, as the only reason I took the was to see my father and I did not get a chance to do that due to MY illness, NSW Border rules and Nursing Home Rules.

SUMMARY: Though I did have some health issues, I DON'T believe that it was coincidence that my Heart Attack happened near my date. I believe that the had the effect of being a catalyst, exacerbating conditions to where they manifested most seriously....

Farrah, 28yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaWEY47Jm9b/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/farrah.louise/

I'm a 28 year old female from Perth. Prior to the less I was a healthy fit person attending the gym 3 times a week and I'm also a mother to 2 children who keep me quite busy. I was never going to get the less but due to the mandates I didn't think I had any other options, so I thought I'll get it over and done with and I booked my first less in for the 4th February 2022.

The day of my appointment I felt nervous but when I got there I was relatively calm. I was next in line and I felt it was wrong and wanted to walk out at one point but I followed through. I Was given water and asked to wait 15mins and I was fine.

The nurse asked if I had a pounding heart after the and I said no. I then left feeling pretty at ease it was done and went to get lunch. I started feeling pretty dizzy and when I was driving to get lunch I got a tight chest pain which was odd. I was feeling fine the next day, after had a bit of a sore arm so I just took some Panadol and nurofen and I was fine.

The third day I woke up and started vomiting non stop and shaking, then diarrhoea. I had this weird brain fog like I forgot everything since the and felt not right. I couldn't explain it. I was extremely tired and getting these intense migraines everyday. My partner had to take my children to school that day. I couldn't keep fluids down and was shaking again. That night I went to bed hoping to feel better the next day, I got up the next morning with heart palpitations, vomiting again and I had intense chest pain, I thought I was having a heart attack as it radiated to my left shoulder, I was sweating and with this pounding heart I thought I was going to die. I thought this is it, I started crying.

My partner drove me to hospital where I was taken to the pop up tent and explained my symptoms following the least then tested and asked to wait. I didn't have or anything and walked off to vomit and was told to stay in the tent while I vomit and they will give me medications. I didn't feel like I was getting any help so left and the emergency. I couldn't do much and I felt helpless and left sick. I was unsure why I was still sick and having all these symptoms after the

For a week I was sick with a pounding heart and uncontrollable shaking in my hands. I then made a doctor's appointment and got an ECG which came back fine. I also got a referral to see a cardiologist and get bloods. I explained my symptoms to the doctor who said it could be pericarditis or myocarditis, I'm still waiting on an echo to find out. The doctor said If it don't have pericarditis or myocarditis then I can't get an exemption from the second and I'll be fine to get the 2nd.

I am still in shock what I went through for a week I couldn't hang the washing, do dishes, stand up without feeling dizzy. Driving and cooking dinner was difficult so I was bed ridden for a week. felt out of breathe a lot. The heart palpitations scare me and random chest pains. I feel let down and so much regret after getting the Lee. I'm slowly recovering and the sickness is gone but I'm still suffering from heart palpitations.

I feel dismissed from health professionals and like there's no point seeking help anymore. I don't wish this upon anyone. I want to make others aware. I'm also starting to realise my health is more important then being bullied into a that has so many bad side effects and to listen to my body. I wont be getting the second Pe. I Really hope I heal from this.

Anonymous, 30yrs, F Melbourne, VIC

Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaV9iylJWu3/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/hy\_m\_bs/

I am a 30 year old that was fit and healthy. Never had any health issues.

I'm not anti , I have had everything else and I have taken my kids for all of theirs. But I didn't want to get this particular , I was scared and had a gut feeling I would get sick so I put it off for as long as I could. Then the mandates came in and I had no choice.

On my lunch break I went and I got my first it was the 27th of August 2021 at 11:30am. I went back to work and clocked off at 5pm.

That night I couldn't sleep, my heart was racing. I have an Apple Watch and it kept alerting me of a high heart rate, as high as 180 but I managed to fall asleep. I got up at 6am, got the kids breakfast sorted. I felt cold and had a head ache. I forced myself to eat then my chest pain started, with sharp pains in the middle of my chest, my left shoulder was aching and my hand was going numb. I thought maybe If I went back to bed I would feel better when I woke up.

I woke up with worse chest pain and pressure feeling around 5pm. I sat up and immediately felt dizzy, I started trying to drink water but it was a struggle, I couldn't breath. I went back to sleep and woke up many times throughout the night with chest pain, racing heart rate, short of breath, when I stood up to walk I was weak and dizzy.

My husband was very worried so we called the hotline and they advised us to immediately call an ambulance. They arrived very quickly, my heart rate was all over the place & at its highest they recorded 180, the paramedics couldn't work out what to do, they talked about some different treatment options but every time they did an ECG it had a different 'possible cause' so they took me to the hospital & assured me the doctors there would help.

There was no wait time, I had ECG, blood tests & given fluids. The Doctor told me I needed to stay in for observation & that it was the "not agreeing" with me. The Doctor told me the bloods showed high inflammation levels & I had elevated troponin levels. But it was nothing to worry about.

The Doctor also told me my 2nd should be administered in the ED so they can help with whatever cardiac episode I would have. I was in disbelief! I told them I wouldn't be having anything more & the doctor got very upset & advised me not to post about any of this to social media.

10 hours later a hospital register came in, he let me know no doctors were available & I needed to follow up with a cardiologist and that he needed the bed and I was fine to go home. My heart rate after being in hospital bed was irregular but at its highest 160, my symptoms chest pain, short of breath oxygen stats around 85. I was shocked but went home.

The following few days my symptoms consisted of chest pain, tight chest, pain when taking a deep breath, dizziness, light headed, irregular heart rate and heart palpitations, I also passed out a few times. I saw my GP and she requested to see me every 2nd day until I could get into a cardiologist. I had two cardiologists refuse to take my referral. They didn't have experience in 'my situation' Then the third cardiologist took me on and I got in to see him within a few days of requesting an appointment.

My first appointment 20th September, lasted 10 minutes, he told me it was psychological and I was fine. By this point I was overly frustrated and I requested some sort of testing be done, basically begged for some investigation. He finally agreed to send me for tests. I had a 24 holter monitor 28th of September & an Eco(ultrasound) 11th October. The Ultrasound was at the hospital, when I was there my heart rate again was irregular. I was dizzy and felt so weak, looking pretty pale too. The technician asked if I was feeling ok, I explained my symptoms, she called the Specialist into the room to check over the scans who then called a code blue and I was rushed down to the emergency department. Finally someone was taking this serious and helping me. I spent 4 nights in hospital & received a diagnosis of pericarditis. On my follow up appointment the cardiologist said he didn't want to see me again; that I should get my second in the new year. He did also let me know that pericarditis can reappear at anytime now. That I should find a new cardiologist if I feel I need to see someone.

I recently had  $\stackrel{\text{\tiny{$\%}}}{=}$ , I was in bed for 24 hours I was lethargic and had body aches. But I was fine after a few days of rest. 6 months since my first dose and I'm still experiencing chest pain and heart palpitations, I don't have my full energy and capacity to exercise and complete tasks like before. I am still to this day getting pressure from the GP to take my 2nd  $\stackrel{\text{\tiny{$\Theta$}}}{=}$ .

Olivia, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaTqRWwJLX3/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/livy.mill/

I have travelled the country as a competitive athlete and in 2019 I represented Australia at Fitness Universe. Not UK or Ireland, but Australia. I was on track to compete in my first ever Strongman competition in March. A dream that will have to wait till another time.

I was told I didn't have much time left to get the eto keep my job. I'd been in 2 minds for a long time because of many reasons, but the one closest to home was the fact my baby sister nearly died from the eto on her second eto. With my siblings all being in some form of the science field, my brother being a doctor of stem cell engineering, they assured me the sist something we need to be careful of and the situation in the UK and Ireland is pretty bad.

I want to make it clear. I'm not anti-, I'm not into conspiracy theories, however I am pro choice. I am scared of the and given what happened my sister and a few people I know personally that have taken the and ended up in hospital, I was scared of the but by weighing up the odds, I thought the chances of something happening to me would be very slim. At the very least get the first and see how I go.

I got the  $\bigcirc$  on the 25th January 2022. Which by the way, the government asks do you consent to taking the  $\bigcirc$  just think about why that is when its being mandated to keep just your 'normal' life. After I had the  $\bigcirc$ , I went back to work, finished my shift and when I got to my car started getting tired. So instead of training I went home. I was tired and had a small headache so went to bed.

I woke up the next day feeling amazing and ready for the day. I went to the gym with a sore arm, so the plan was to train legs. I started my warm up stretches and started cramping. not like me at all. So I listened to my body, stopped training and called it a day. I knew the wasn't going to let me train that day. I stayed at the gym to talk to my friends and by 10.30am I had collapsed to the floor. Fully conscious, fully aware, with no control over my body at all.

My bf put me in the treatment room of the gym to relax and rest. I slowly got my function back after about 2 hours, but not great. He took me back to his place, with great difficulty as I couldn't move and the second me got me to his room, I fully collapsed. I was in complete paralysis but again fully aware. For 2 straight hours, I lay motionless on the bed not able to even open my eye lids. But fully conscious. I could tell my bf everything I could hear in those 2 hours and proved I wasn't sleeping. Even telling him about the V8 engine car that was outside and the music that was playing.

So I felt ok after the rest and then after a shower we went to watch the fireworks for Australia Day. We walked almost half a kilometre to where we sat and watched the fireworks, afterwards I started feeling weak again. I could slowly feel myself getting

closer and closer to the ground. On the same walk back I collapsed 5 times, again fully conscious, NO body function at all. With the help of 2 women passing by, my bf was able to run and get the car to take me to hospital. He struggled to get me in the car as I was a complete dead weight.

Because it was Australia day and because of people and road closures it took almost 30mins to get to the hospital. I could hear everything, and I was trying to tell him not to stress. After an hour, I was finally able to talk and slowly move my right side. But my left side was completely paralysed, it left numb.

After 6 hours of tests, everything was coming back normal, but I still couldn't move my left side. I was kept in hospital for 3 days, seeing countless doctors and specialists, trying to understand what was happening to a fit, active person, who has travelled the world as a competitive athlete that trains 5 times a week with no history of paralysis.

I got full sensation back after a couple days, but if I walk more than 1km my body starts to go. Like my Central Nervous System is fried. Since getting out of hospital, I've had 2 episodes of left side paralysis lasting up to 45mins.

This isn't the end of it. I'm still being told by government I need to be double juiced to keep my job. Which after the first experience, "you can shove that up your #\$\*"

Last week I was brought back to hospital with blood cl0ts in my urine and blinding pain. It was treated as a UTI. However, I have never experienced pain to that level with a UTI before or blood cl0ts. As another side effect I am now on my second period in 4 weeks

I have started rehab on trying to get my body functioning on a basic level. I've had sport injuries of learning to walk again that were less mentally draining and less physically demanding than this.

Anonymous, 12yrs, M Brisbane, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaQjoduvnEQ/

Contact:

My son is 12 years old, he has never had any health issues, has rarely even had a cold and besides the occasional injury from just being an energetic child, has always been happy and healthy. From the time he could walk and talk he has always been active and confident. A typical boy, with no fear of injuring himself and just making the most of everyday and being himself.

Whilst due to his age it was not a mandate for him to have the both myself (34) and my daughter (16) had received our first with no issues and with my understanding from the narrative at the time we made the decision to have him get the as a way to protect immunocompromised family members. It was also becoming obvious that sooner rather than later this would be a requirement for him to attend school.

He received his first does of on the 4th December 2021. Straight after he was fine, besides the usual sore arm he was showing no further signs of any issues. On the 12th December he started to present with red spots on his hands and feet. The next day these had progressed to small blisters over the palms of his hands and sides of his feet. We sought advice from the GP who took a swab and advised it was hand foot and mouth and to give him Panadol for any discomfort and also antihistamine.

By the afternoon of the 14th December the blisters had progressed across both sides of his hands, spreading further on his feet and also spreading up his arms and legs. We presented to the ER as this to me did not present as hand foot and mouth. The ER doctors again said it was HFM and we were sent home.

By Thursday 16th December the blisters were continuing to progress at a rapid rate, he was now unable to feed himself, bathe himself or take himself to the toilet. He was unable to use his hands and was requiring someone to be with him at all times to assist with eating, using the bathroom and just moving around the house in general. He was also unable to stand for long periods of time due to the progression of the blisters on his feet. We presented to the ER again that night where we were advised that this was not Hand Foot and Mouth, although they were unsure of what it was.

Photos were taken and they were sent to the paediatric doctors at within the hospital and also to Brisbane Children's hospital, with no diagnosis being available as they advised 'They had never seen anything like this before'. He was admitted to the hospital for the night to be monitored and seen by the dermatologist team the following morning. During the night two blisters on his lower legs were popped that night to obtain swabs. The blisters at this point had travelled up his legs and into his groin.

Friday 17th December we were seen by the dermatology team who after an examination and obtaining his recent history advised that a biopsy would need to be taken and that there was a possibility that this was his immune system having a reaction to the recent . We were sent home later that day with an appointment to see the Dermatology Clinic on Tuesday 21st December. By this appointment he could no longer walk for any great length of time due to the amount and size of the blisters on his feet requiring him to be wheeled into the hospital in a wheelchair. He was still unable to do anything with his hands, wearing shirts and pants cause him great irritation as the blisters had continue to spread up his legs and into his groin, up his arms into his armpits and across his chest. The blisters at this appointment were not only still spreading they were continuously weeping. During the appointment on the 21st the doctors informed us that the condition was called Erythema Multiforme which we were told is a reaction to an infection or medicine. All swabs taken throughout this came back clear, he had no infections or bacteria present, it was ruled that this reaction was caused by the . The dermatology doctors confirmed with the immunologist that it was safe for him to commence taking steroids and a referral was sent to the immunologist/infectious diseases specialist in Brisbane.

Thankfully the blisters had healed enough that he was able to participate in Christmas, although fatigue has been a major factor since. Where he was normally awake and alert all the time, he has since this occurred slept for abnormally large periods of time. This has even occurred to the point where I would need to wake him for meals and then he would go straight back to sleep. He currently has discoloured white patches all over his arms and legs from where the blisters were present. Physically he is doing well, however, this has had an effect on him mentally. He has concerns and worries about the blisters coming back, has described a fear when in the shower and seeing the body wash bubbles on his skin which reminds him of the event and is going to have a lasting effect on him moving forward.

We have received confirmation in the past couple of days that his specialist appointment has been scheduled for the 22nd March.

Throughout all my interactions with hospital doctors and the dermatology team since the diagnosis the constant has been 'the specialists will be able to determine which will be the right of rhis second dose'. There has not be a single time in all his appointments that a doctor has said that he should not receive a second of, it has been constant encouragement to discuss the options for a second.

I wanted to share this story because whilst it not have been a life or death reaction, it has had a tremendous effect on not only my son but myself. We have been made to feel like this is our only option, that we have no choices and unfortunately in this instance the choices that were made did not benefit him or my family.

Lara/ Baby Blackwater, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaHFuzDpIAa/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/larakelly93/

My partner and I where overjoyed when we found out we where expecting in October last year. It was going to be our first child. We both live and work in central Queensland in the mines. I am an Electrician and my partner is a Fitter. When I was just 5 weeks pregnant, my employer (one of the largest mining companies in Aus.) announced that they where mandating the as a requirement for site entry. Facing the prospect of possibly losing my job if I didn't get, I went and spoke to 2 different GPs about what we could do. Both stated that was safe and recommended for pregnant women, and due to ATAGI guidelines, they where unable to give me an exemption for. Still very unsure, but putting my trust in my medical professionals, we believe that I didn't have any other option then to get the. Our doctors were pushing it, I was the highest income earner in our house and my job also provided us our house.

I had the dream first trimester. I was working full time, and ran my own business on my days off. I had no morning sickness, tiredness or anything. Our son (who we named Ollie), his genetic testing was perfect, he was measuring great, things where awesome. I had my first  $\bigcirc$  on the 10th of November 2021 and had a mild fever and arm soreness and that was it. On the 8th of December we had our Nuchal Translucency scan at 12w5d. Ollie was measuring perfectly and even had the hiccups during our scan. Everything looked great. That same afternoon, I had my second dose of  $\bigcirc$  I experienced similar side effects to my first dose.

A few weeks later, over Christmas and New Years, I started to worry as I wasn't experiencing any pregnancy symptoms. On the 4th of January 2022 we presented to the hospital but because I was in good health and didn't display any outward symptoms of miscarriage, we were made to wait 7 hours for someone to form an ultrasound to find out our sweet boy no longer had a heart beat. The doctors were remorseful in that they didn't attend to us sooner. Based on Ollie's measurements, the doctors believed he had died almost immediately after our last scan. He had been dead inside me for nearly 4 weeks and my body had no idea.

On the 10th of January, we presented to the hospital where they put me on medication to start labour so I could deliver my dead son and send him away for an autopsy. We mentioned a number of times to the doctors that I had my the days before they believe he had died but we were brushed off and they weren't willing to entertain the idea of that being any possibility. I brought copies of our scans, all my blood work and offered to have that accompany him to assist with the autopsy and was told they didn't need it. A week later, we received a call saying they now needed this information. I reported it to the TGA: AU-TGA-0000695119

At the hospital, they indicated to us that it would be a couple of weeks before we could expect his body to be returned to us and potentially 3 months before the report would be ready. I called at 3 and a half weeks and was told it could be up to 3 weeks because of delays for the body. I called at 4 weeks and was told maybe by 5 weeks. And then they called me and said it probably would be until at least 6 weeks that we would get his body back, but the lab could provide NO EXPLANATION as to why the delay was so long.

I felt like we were getting the run around. I wanted to wait until we had his autopsy before I was going to share our story, but I didn't want any other family 's to suffer what we have gone through. I don't know if we will ever get the real answer as to what it was that caused his death. I felt backed into a corner with losing my job and our house, trusting my doctors who insisted I would be in more danger if I didn't get it. We now need to live with the what if's for the rest of our lives.

We shared our story through Gerrard Rennick, which gained a lot of attention through various social media platforms. Because of how many people were in support of what I had experienced I believe this was the reason that within 18 hours of sharing my story, Rockhampton hospital called me to say that my son's body would be released in an hour from the time that they called

me. We are now waiting for our sons ashes.. to our sweet Ollie boy, we are so heartbroken. 2022 was supposed to be the best year of our life, and instead we face every day knowing we will not have you here with us

Trent, 48yrs, M Nowra, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaEunPnptny/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/trent.yates/

I'm 48 years old, a father of one and I work as a sport teacher for an autism class which is the love of my life. Before the local I had a back injury a couple of years ago which led me to being the fit and health person everyone knew me for. My health and fitness was at peak levels, I'd never been fitter in my entire life.

I was never anti but due to my line of work and the mandates in NSW, I was required to get the to continue to support my family and keep my head above water. I also love my job and the kids I teach and I couldn't see my life any other way.

I got the east of august 20201. Everything was normal and no symptoms were experienced from the 1st, not even a sore arm. On the 18th of September 2021 I had my second es. Nothing happened and I felt normal again just like I did after the 1st.

18 days later that changed.. I woke up at 630am and I felt like a I had pleurisy in my back, it was about a 6 out of 10 pain, as my pain threshold is very high. I started to stretch for about 20 minutes as I didn't really know what was happening and thought stretching might help. By the end of the 20 minutes the pain went from 6 to 11, I never experienced something so traumatic to me in my entire life. I've had many surgeries and experiences before but nothing compares.

I tried to call my daughter who Is my absolute hero, but she wasn't available at the time, I fell to the ground rolling around in pain, struggling to breath with my chest rumbling and beating uncontrollably to the point I thought that was it and my life was over

I crawled to the door of my neighbours house literally on my hands and knees which was about 10- 15 metres away, he answered the door and he picked me up and chucked me straight in the car, we raced to Shoalhaven hospital while I was in and out of consciousness all the way there.

On arrival, my neighbour was refused entry into the hospital because of and I collapsed at the door. I woke up in a bed surrounded by medical staff putting drips in me and probes and all the things on me, they gave me morphine but the pain was still unbearable, I thought I was dying. All I wanted was to speak to my daughter. The whole scenario I'm describing was a complete blur, they didn't know what to do to help me, they were clueless for the longest time but they managed to stabilise me after I don't know how long.

Between 12 and 24 hours later I woke up and they put me into ICU, I stayed there for 2.5 days, they did every test Imaginable but they still had no idea what was going on. There was one girl there named Chloe who I'll never forget, she reassured me that I wouldn't be sent home until we figured out what was going on as I was experiencing a lot of fear for my life. I spent the last day in the cardiology ward and it was then that they suspected it was due to the they discharged me with the papers saying that it was an allergic reaction to the

I went home and I have not been back to the hospital since which was 4 months ago now, however everyday is a struggle, I had never been so fit in my entire life and there are times I can't even walk up a flight of stairs without having to catch my breath for 5 minutes in pain.

Daily I experience 6/7 out of 10 chest pain. Randomly I experience sharp back pains for no reasons, shallow breathing, my anxiety is through the roof, I now suffer PTSD and see a psychologist monthly, terrors, night sweats and nightmares, I'm scared to go to sleep out of fear I won't wake up.

Work life has been a struggle, life in general to say it has been a struggle is an understatement when It comes to being able to live the way I used to. I've seen my GP 4 times and my cardiologist once since I got out of hospital. My GP wouldn't give me and exemption and recommended that I get the 3rd , My cardiologist said In these exact words "there's no evidence of piving people myo or pericarditis and I should just go and get the "" I begged him for an exemption but he wouldn't give it to me. I reported it to the TGA, I have filled out all the forms, applied for the compensation scheme I've done everything imaginable but nothing has come of it. I have no idea where this road leads me and this is why I'm here sharing my story with all of you.

Michael, 35yrs, M Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaDvymrPBzX/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/mike\_may\_aus/

I'm 35 and always healthy I've never got so much as a common cold, the last time I was unwell was during my primary school days from the chicken pox. I walk a few k's most days with my best mate rex (my dog) so genuinely I'm pretty fit and healthy.

Back in November 2021 I got the within 2 hours I was on the ground out cold. I woke up inside the ambulance an hour later in the loading bays of the hospital where I remained for a further hour until I was admitted and seen by anyone. Eventually when I was put inside I was checked out with ECG for my heart as well as my blood pressure and placed on a drip. At this point I started to become 100% aware of myself and my surroundings as I was still feeling very dizzy till this point. I had chest pain to the point I could barely move due to the Intense pain and I was given nothing to subdue it. After many hours of waiting and nothing happening I decided it was time to go home and return if I needed.

1 week later I had a video appointment with a cardiologist. He advised me I had pericarditis related to having my equal to the pericarditis related to the pericardi

3 days later I passed out face first on the concrete of a mates back yard, I was out of it my mate said he was almost punching my chest for a response to pain and I didn't flinch. I ended up with a fire truck 2 ambos and 2 mica units attending to me and a 3rd mica on the way to the hospital. That's how bad of a state I was in!!

This time I was given morphine, Endone, Panadeine fought, Tramadol, to name a few yet, I was still in the worst pain I've ever experienced. End result it's now February 2022 and I'm still in limbo land with heaps of side effects. No exemption and just yesterday I was told I'm okay to go get another ... No thanks.

During this time I've been homeless till very recently due to asbestos and a bad land Lord. As a result I lost everything of my own and my son who's also on the NDIS for a few development issues. I am being compensated to some extent how ever when that will be and how much, I have no idea due to backlogs. Due to my situation, I'm unable to work as I'm not and I can't get

my son home who also has separation anxiety because I've lost everything he and I owned. Do you think the government will do what's right and help me and do what's right? Nope.

I got a et to work to provide and to contribute like we all do. In return I got pain, suffering, heart break, financial ruin, and now being punished with restrictions and loss of work?

Prior to all this I also fostered 2 children for some years with my son from a past relationship through Department of human service's. I've worked most of my life since the age of 16 and helped many where able. All I ask is plz if you'd like to help in anyway just pass my story on and think before you just go get the ...

Speak to a doc, better yet speak to a few and decide what's best for you. I'm not trying to push you away from the U'm just showing you that I now wish I didn't and I may suffer for it for the remainder of my life. I hope this helps someone, if its only 1 person that would be great but the more the better. Kind regards Michael.

Shay, 37yrs, M



Hunter Valley, NSW

Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaBR6qKJRA9/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/p/CaBR6qKJRA9/

I am a 37yo Male with no previous health conditions. I am a full time coal mine worker part time musician and before the liked to keep myself moderately fit and would exercise 3-4 times per week. Now walking down the stairs to get the mail or getting dressed leaves me breathless. I had no intention of receiving the initially but knew that my workplace would be mandating it in the future. I went out of my way to source a so they were not as readily available back then and I believed it to be a better option than the at the time. My workplace announced the mandate in the two weeks after I received my first in the I wish I had listened to my gut instinct.

Today marks MY 10th week off work and I'm not sure if or when I will be able to go back.

I received my first en on the 21st of September 2021 and The chest pains that started 3 days after it still have not gone away. It's a feeling akin to someone standing on your chest from the moment you wake up to the moment you can't get to sleep and lay staring at the ceiling until 5 am each day either from the pain and discomfort or the stress. Shortness of breath that makes even small tasks like walking down the stairs to get the mail a struggle and bouts of intense pain that make you question if you are actually having a heart attack.

I've had 9 visits to the Dr in the past 4 months, where I was lucky to go to the Dr once a year prior to that. I had my second booked 4 weeks after the first and decided to get some medical advice beforehand. I made no mention of having received the during my initial visit to the GP-I told him of my constant chest pain and trouble breathing. I was sent for a blood test, ECG and the following day had an Echocardiogram.

A week later I returned to the same GP to receive my results and for further advice. All of these tests returned normal with no indicators of heart problems even though my symptoms had worsened. My second was booked for the week after this appointment and I asked the GP whether he thought it would be a good idea for me to get the second given that my symptoms could possibly be related. His response was "You'll be right-you've obviously read up on myocarditis and pericarditis and I can assure you I've seen people with these conditions and you're not anywhere near sick enough to have either or them".

I decided to get a second opinion from my regular treating Dr which resulted in me cancelling my second ⓐ and going for further testing.

I spent my wedding anniversary late October in the emergency department where after nothing showing up on an ECG and no change in troponin levels they sent me home with some ibuprofen. It took 4 weeks From the onset of my symptoms to see a cardiologist for a stress echo and finally be diagnosed with pericarditis, now all these weeks later after 2 separate courses of treatment with colchicine and aspirin followed by 6 weeks of prednisone I'm still unable to live a normal life.

I am unable to do most things I used to take for granted. Any physical exertion leads to hours with a racing heartbeat, chest pain and fatigue. I can't go out and walk my dogs, walk around shops or mow the lawn, even my one true passion in playing music with my band leads to extreme fatigue and feeling like I am going to pass out. I spent Xmas day alone in self isolation due to being classed as high risk when the first outbreak of Omi happened, every aspect of my life has been affected in some way by this, something that was meant to give us all back our freedom.

I don't know if I'm ever going to be able to return to my job- even if I was well enough- I'm still expected to get the second before I am even allowed back on site despite having a medical exemption. And like thousands of other people I'm going to be expected to roll the dice every few months and get a BOOS to maintain my employment. I am not eligible for workers compensation currently, and I am also ineligible for any compensation from the Government Injury Scheme due to not being admitted overnight in Hospital. I am currently utilising every bit of my personal leave and long service leave just to be able to pay the bills. Leave that should have been used for enjoying and experiencing life.

A vast majority of people I know didn't choose to get the to protect their health, they got it because they believed they would gain some freedom back, they wanted to travel and a large percentage of these people only got it to keep their job. I've seen many good friends and colleagues lose their jobs over these mandates simply because they wanted to maintain their freedom of choice and were unwilling to take the risk of ending up in a similar or worse situation than myself.

Nobody should ever have to decide between their health and their career.

I am lucky to have the support of my wife and a healthy bank of long service leave to keep my head above water but there are many others in my situation who are losing everything and are not eligible for any form of compensation.

I can only hope that eventually I start to regain my health and get some form of normal life back but after this many weeks with little to no improvement I'm not confident that will ever be the case, I can only hold hope for anybody else who is FORCED into having any further that they don't end up with the same complications.

Matlida, 27yrs, F Gold Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZ\_n1WPJdCB/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/matildalily/

My name is Matilda, I am a 27 year old who lived a healthy and active life before the ...

I was open to being  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{=}$ , we had been assured by medical professionals it was safe and the responsible thing to do. I took the initiative, registered my interest in getting  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{=}$  and waited 5 months for my age group to become eligible. We were worried

about my fiancé and his anaphylaxis rather than myself. We had been told what we could expect was to have a fever and feel 'yucky' for two days, worst case scenario. On 6th September 2021 we got out first !!!

Less than 36 hours after my first , I experienced crippling chest pain, pressure, shortness of breath and dizziness. I saw a GP close to my work the next day who ran bloods and an ECG, everything looked normal. Despite the normality of the results, the doctor advised that if my chest pain got worse, not to hesitate to admit myself to hospital. I had trouble doing everyday things like walking, showering, wearing a bra, driving, sitting upright for too long, hanging clothes on the line etc.

I had what I'm calling three 'episodes' during the first 3 weeks. The best way I can describe these episodes is they felt like heart attacks. My fiancé drove me to the emergency room on 2 of the 3 occasions (10th and 18th September). They did full bloods, urine testing, x-Ray, ECG, echocardiogram. I was told nothing looked abnormal, but diagnosed with suspected costochondritis (inflammation of the cartilage on the rib cage). On the second occasion one of the hospital doctors even tried to diagnose me with reflux!! He told me that because I wasn't a male and had only had one , there was no possible chance I could have pericarditis.

After I told him I didn't agree with his diagnosis of reflux and getting upset for not feeling heard, he proceeded to ask me if I was being harmed at home or if I was mentally unstable or had ever thought of hurting myself. I made a formal complaint about this doctor to the hospital as he was intimidating and demeaning and did not listen to the symptoms I was telling him. You can image how small and insignificant this made me feel, pleading for help with crippling chest pain and being dismissed completely. On top of everything I was meant to get married on October 1st, and although my sickness wasn't the only factor for postponing, it did contribute to the length of delay and postponement of our wedding (by almost 7 months).

I followed up with regular bulk billing GP and requested a referral to a cardiologist to follow up on what I described as heart pain, he refused to refer me as the test results didn't show anything abnormal. I would like to add here the Australian Government recommends doctors refer patients to see a cardiologist if they experience chest pain after being administered the even if test results do not indicate any issues. I had trouble standing for too long, pushing Panadol and nurofen tablets out of their packets, cleaning myself in the shower, driving, even working from home on a laptop for more than a few hours at a time. A few days passed, and all my lymph nodes swelled, to the point where it hurt to move my arms and walk, I had a lymphatic massage and went straight to the chemist to get vitamin c, zinc and a number of other items to 'boost' my immune system.

I had to wait 3 weeks to get into a private GP to then be referred to a cardiologist to have more testing. Upon referral to the cardiologist, they undertook more full bloods, a stress test, heart monitor, several ECG's, detailed echocardiogram and cardiac MRI

Months later, whilst having weeks off work for ongoing chest tenderness (costochondritis), it was confirmed that I also had a high average heat rate, high blood pressure, tachycardia and active pericarditis and scaring on the sac around my heart 'most likely' caused by the . I was given a medical exemption until December 31st 2021, where I was told the cardiologist was not allowed to extend it any further.

Six months on, and I'm still suffering from a sore chest, high blood pressure, tachycardia and increasing my heart rate feels disgusting and uncomfortable (in a way I have never experienced before). My diagnosis confirms I have life long scarring of tissues around my heart and this is something that has permanently damaged me. I have been advised by 6 out of the 7 doctors and specialists I've seen that under no circumstances am I to have another MRNA (P and M) and they have advised I also don't have as my risk of injury from the now outweighs my risks from catching the two of Nova. When I asked several questions about potential severe reactions to Nova etc, the doctor told me it isn't anywhere near as tested as and and that it may be wise for me to do my own research to decide if I'm comfortable to have it!

The permanent damage to my heart was further confirmed when I attempted to donate blood through the Australian Red Cross last week, and I wasn't allowed as they consider pericarditis a permanent and severe heart condition, and the donation would be too risky and put too much pressure on my heart.

I am only just beginning to feel myself again, although still experiencing chest tenderness and pain almost 6 months after my . I still can't get my heart rate up and have gained weight as a result. I have to sleep hugging a pillow to support my chest and am doing heart and chest opening yoga poses daily to relieve tension, pressure and discomfort. I'm concerned about what this means for my long term health.

Tiah, 18yrs, F Gold Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZ-UhxVBxX6/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/tiaaah lovvve/

**P#1**: FG3712

I'm an 18 year old, I got my first on the 29th September 2021. Before the ! I was a disability support worker, I've always struggled with low energy but that's about it. I worked 4 days a week and went out every weekend, I was fairly active and healthy and never home, I was always doing something!

I wasn't going to get the , but then I had to travel overseas for something very important. I was getting an exemption to leave as it was before borders opened and it's something that was so important to me. I was fine after the , not even a sore arm. But exactly two weeks after I was curled in a foetal position for hours with painfully bad chest pain. I went to the GP who did blood tests and an ECG. ECG was normal (at this time) but my D-Dimer was elevated. So I was taken for a CT scan of lungs and no blood clots were shown (doesn't mean there is none) so I was sent home.

I was in so much pain and could barely move so Mum took me to the hospital. Here my ECG was abnormal and so they had told me I had Pericarditis from the , but they refused to write it on paper. After a couple nights in the hospital I was told to take Panadol and have a couple weeks off work then I'll be fine. After this I got a live blood analysis and it showed that my blood was micro clotting, which isn't enough clotting to show up on the scans. Fast track to 1st November I started having seizures, slurry speech, blurred vision and loosing the feelings in my legs and collapsing and not being able to move at all.

Dad would have to help me move around and mum would sometimes have to hand feed me water. Enough was enough so I went back to hospital and had to FIGHT with the doctor to admit me. I was admitted into the Neurological ward. They said I have a lot of unspecific symptoms but my head CT was normal so they sent me home.

I still get chest pain every now and then, and now I'm starting to get shaky and bit more blurry vision and migraines as well as seizure like activity. But the worst pain that I still get is abdominal pain, I had never had this until the . I take a lot of natural medicines to help me and without it I would be so much worse. I've come a long way but I still can't work, I can't travel as I'm not getting the 2nd which has been absolutely devastating for me. My whole life has turned upside down.

I spend most my days in bed and when I do go out I can't be out for to long. I have days where I feel absolutely fine and I can do quite a bit and some days I feel like my health is going backwards again. I take natural blood thinners and when I run out of these I'm in so much pain, that shows my blood is still clOtting.

I'm no where near where I used to be and am so scared I'll never get to that point again. I had some really amazing life changing things to look forward to, but unfortunately they have all been affected because of this. I'm a LOT better then I was but still feel so sick and I'm absolutely SICK of it. Not working has added so much stress on top of my health so it's very hard to maintain a positive mindset. But I'm trying...

Paola, 43yrs, F Melbourne. VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZ898x0JHG6/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/paolaleo23/

I'm a 43 year old mother of 2 teenagers. For the last 8 years I had been working as a kinder educator. I like to be active by doing yoga, going to the gym and being active with my kids.

Before getting the I was perfectly healthy.

I have always had all my required however this one was different, I felt there were too many inconsistencies and not enough safety data. I researched as much as I could and felt I was making an informed decision on what was best for my health personally. I was not prepared to have the with the information I had about how risky it could be, therefore I was placed on unpaid leave from work due to the mandates. I held off as long as I could but I needed to get back to work and the only way I could was by getting the I decided I would detox my body a few days before the and I would continue to detox any heavy metals and toxins 4-6 weeks after.

My appointment was on 26th of December, 2021 and I was getting . I had come to terms with the fact there was no way around it for me. I was devastated that it had come to this and that I had to do something against my will and risk my health. I just wanted to get it over and done with, not think about it anymore and I just hoped for the best.

All seemed OK until that night. During the night I felt pins and needles in my left arm and hand. I thought I had been sleeping on top of my arm and I had caused it so I didn't think much of it. However the next day I soon realised that it wasn't me. The pins and needles then started in my right arm and hand and then both my legs and feet became affected, as well as having cold and hot sensations in these areas. What was to follow was 6 weeks of different pains and at times scary symptoms.

I have experienced things in my body that I've never felt before, from the top of my head down to my toes. I had pin prick pains and crawling feelings, as well as what felt like bubbles under my skin. I experienced spasms in different places and at times my entire body twitched. I had muscle stiffness and joint pain. I had days where I had so much pain in my legs that it hurt to walk. I started feeling heart palpitations, pressure and small stabbing pains in my chest. I also had pressure in my head, stabbing pain in my temple, ringing in my ear and brain fog, I found myself forgetting things. My whole body felt weak and fatigued and it felt like my body had aged.

After the first week I booked an appointment with my doctor who I'd been seeing for almost 20 years. She was so dismissive of me I was shocked. I explained everything to her and all she could say was that my symptoms were odd and rare and that it was anxiety. I knew for me personally it wasn't anxiety, I told her that I knew my body and could recognise that what I was feeling wasn't right. She had the audacity to say not to think about it and just forget about it. She used herself as an example saying she had her 3 and she was fine. To be honest I'm sick of hearing this. If you are fine after getting it then you are blessed, but people shouldn't be so insensitive or ignorant as to use themselves as an example. She did absolutely nothing to help and there was no duty of care, all she said was to keep an eye on the chest pain.

I considered going to the hospital especially because I was concerned about the chest pains, however a few people had said I would probably be wasting my time and end up getting the same response. A week later I went back to a different GP. He at least took my concerns seriously. He found my heart rate was elevated and he ordered an ECG, bloods and an ultra sound. All my tests came back normal which of course is what you want, however the GP could not explain any of the symptoms and said that it was a 'normal' reaction. He told me to keep an eye on the chest pain and go straight to the hospital if it got worse.

I dealt with all these symptoms daily. I went back to the GP for my chest as I was still concerned. I had an x-ray done and that came back normal. Still no explanation for my chest pains and my ongoing symptoms so this doctor also referred to it as probably being anxiety. Once again I explained to this doctor it was not anxiety and that what was happening to my body was not normal. I've noticed in other stories on this page that a lot of people are getting this same response from doctors. I'm starting to think that some doctors want people to think they do have anxiety. The more you tell someone something the more they start to believe it and to me that is a scary thought.

At this point I have been concerned to do any exercise in fear of elevating my heart rate. I've seen people mentioning that once they start exercising that the chest pain increases. For 6 weeks getting up in the morning was difficult, my body would ache and it took me a little while getting out of bed before I felt ok. My arms and hands would become painful and I was experiencing pins and needles as well as weakness. I also noticed my hands were not steady at times and I experienced stabbing pain where I got the . My legs continued to hurt and I was still experiencing some spasms and the ringing in my ear. Exhaustion would overcome me on some days. Over the weeks I developed new symptoms, my eye began twitching and I had cramps in my rib cage. I also noticed some bruises on my body and started experiencing light headedness and dizziness. I also noticed when speaking I would muddle my words up.

Now 7 weeks on I'm still dealing with some symptoms but I feel like I have finally turned a corner. With the help of my naturopath I've continued to detox to help my body recover and heal. I'm being treated holistically which would never happen with a doctor. I honestly feel that detoxing has stopped my symptoms from escalating and is helping me a great deal in my recovery.

As there are no guarantees as to what would happen if I was to get the second 🔐 I did not get it. Due to this I did not meet the deadline from my employer and I was terminated from my job.

For such a long time I have had to remain silent on this topic because of different circumstances, however it was now time for me to speak up. I felt it was important to share my story because everyone needs to know these reactions and injuries are happening to us. Especially those who are in denial and those who continue to insult people who are going through these traumatic events. We should not be punished for prioritising our health or questioning what is happening. These stories are cold hard facts and we are now seeing consistency in what is happening. I want the narrative to change, I want the greater public to know that these cases are in fact not rare.

It's not fair that this is happening to so many people and no one is being held accountable. I want everyone on this page to know that they are not alone. For anyone who has suffered injuries or reactions or know someone who has, I wish you nothing but the best in your healing.

Julian, 24yrs, M Brisbane, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZ8kT-Jp74u/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/juliantubman/

W#1 3006329



My name is Julian. I was a fit and active 24-year-old triathlete and physiotherapist. I used to swim, cycle, run, row or lift weights daily, before and after work. Exercise has always been part of by daily routine and I've never had any issues with my heart or breathing in the past.

I was hesitant about receiving the after hearing other people's experiences with adverse reactions. As a physio working with people every day, I did not want my status to ruffle any feathers with this being such a contentious topic. I was inevitably going to lose my job when the mandates came through.

I became very stressed in the week prior to the . As the only un-experson in my family and workplace, I would hate to be responsible for passing on the . I began questioning myself- am I being selfish by not getting it? How will I be able to survive without a job? How long can I keep awkwardly dodging conversations raised about my status?

The pressure was all too much- I folded on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and got my first dose of . It was painless and I was asked to wait 15 minutes before I could go. I browsed around the chemist for the next 10minutes feeling fine. Suddenly I felt dizzy and my legs gave way under me. My vision blurred and all I could hear was ringing in my ears. I collapsed into a chair and stayed there for a good 2 minutes until I felt good to go.

My family and I put it down to a combination of having to wear a mask in a small confined chemist and me being anxious about getting it. I took it easy for the rest of the day and felt fine that night.

That weekend I took it very easy. I was able to spin lightly on the bike and get out for a slow 40-minute jog. My heart rate was slightly elevated for such an easy effort but it was warm and I did not experience any chest pains or symptoms.

Things started to make a turn for the worse 3 days after the . I was too exhausted to get up and train as usual before work. I noticed shortness of breath climbing stairs and towards the end of my routine 20minute walk during lunch break. By Wednesday I knew something was just not right when I started getting sharp stabbing chest pains.

With my heart racing at rest, I decided to book in to see a local GP after work on Thursday evening. Unlike a lot of stories I've heard, I was very fortunate to be booked in with a great GP. He picked up ST elevation and PR depression on my ECG and advised me to go straight to hospital.

I drove to Prince Charles ED on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November and gave the triage nurse my ECG trace and GP referral around 6pm. The triage nurse took a look at the ECG and told me "that's nothing to worry about- changes like that are common in young fit males like you. We've seen a lot of people with chest pain come in and they had nothing wrong with them."

3 hours later I was finally taken in by another nurse to have my bloods and ECG taken. At first, he brushed it off like the previous nurse, however, seemed a bit more concerned after looking at the ECG trace. He left the room to talk with the doctors and came back to tell me that they wanted to do more tests on me later.

I was sent back out into the waiting room with a cannula in my arm for another hour before a doctor collected me, listened to my chest, and asked me a bit more about my history. I was told I had pericarditis, most likely from the , then asked me to go back into the waiting room until I got called for a chest x-ray.

After the x-ray, I was sent back out into the waiting room and finally called back in at 2am to have one final blood test and pain meds administered through the cannula. The doctor discharged me at 2:30am with a 4-week course of ibuprofen and 3-month course of colchicine. I was told to get a referral to a cardiologist and echocardiogram as an outpatient because they did not want me stay overnight (and therefore not be formally admitted into hospital).

I saw a local GP that morning to get a cardiology referral. He had a look at my hospital documents and ECG trace and advised me that I didn't really need to see a cardiologist. Apparently, my case was only mild and the medications I was prescribed was "overkill". He assured me that my symptoms would resolve with just ibuprofen and I could exercise as symptoms permit. He changed his tact after I insisted that he listen to my chest, and provided me the cardiology referral letter (in which I had to book myself)

One week later I had my first echocardiogram, which confirmed pericardial effusion. I was advised by the cardiologist to continue with the medications and review in January 2022. He seemed pretty confident that it should resolve by then and that I should go ahead with the .

I struggled back at work from the 15<sup>th</sup> November, experiencing worsening chest tightness and pains. Any physical exertion would cause shortness of breath and light-headedness. One week later I decided to see a GP again after fainting. He referred me to a different cardiologist, that sent me for a cardiac MRI. I was surprised when this cardiologist suggested that "we try something different and get the to keep me safe at work".

The MRI came back showing increased inflammation and subtle myocardial enhancement "that could represent myocarditis". Without an exemption and the deadline for me to get double soon approaching, I had to get it or lose my job. I called up the second cardiologist and expressed my concerns. He did not budge and told me that I could get the if I didn't want the . Fortunately, I received a follow up call from the first cardiologist around the same time. I explained my situation and was lucky enough to be granted a exemption for 6 months.

Even though I had an incredibly supportive workplace, I made the very difficult decision to resign at the end of 2021 based on my physical deterioration.

My following echocardiograms in January and February showed slight increases in pericardial effusion compared November. I still experience chest pains, fatigue and shortness of breath with any physical exertion. Mentally, I keep sane by going for light walks daily, but that is about as much as I can tolerate.

My cardiologist has prescribed a corticosteroid called prednisone to help reduce the inflammation. Even though I am reluctant to take it due to unwanted side-effects, I am more concerned about this developing into constrictive pericarditis and having a long-term impact on my ability to work and exercise.

From reading the experiences of other's I feel very fortunate that my symptoms are less severe and having the full support of my family and workplace. I am also lucky to have come across a helpful GP and cardiologist along the way. My heart goes out to those in much worse situations, unable to find answers or receive support from those around them. My prayers are with you all

Tim, 27yrs, M Berwick, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZ8ZwwDJF8b/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/timsure/

A#1: 322675T

I am young male 27 years of age, Refrigeration mechanic by trade and proud husband and father to a now 8 month old little girl. My wife and daughter mean the absolute world to me, I loved going for weekend drives and exploring our beautiful country with my family. I was a fit and healthy man, with health issues caused by my hard work which is mainly spinal and knee issues. But you get that when you work as hard as I have.

Like a lot of people, I felt forced in getting the ... How could I not, I have a mortgage, a little bub, a wife and a future I want to grow and make easy for my family. I only had two choices and that was to cave in and get the ... or use all our savings until the mandates disappear. Not a single part of me wanted it, but what option do we have? I've never really trusted medication, as I never really use to even take Panadol because of my scepticism.

My employer did his best to avoid me getting it, but it got to a point where I wasn't able to attend work places without. So I caved in. On the 30th October 2021 I did the unbearable and got the entering I felt shivering through my entire body, immense pains through every muscle of my body for about 3-4 days. My wife couldn't keep me warm, even though I was sweating I felt frozen (which is rare as someone who sleeps with a fan on all year round). I recovered from that fine, but had noticed a slight eye twitch in my left eye that was uncontrollable. I also would get intense pins and needles down the left side of my body, to the point where it was numb, as if I had been sitting on my arm for hours. But being a typical man, I chose to ignore it and keep working.

9/11/21: 10 days post ! I was working on a country town in Shepparton when I felt a huge stabbing pain through the back of my skull which also came with an immense burning sensation through the rear of my skull as well. Eventually made the 3 hour drive back home, unknowing this was going to be the last time I work for who knows how long.

My wife being a nurse/midwife advised me to go ED ASAP. After a 3 hour wait, as "my injury is not important at this stage" quoted by reception of ED. I was seen by a doctor who did some basic tests on my eye sight and balance, then was told to go home and rest for two weeks and was prescribed Lyrica made by 2 and if symptoms are still there to then go so my local GP.

14/11/21: Being so reluctant to take Lyrica for good reasons, I managed to get in contact with a very experienced Doctor who was known to my family and who was about to be my best friend as he was sympathetic and on my side if you know what I mean. He assured me Lyrica is safe and I begun taking them. My Doctor instantly sent me off for blood tests and D-Dimer tests, which all came back normal thankfully.

18/11/21: Next option was to get sent off for scans, I went for X-ray and CT scan to make sure nothing major was on my brain or skull. A few days later tests came back normal and no specialist is yet to admit the is related at all. My doctor was then sceptical that it may be a sign of Occipital Neuralgia or inflammation of my nerves at my skull. He sent me off for a complete spinal and skull MRI to rule out spinal issues pressing on nerves, which came back normal. Each scan was about \$280 and I had 4 scans.

With these results this had proven to my Doctor that he was in fact correct that it is certainly inflammation of my nerves on my skull thanks to the ...

10/12/21: After taking a huge range of vitamins such as zinc, magnesium, turmeric, etc. I felt slightly better but was still in chronic pain. It had now got to the point where I was unable to get out of bed, hold my 6 month old daughter and was physically and mentally exhausted. The burning, the stabbing pain, the numbing, the eye twitching had not disappeared and has practically put me in a disabled state.

12/12/21: First course of starting a low dose of steroid (Prednisolone 5mg) I had put on 1.3kgs a day for 6 days and had reacted with severe rage, Doctor immediately weaned me off.

25/12/21: the first day of starting a low dose of anti depressant (Fluvoxamine), used to help reduce inflammation of my nerves. Found good results and helped reduce my pain to about 30% overall pain and had rid of the eye twitching completely. But still suffering and struggling to fall asleep every night due to pain and struggling to live a normal life or to drive.

10/2/22: almost 3.5 months of trying to stay positive and live with this horrible mental and physical pain, I am still on anti depressants. And now on cholesterol medication (Atorvastatin) and Naltrexone to help reduce inflammation around my arteries and nerves.

I have had no success, I am physically and mentally drained. I have been temporarily fired (my boss guarantees me a job no matter what happens, thank god for decent humans). And to top it off my Doctor has now been suspended of his license to practice, as he is such a criminal for helping people like myself who are suffering and not getting the science and proper attention. Instead I am frowned upon for not being triple and am now jobless, still incredibly unwell and have no idea if this is permanent or not. Nobody has a cure, nobody wants to help or can help. I'm stuck and have no answers, and I suppose my only option now is to live with this pain and pray that I recover one day.

Samuel, 35yrs, M Gold Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZ3f4ayJ1uN/

Contact: https://www.instagram.com/addicted2freedom a2f/

I'm 35 years old, previous to the U was actively running my own photography business and going to the gym 5 days a week, I was extremely fit and healthy and never had any health issues whatsoever.

I got the end to see them was to comply with the mandates.

On the 23rd of December 2021 I got the Pe I had no reaction at all until I had my second on the 24th of January 2022. Immediately I just started feeling tired..

3 days after, that night, I went to bed, my partner woke up to me making strange humming noises and within minutes I started flinching and then from 0 to 100 went straight into convulsions and a paralysis like state where I couldn't move or talk but I could hear everything that was going on.

I thought I was having a stroke because I had pins and needles throughout my entire body which then turned into not being able to feel my limbs, everything was numb. It was about 15 minutes into the seizure when my partner noticed that I was starting to stop breathing and she made the call to the ambulance. It took them about 15 minutes to get to me and I was still having a seizure by the time they arrived.

When they got to me I was in and out of consciousness, my eyes were flickering and rolling in the back of my head, I couldn't talk or move or breathe properly at only 3 breaths per minute but I could hear parts of the conversations around me between the medics and my partner, the paramedics treated me like absolute garbage, they were telling me to wake up and to open my eyes and pushing me in my chest, They gave me oxygen and then told me to get up and walk even though I was still mid seizure. I was able to get the words out that I just had the and the paramedic responded saying, "typical, everyone blaming it on the

On the way to the hospital in the ambulance I regained a little more consciousness, I couldn't open my eyes but I was able to communicate that my limbs were still numb, the paramedic next to me, told me that I was doing this to myself by starving my brain of oxygen. They wouldn't acknowledge that I was having a seizure and persistently made me feel like I was faking it even though I was struggling to stay alive.

When we arrived at the hospital, they wheeled me off the ambulance and left me in a stretcher placed in one of the corridors, the timeline and the events that occurred are all a bit of a blur because of the state I was in but a doctor came to me. While he was with me, I started having another seizure, my eyes started flickering again and the paralysis came on. I was still able to hear him and he said to me "what are you doing mate, you're fine and there's nothing wrong with you, just wake up" the nurse next to him said "this is getting awkward, you haven't said anything for half an hour" They gave me a bit of oxygen and left me.

It would've been about another 30 minutes and I started coming back to myself. I was still really disorientated and I was able to kind of move my limbs and get the blood flowing again but because they had me strapped down in the stretcher I had to ask them to let me go to the toilet. within half hour I was feeling okay-ish and they placed me in a chair to be monitored for the next 30 minutes before they discharged me.

When I left they discharged me with absolutely nothing and I still to this day have not been able to get anything from them on paper because there is just nothing there.

I caught an UBER home by myself at 8am, I was exhausted so all I wanted to do is go to sleep, as soon as I lay down I went straight into another seizure, it didn't last long, only being 3-4 minutes but then I had another one 3 hours after that and then continued on to me having at least 8 seizures over the next couple of days, some of which were quite severe and only 2 minutes in between which is considered an emergency but because of how I was treated by the medical system, I just couldn't bring myself to go back to them.

I went to my local GP and I had a minor seizure in front of him, he said I need to go and get and MRI and a CT scan right away, He was blown away that the hospital wouldn't do that to me.

I had my MRI and CT scan. They found 5 cysts on my brain, carbon monoxide poisoning, whitening on the T1 and T2 and due to lack of oxygen and not getting the right treatment, found I had some brain damage.

Since the results coming though and many struggles to find someone, I finally got in to see a neurologist who dismissed me for saying the word seizure and wouldn't give me a straight answer, only a diagnosis that literally says "the patient has funny terms" and sent me on my way with Valium.

I got into a second neurologist who ha since called me back saying he wants to discuss something seen on the MRI, I'm still yet to find out and this is where I am currently.

At the moment, I'm constantly twitching, I have an IQ of 142 but on a bad day, can't even string a sentence together, I have short term memory loss not being able to remember where I put things or what I have said or done 10 minutes ago, I'm having seizure every 2 to 3 nights and it could be up to 2 seizures a night. The paralysis is getting worse by the day and is local to the left side of my body which is the side I received the ... Lately I have been forgetting how to breathe, a rash resembling welts appeared all over my back, I'm now experiencing tightness of the chest and heart palpitations. Poor circulation, yellow skin, I'm eating but I've lost 15kg and all my strength with it, I'm exhausted quickly, fatigued all the time, my anxiety is through the roof and I'm scared to sleep out of fear of dying.

Anonymous, 39yrs, M



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZ0-JXFphMq/

Contact: 4949undefeatedafc@gmail.com

P#1: FK0892

I am a 39yo father of 3 who owns my own construction business. I've always been very active in the sports community at my local clubs.

I have had one minor heart problem 5 years ago which I have been on medications to rectify. Despite this health issue in the past I have still been able to remain in my chosen sports but scaled back to a lower level of competition.

In august last year I was advised that a company I won a major contract with was applying a mandate to double contractors only. I am far from anti- as you can get. My entire family by that stage was fully vaccinated for everything other than



I had seen through various reports of side effects relating to heart complications and this worried me due to my history. I made an appointment with my GP who shared the same concerns. He referred me back to the cardiologist to perform some tests to determine if I should or shouldn't get the

In the meantime my GP applied for a temporary exemption from the expending the results of my tests. The Chief Public Health Officer in my state personally denied the application.

Upon receiving this news my GP wrote me a letter to get me through the interim so I can at least work. This worked for the smaller sites however my major contract was a federal government defence project & they wouldn't accept this letter.

During this time my partner got her eadling with my oldest child with no harm done yet. Roll around to October & my test results come back the Cardiologist saw a couple of minor abnormalities but they were nothing to cause panic. He advises my GP that I'm fine to get the Por the but due to history of blood clots not to have ...

My GP was still not happy with the "abnormalities" he wanted to further test & research what I can have. We got a 2nd set of tests done through a private cardiologist. His advice upon receiving the results were not to get the ... Between him & my GP they both applied for an exemption due to past cardiac health complications. No surprise the Chief Public Health Officer once again denied the exemption sighting lack of precedence to prove there could be a problem.

A few weeks pass & I bite the bullet to get the because my business was losing money. I was unable to enter the job site of the government defence project. I had to pay a contractor to do the work for me or be sued for breach of contract.

Even though my oldest child & partner were double with no issues I had a bad feeling I wasn't going to be so lucky. But to keep my business from going broke I had to do it.

On the 23/11/21 I went in & got the 1st that night my arm was dead with tingling all through it for at least 6hrs. I woke up feeling ok completed my morning routines and went off to work. About 3hrs later I got tightness in my chest & struggled to breathe I got lightheaded and felt like I was going to collapse. It was then I knew I f\*\*\*ed up and should have never got the

I was taken to hospital where I told the doctor what had happened. I mentioned my previous condition & how my GP was hesitant on me getting the . The ED doctor laughed & said "if he's telling you that crap then that quack needs his license to practice removed "I butted in very abruptly and said "do you think it's a coincidence I'm having these problems 24hrs after getting the then?" He ignored my comment & then went on to reply to the nurse on his way out of my cubicle "Just what I need another anti-moron ruining a cruisy shift"

Despite his attitude, they kept me for some time to be monitored, have blood tests & chest scans taken. All came back normal except for the platelet levels in my blood. They were triple the normal amount they should have been. I was given 2x blood thinning @'s in the 6hrs I was in ED for and sent home.

My official discharge report noted a preliminary diagnosis of Angina caused by thickened blood. He also referred me to my GP for follow up testing & official diagnosis.

A few days pass & I'm at an appointment with one of my children. On arrival we walk up a flight of stairs as we were late & missed the elevator. At the top of the stairs my chest gets tight & my breathing is struggling again. I check my Apple Watch. 161 bpm was my heart rate.

I sit down & wait on the chair trying to catch my breath & the receptionist comes to check on me. I collapse on the floor & she calls for help. I don't remember much for a while but I wake up surrounded by paramedics. I'm hooked up to machines where I can see my heart rate flip between 40-172 bpm next thing I'm in the ambulance and off to hospital again.

Upon arrival I am placed into resuss unit & have the defibrillator on standby. All I remember was feeling my heart racing & pain in my chest. I had started to say my goodbyes I thought I wouldn't make it through.

After some time I am stabilised through medications & placed in short stay for chest scans. Scans come back with a diagnosis of mild inflammation on the heart (Myocarditis) I was given medications & the doctor was getting ready for discharge.

About 20 mins before being discharged my heart rate went up (over 120 bpm) and my chest pain returned. My nurse advised me she was ex cardiology ward for 15yrs and she thought I had Atrial Fibrillation. She advocated for me to be admitted overnight and have a cardioversion procedure to revert my heart back into normal rhythm.

I spent 2 nights in the hospital and had the cardioversion on day 2 of my stay. During my time in the ward I spoke to all my nurses who all told me they have seen at least 1 new person per week admitted to the ward with my symptoms within 14 days of their each over the last 4mths.

I was discharged with beta blockers to regulate my heart rate & blood thinners to ensure I don't develop clotting leading to a stroke & to see my cardiologist the following week to get further testing done. He told me that there's no evidence to support the theory of the causing this & told me to stop following conspiracies.

Over Christmas break I could not do too much and when I exerted myself a little bit the chest pains returned. Over the last 4-5 weeks the heart felt good & I was slowly getting back to what I was like before the ...

That was until 2 days ago when I collapsed on a work site with chest pain & a racing heart rate again. Again I was rushed to hospital via ambulance where I am still currently sitting in a hospital bed.

I was officially diagnosed with Atrial Fibrillation yesterday & had another cardioversion procedure to revert my heart back into normal rhythm again. I was told I will remain in hospital until further tests have been completed. I have been booked in for an electrophysiology exam tomorrow and potentially go on for an ablation surgery in the coming weeks. If these procedures fail I could be a candidate for a pacemaker.

I wish I listened to my gut feelings and never got the (2). I am falling into a deep depression because I can not work to provide for my family & my business is losing money due to added costs of contractors to conduct the work.

Amanda, 35yrs, F Lake Cargelligo, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZOWiOdpxcf/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/amandafaff/

I was a healthy active persons played netball and football, I'm a 35 year old mother of an 8 year old so I'm always up and about and have never had an health issues prior to the  $\bigcirc$ 

My husband and I were sceptical of getting the but because of the mandates around me and how much it effected my usual life. Not being able to take my son to swimming lessons or attend his end of year school presentation. Basically I just wanted to be there for my son.

17th October 2021, I got the (PG), I had a sore arm as usual for the day and didn't get any symptoms for a week later, I was just making lunch and I felt a sharp pain in my chest and I had Panadol and nurofen laying around which I took but the pain didn't subside in the hour so I called my husband.

It started coming on very quickly from this point, I started experiencing tremors and seizure like episodes which would last 10 seconds at a time for 3 or 4 times which from this day I still have not been able to get on top of, night time being the worst.

My husband took me up to the lake hospital where they did an ECG, it came back normal. I was then rushed off to Griffith hospital so they do an ultrasound, I was there overnight, I told them I was having a reaction to the but they didn't want to hear about it and they wouldn't give me an ultra sound either. They gave me Panadeine forte and nurofen and Morphine but none of it helped with my pain and racing heart beat. I kept pleading with them to help me with the pain but they kept on responding saying that they were too busy and from what I could see they didn't look busy at all that night.

I was in there 24 hour but they kicked me out still in pain the next day because they said they needed the bed. I went home and put up with the pain for the next 3 days. I returned to my GP and she didn't a referral to see the cardiologist and to get an MRI on my brain. The MRI came back normal and the cardiologist told me I was making this all up and it's just in my head even though I was telling him how much pain I was in. By the way, this was a 9 out of 10 pain.

I was starting to feel pretty defeated at this stage, I returned to my GP who I have to say was outstanding compared to all the other professionals and she referred me off to see a neurologist at the end of December but I'm still waiting to see the doctor to this day.

For the next month I've had to put up with the sharp chest pains and shaking daily, I'm petrified not knowing where this is all leading, to the point of facing my own mortality. I'm pretty much bed ridden for the entire time and my husband is left to do most things on his own.

I can't do anything for longer than 5 minutes without needing to stop and catch my breath, I shake in my sleep and constant headaches that make me feel like I'm dizzy drunk. I've been back to the hospital numerous time times but no one will acknowledge me or help me figure out what's going on.

Caity, 29yrs, F Adelaide, SA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZythTLJIJu/https://www.instagram.com/caityshomeandgifts/

**₩#1**: NA **₩#2**: 00098A

I had no prior health conditions before receiving the 🤐 I'm 29 years old and I work everyday and take care of 3 young kids.

At my workplace it wasn't mandatory but I felt pressured into getting it and it felt foreign to not get it because everyone would ask when I was getting it.

I got my first we at Terry White and had no symptoms other than a sore arm.

My second ( was on the 19th of January 2022 and initially I received no symptoms until the 24th of January when a small rash appeared on my armpits which I put down to a heat rash.

On the 25th I presented to my GP because the rash was starting to show in my groin, under breast and on my hands. It was treated as an allergic reaction and I was given creams and steroids even though nothing in my diet or wash routine had changed for me to have an allergic reaction.

I made another appointment for the 27th with a different doctor, who treated me for scabies. At this point my rash was painful and itchy and I wasn't getting any relief.

I made another appointment on the 29th as I felt I needed another opinion, I was treated for a fungal infection and given cream and tablets for it. My rash still got worse and my left hand started turning purple and was rock hard to touch. I wasn't getting any sleep from the rash being that bad and my legs were swelling.

That night I present to A&E, I had bloods taken and was told there was no abnormalities and told not to itch and put calamine lotion on my body, they referred me to a dermatologist to see if they could help. I looked at my case note the next day and it said I had dermatitis from drug use (I don't take drugs) At this point I was struggling to do simple tasks like opening jars, I woke the next morning to hand tremors that continued for the next few days.

I had an appointment with a dermatologist on the 31st and was told I had a high white cell count and after looking at my rash and taking a swab I was treated for Acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP).

I was given creams and the rash has slowly cleared since then but my hand is still hard.

Every health professional I've spoken too has said that it is an allergic reaction other than the dermatologist who said "some people are getting AGEP from "but no one has documented this on their paperwork. Each GP I seen hardly looked at my rash and seemed to just give me anything, I questioned the doctor that said it was scabies and he just replied to with "we'll just rule it out"

I'm awaiting an appointment at a specialist clinic to get testing done to rule out if this rash was caused by , because everyone else doesn't seem to want to admit that it is from that.

Alice, F Cairns, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZwLcoxJveh/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/alice.e.whitehead/

P#1: FH3221 P#2: NA

I do not have a hard and fast standpoint on  $\stackrel{\mbox{\ensuremath{\$ 

In June I got Ciguatera poisoning which opened my eyes and changed my opinion of the medical profession. Ciguatera is a type of food poisoning caused by eating fish contaminated with Ciguatoxin, it's very rare and is not something that can be tested for nor is there an antidote. It effects the digestive, muscular and nervous systems and can effect you for just a couple of days or for years. I found it really hard to find a doctor that would help me. If they didn't already know about Ciguatera they weren't



interested in learning, they listened to my story without caring, charged me a lot of money, and sent me on my way without doing anything to help me or even point me in the direction of somebody that could help. I lost my trust in the medical profession.

Fast forward 5 months [22] I had finally got myself back on track and was feeling good, I was exercising twice a day and I was at TAFE doing a 6 week course before returning to work as a harvest diver. I had already made my mind up not to get the east my body was still very reactive after being poisoned. Things like caffeine, alcohol, the smell of chemicals or anything from the sea are known Ciguatera triggers and still caused reactions. These episodes were short lived and manageable.

However... and obviously there has to be a however otherwise I wouldn't be writing this. I also needed to go home to the UK to see my family. I haven't seen them since 2018 and without the eit was looking fairly difficult. Then they brought in the mandate, so after a few sleepless nights, off I went to get my first  $\square$  e.

The morning after I woke up with numb limbs, which turned into pins n needles, then when getting out of bed I felt dizzy and everything blacked out for at least 10 seconds. Apart from this I had a chemical taste in my mouth and slight fatigue but it didn't stop me carrying on as usual thinking it was just the normal side effects. On day four everything took a turn for the worse, it felt like someone was physically holding me down, like there was a crushing weight on top of me and I couldn't think straight. I then proceeded to get sick to the point where I couldn't keep water inside me, the vomiting and diarrhoea lasted for 3 days. I couldn't walk from my bed to the kitchen without getting out of breath and dizzy, I intermittently had pins n needles and numbness more so after lying down or sitting still. I had a pain in my chest, my head felt like it was about explode and I had pains in my spine, neck, armpits and groin.

This went on for 4 weeks and to be really honest its all a bit of a blur but in that time frame I had one hospital visit, about 7 doctors appointments and as many blood tests. I had varying feedback from the medical profession. The hospital said it was gastro, one doctor found from my bloods I had inflammation, decided I had Crohn's disease and booked me in for a colonoscopy. One doctor took two weeks to get back to me, she then called me in urgently to tell me that my white blood cells were down and I had inflammation. She then proceeded to offer no help but to push me into getting my second a different type, the

Finally the only doctor who helped me with my Ciguatera and who is hard to get an appointment with, diagnosed me with low iron and said it was highly likely I had, had a reaction to the . He said the trouble is not much is known about the side effects, all he could do is give me a 2 months exemption and told me I should come good. He still recommended the vover the even after what had happened.

So, 2 months after the first my partner decided he could take an extra couple of weeks off work in January, he wasn't there for me the first time I had the reaction but wanted to be there in case I had one the second time around. He said I had to get on with my life and go see my family, get back to work etc. I was obviously very anxious after what had happened the first time and it took all my mental strength to go get the for a second time.

I had the usual flu like side affects but actually felt pretty good, relieved because I knew I could go home to see my family. However, on the fourth day I woke up and took a turn for the worse again. The shortness of breath was back with a vengeance, dizziness, numbness/ pins and needles, heart palpitations, shooting pains and my head felt like it was going to explode again. I felt like a belt had been wrapped around my chest or a massive pressure was on top of me, it was a lot worse when I lied down. I also had a high heart rate again, which went up when I went from sitting to standing and when I did even the slightest bit of activity.

Back to the doctor and another hospital visit. They could hear abnormalities in my chest but my bloods were all fine this time, they also looked for high levels of troponin which can indicate heart problems and did an ECG which showed no irregularities. They thought maybe I had pneumonia or mild pericarditis was mentioned. I was sent home, instructed to take ibuprofen and wait a week for an echocardiogram. The results from my echocardiogram showed mild inflammation but no written and definitive diagnosis.

Three weeks post second I was a lot better, I was walking again and most of my symptoms had gone. I recovered a lot faster the second time around and was getting on with my life.

Then I caught \*! For me it lasted only a few days where I had a cold and a chesty cough... It was mild. Was it because I was double ? Or if I had caught une, would I have ended up in hospital? Would it have carried on for 2 months like the side effects from the ?!, or would it have affected me more like a bad flu? I can't answer that question.

The reason I want to share my story is because either way people need to be made aware of side effects. The mandate is not ok... forcing ppl to get a first generation is is not ok... and the fact that the medical profession is turning a blind eye, covering up and pushing sick people away because they have related injuries, is not ok...

The definitely has its place for the elderly and vulnerable but taking into account it is first generation, little is known about the side effects and the fact it doesn't stop transmission, it is not a one size fits all solution. Even more so now the is moving into its endemic stage and evolving to become intrinsically less severe.

## Anonymous

Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZwBpDxpxey/

Contact: mlorna66@yahoo.com

P#1: FF4222 P#2: FE8163

I had  $\bigcirc$  on 05/08/2021 at my local  $\bigcirc$  Clinic and upon driving home I started to feel my heart racing. I made sure to drink a lot of water both beforehand and after and took it easy when I got home. The next couple of days I still continued to have a racing heart on and off and on the night of the 7<sup>th</sup> of August I had a dull ache in my chest and sharp pain on and off in my chest also while lying down. The next day I contacted the hospital and they told me to come down immediately so my husband and I jumped in the car and went down there where I was admitted.

The ER doctor placed me on a monitor and performed an ECG, a chest X-ray, a CT scan and a blood test but couldn't find anything. They then told me I had heartburn and I asked them "So, I don't want to take my second then do I after having this reaction?" I love to travel and I knew that in order to continue to travel with my family, I would need to be fully . They answered yes you should take the next one. They then sent me home with Somac tablets after I told them that they had no effect on me. I spent my birthday the next day exhausted and in pain.

I went home and the heart palpitations subsided over the next few days but I still had pain coming and going in my chest and I was out of breath after the smallest of duties. Worried about this second and the continuing pain, I decided to get a second opinion. I booked an appointment on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August at my local Medical Centre. I told him of my symptoms and of my visit to the ER and he looked up my file and ER notes to which he replied, they found nothing. He told me that it was fine and it would subside and strongly suggested me getting the second  $\Box$ 

I was still very nervous so I booked another appointment with a GP on the 27<sup>th</sup> of August. After my consult with him, he told me yet again that I should have my next  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{=}$  and that it was most likely a problem with my spine. He said with time it will heal.

Totally confused, I left and decided to regretfully book my next egitated my symptoms.

I decided to once again see a doctor who was great and explain what was happening to me and told her about my ER visit. Upon looking at my notes, she informed me for the first time that they had found a "shadowing" in my chest that it could be pleurisy. No doctors prior to this visit had ever informed me of this. She then asked me if I'd like to rule out Pericarditis/Myocarditis and see a cardiologist. I said I would like to and she referred me to one.

I saw him on the 30/11/2021 where he explained that a stress test would be needed. This was undertaken on the 07/12/2021. A Telehealth call from the cardiologist on the 21/12/2021 was taken by me and he informed me that my heart was fine, suggesting that I should avoid but perhaps consider or another BOOS in the future. I told him that I still had

symptoms and that I wanted to know what was wrong with me and that I wanted an MRI. He then referred me on for one on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

I had a follow up appointment with the cardiologist where he informed me that they suspected pericarditis as the pericardium was slightly increased on late Gadolinium enhancement, suggestive of pericarditis. He then told me that I could use Colchicine in order to combat this and I have made a follow up appointment with the last GP in order to do so.

I was playing softball last year and was fit and healthy. I now struggle to go up my stairs or even put washing out on the line. I find it hard to sleep because it's uncomfortable to sleep on any other side but my right hand side. I have to also be incredibly careful about what I eat and drink as inflammatory foods hurt me. I am also very worried that because this has taken 6 months to diagnose and a second was endorsed by doctors that I have caused permanent damage. I have never had any prior issues with my chest. This experience has been awful and I can only hope that going forward this medicine will help me.

Aaron, M Brisbane, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZtXoJeps9f/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/aaronyschai/

P#1: FH3221

I am a fairly fit and healthy person who rides daily to work and loves tough mudder and spartan obstacle type challenges. I heard about the mandatory and was hesitant to take it. Doing my research, I didn't think it was a good idea. It was not until my job security was at stake that I consulted my GP to see if I can get an exemption as my family has a history of heart problems. My GP shut me down quickly saying that I should be fine and shouldn't worry. I pleaded with the GP but to no avail. It was like a lamb to the slaughter I decided to take it as I have bills to pay and to put food on the table.

7th Dec 2021 I got the Pea

About 30mins after that, I felt a weird pressure in my chest. I didn't think of it much as I was already on my way home. I thought I could sleep over it and should be good by morning. That night I felt my like my heart was jumping out of my chest and the thought of the side effects made me more anxious which made it hurt.

The next day, my wife made an appointment with a private GP for the following day as the previous GP we feel won't be helpful. At the private GP, I expressed my concerns and she did 2 rounds of ECGs and she looked concern. She wrote me a letter and told me to head to the emergency department as soon as possible.

At the ED, I was hooked up with all the cords to monitor me. More rounds of ECGs were done and they took a blood sample. The nurse gave me paracetamol 2hrs in and 30mins later, he gave me an ibuprofen. At the 5hr mark, the clinician came and look at me asking the same questions as the nurse. She went away and came back again to tell me that I have Pericarditis. The clinician told me that I should be fine after 10days. Since the , I have reduced energy and constantly fatigued. I can only wash 2 dishes and need to have a lie down. Since the visit to the ED, I slept about 12hrs which is not normal for me. My wife had to check on me to see if I am still breathing. (it wasn't funny) I continued to work until the dreadful date to be double . I called my previous GP to tell her that I have Pericarditis and her reaction was of surprise and says "oh I'm so sorry to hear this, you are my first patient with the condition" she then quickly rushed the appointment and I had only spoken no more than 5mins. So, I made an appointment with the private GP to help me get a medical letter done to allow me back at work. Thinking that I would

be allowed back at work with the letter, my manager says "oh I'm so sorry to hear that you got pericarditis but are you going to get the second ()? " I said once I get better. She gave me an unimpressed look and rolled her eyes.

I didn't hear back from work until I called work on 4th Jan to follow up. I asked if I am still able to come back and the manager replied with a slight disgust in her voice "NoOo, you'll be a high risk to everyone and people are already getting sick with "(I found that odd) Received an email from work 8 days later stating that they will extend my stand down for another 4 weeks. (This makes it 8 weeks) I replied saying that my GP says 12weeks to monitor my recovery and ensure that I am well enough for the second.

2 days later, I received a termination email effective immediately from the head of department. So, since the lost my job but have lost my fitness, have increased sweats, feeling fatigue, constant dull chest pains and deteriorating mental health. Feels like I am being left out to dry.

Myah, 27yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZqytUyJ8Jh/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/myahellen/

P#1: FL5729

I'm a healthy 27 year old. I had recently been putting my health and fitness first and was feeling fantastic. I was absolutely against getting the 
However buckled under the pressure of society and certain family members.

On 11th Jan 2021 I had my first (Pa). Nothing out of the ordinary to begin with, just a sore arm. 3 days later I noticed some pain in my back. It felt like a severely pulled muscle in my left shoulder blade so I just thought I'd injured myself somehow but was perplexed as to how. As the week went on the pain increased. The pain was now in my chest. I was having sharp pain behind my breastbone and to the left. When I would lay down the pain became noticeably worse and if I lay on my back it felt like pressure pushing down.

Even though I was aware the could cause chest pain I kept trying to find other explanations for what I was feeling. By this point I was thinking anxiety, acid reflux, trapped gas etc. With each day passing I was becoming more suspicious though. After just over a week I was starting to develop new symptoms. In addition to the chest and back pain I was now having episodes of tachycardia (180bpm resting), pre-syncopal episodes (dizziness), the feeling of a pounding heart and periods of shortness of breath.

My husband is FIFO and we have two toddlers so unfortunately I can't just drop everything to go to the hospital. On day 14 he flew home. As soon as he got home I asked him to take me to the hospital. On arrival at the emergency department my heart was absolutely pounding out of my chest. I thought I was having a heart attack. My resting heart rate at this point was 170bpm so they brought out a wheelchair and took me straight through.

I was immediately hooked up to an ECG and blood pressure taken. 3x rounds of blood were taken along with a bunch of questions. While I was hooked up to the ECG I had roughly 7 palpitations which were captured and the Reg Cardiologist wasn't happy with what she saw. I went for an X-ray and while I was there my bloods came back. I was D Dimer positive so they were

starting to suspect a blood cl0t. So I was then sent to have a contrast CT. That came back clear so I was admitted to the Coronary Care Unit where I was told I had induced Pericarditis. The following day I was given a bedside echocardiogram and discharged with a care plan.

The care plan consists of strict bed rest for 2 weeks, ibuprofen 3x a day and a follow up appointment with the consultant cardiologist in a few weeks with a full echocardiogram. As I mentioned earlier, I have two active toddlers and a FIFO husband. Bed rest is near impossible. I was advised by the cardiologist NOT to get the 2nd . So now I'm in the process of jumping through hoops to get an exemption.

I'm still recovering so I'm not sure what life will look like for me going forward but at this moment any activity is difficult and leaves me short of breath. Also due to the medication I'm very drowsy and spend most of the day sleeping.

The most frustrating part is reading or seeing everywhere how heart problems associated with the are so RARE! They absolutely aren't. Every single person I spoke to in the hospital said they are inundated with people coming in with the same thing. It's absolutely not rare and can have lifelong implications if not treated seriously. People deserve to have all the facts and then make a decision accordingly.

Holly, 19yrs, F Brisbane, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZi3-HjJljz/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/hollywally2247/

3 months ago, I was a happy and healthy 19 year old. I was exercising daily, I had just finished year 12 and it was time for me to start my apprenticeship that I had worked hard for. My name is Holly and this is what I have been through post ...

On the 27th of November, I received my first  $\bigcirc$ . I wasn't certain about getting it but I didn't want to lose my apprenticeship and I felt like it was the right thing to do. I had the common symptoms like a sore arm a bit if a headache and exhaustion. I was back to being my normal self within 24 hours.

6 days later, I begun coughing and found it hard to breath. I went to the doctor at the respiratory clinic thinking it was Asthma. He said that I wasn't wheezing so it wasn't Asthma but something was definitely up. He also said that there is a possibility it could be from the . I was then put on a waiting list for a chest x-ray as they had no available appointments.

The 22/11/21 is when I had my second (Page). I had the same symptoms but worse. My body ached and I felt like I was getting a cold. This lasted for a couple of days. 2 weeks after my second dose is when I started having chest pain and bad headaches. My cough improved but was still there. I was exhausted all the time, my chest was constantly sore and felt like someone was squeezing it from the inside. My head was always throbbing and I had no energy to do anything.

3 weeks after my second is when I had my first hospital visit. My grandmother picked me up early from work and we headed to the emergency room. I got into see someone pretty quickly and they did an ECG and checked my blood pressure. They said my heartbeat was irregular and it sounded like pericarditis. I then got sent back to the waiting room where I waited for my chest x-ray. I was waiting for 4 hours before I finally got In. I then went back to the waiting room where I sat for almost 18 hours. I finally got to speak to a doctor and they said it was reflux and that my heart was fine. They sent me home with Sonac.

On the 23/12/21 I woke up with horrific stabbing chest pain. My arms were really heavy and I was in a lot of pain. I called the ambulance, an hour had passed and they had still not arrived. After cancelling the ambulance as they said it would be another 45 minute wait, my girlfriend drove me to emergency. I got another ECG and got sent back to the waiting room. My blood pressure was also a bit high. After waiting for 3 hours, I got put in the short stay rooms where I got stronger pain medication while waiting to speak to a doctor. I was there for 6 hours before they sent me home saying I had a stomach ulcer.

The next 3-4 weeks, I begun experiencing shooting body pains, weak and achy joints, Dizziness and light headed, a croaking voice, sore throat, memory loss, sleeping issues, breast pain, weight loss, no appetite, light sensitivity and migraines. The GP gave me a referral for an echocardiogram, MRI and CT scans. The tests came back saying I had severe reflux with acid in my lungs and 2 leaking heart valves. After having to fight the health clinic for my reports as we couldn't get in to see someone for a month, I picked them up from the radiologist. I then went to another GP where I got referred to see a cardiologist and gastroenterologist.

On the 20/01/22 I had to leave work early as I was not great. I went back to the emergency room and waited for 4 hours until I got another ECG and again, got sent back to the waiting room. After waiting 3 and a half hours, they sent me home saying it was just severe reflux.

On the 01/02/22 I had my gastroenterologist appointment. After cutting me off constantly and not listening, he turned around and said I was healthy. He also said and I quote "I wouldn't have sent you for all these test." After questioning him about the aspiration of tracer in my left lung, he said and I again quote, "it's nothing, the tests are dodgy". He told me to stop all the testing and that I overreacted when I called the ambulance. He also said that the cardiologist is just going to say the same as him. I also mentioned that I struggle to get through a whole shift of work because of the pain, and he said "You're just going to have to do it". The way he treated my grandmother and I was horrific and unprofessional.

At 19, I shouldn't be the way I am. I should be able to exercise daily and get through work with no issues. The fact that I am being told one thing and then the other is so frustrating. I am not getting any answers or the help I need and it really hurts me. I should be able to trust the professionals, but how am I supposed to after all this?

Every time I go see a medical professional, I feel like I am being judged and not listened to. I thought I was doing the right thing by getting this but now I wonder if life would be different if I hadn't. I just want to be able to live my life and get back to what I was able to do 2-3 months ago. I have my cardiologist appointment on the 7/02/22, I don't hold a lot of hope that I will get answers but I'll have to wait and see.

I am sorry for anyone who is going through a similar situation and I hope you find answers soon if you haven't already. Thank you for taking the time to share our stories.

Ashleigh, F Brisbane, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZiV2nPv\_kN/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/mrs\_apearce/

## My name is Ashleigh

I just want to be heard, I am at the point where I feel I would be better off dead then to keep going through the constant thoughts and pain and not being heard.

I received the second  $\bigcirc$  on the 09/10/2021. I started having severe chest pains and pain in my right arm through to my shoulder and up my neck and back of the head on the Monday with a rash/swelling at  $\bigcirc$  site. I went to the doctors Monday afternoon to which he put me on steroids for 2 days. I took steroids, Advil and Panadol as advised with no change and pain got worse. I called 13Health Tuesday night to which they then called an ambulance and took me to the PA Hospital.

Upon arrival to PA they took blood, done a ECG, given all clear, no one told me I have raised white blood cells until I got to the GCUH on the Wednesday. PA doctor told me that the pains and severe rash I was experiencing was due to a reaction from the contraceptive pill to which I have not been on for 3 years and said that the site was swollen and red due to a Band-Aid reaction to which I am not allergic to anything. They said they could no longer help me and discharged me at 3.30am on the Wednesday morning. I did have a chest x-ray also that showed nothing. No other tests were done.

I was still experiencing the chest pain and wanted a second opinion to which a nurse told me to get on my way out of the PA so I went to the Gold Coast University Hospital on the Wednesday 13/10/21. I was at the GCUH for approx. 5hrs, they ran ECG took bloods but did not do any other tests. The doctor spoke to me in length that it could be anxiety, it could be weight but said out right that it was not due to the but spoke in the exit doorway that there are symptoms of pericarditis and proceeded to tell me with my husband as witness that there was raised white blood cells at the PA and that there was abnormal rhythm on the ECG that no one told me about but she then told me that I need to go back to my GP and get a referral to monitor blood pressure as it was still high but the nurse did not take it properly with putting it half inflated on my arm. Also GP was to monitor heart palpitations.

I went to the GP on the Thursday and showed discharge letters to which he said I needed another blood test of which I already had 2 of the same thing and he proceeded to be more worried about moving his Porsche out of the storm then to speak with me more about this and said if my chest pain gets worse to go back up to ED. I tried to take what was advised regarding Advil and Panadol over the next couple of days, I did not fill script for endone from the Gold Coast as it makes me sick and I feel it does not give me the pain relief I need.

Over the course of the Friday, Saturday and Sunday I felt the chest pain was still there but was taking Advil every 4hrs and Panadol every 2 to try and subside. Sunday my feet, legs and hands started to swell again to the point of painful sensations in all areas and pain excruciating in my left leg along with migraine and pain in the right shoulder and central chest pain again.

I spoke with an after hours Telehealth doctor who advised me that he thinks it is myocarditis and pericarditis and to call an ambulance. I rang the 13health number and they advised the same to go back to hospital. My husband called an ambulance on the Sunday 17/10/21. He called them at 9.10pm. I was struggling to breathe again with severe chest pain, leg pain, swelling, hands trembling, blurred vision and pain radiating down right arm, right shoulder to neck. I have had blurred vision on and off on the right side.

I was in adult acute bed 4 at Logan and had the doctor consistently come and in and try and convince me I was like this due to anxiety and my weight, he said I was obese and that they had ran all the tests they could. I said that if they didn't perform bloods and ultrasound I would ring 13health for Ryans rule. I spoke to TL Nurse on shift who advised me they would get a cardiologist down for a second opinion. I was left for what felt like hours, no one done my obs and when they did my blood pressures it was extremely high each time with a comment from nurse and doctor that it was normal for those readings in an Ed environment and they were not worried as they said it was due to my anxiety.

I was then moved at 4am on the 18/10/21 to Logan short stay to which I overheard nurses handing over that I was taking up an unnecessary bed due to my obesity and I would be out soon enough. The change over ward nurse rudely said I should have gone back to the Gold Coast and why was I here. That nurse did not do any obs on me from the time I arrived in short stay to when she changed over shift at 7.15am.

My husband arrived at short stay at 7.30am as we have a 2yr old, he could not come up during the night. Blood pressure was one with my husband present it was 192/97, again extremely high, downplayed by the senior doctor that it was my anxiety and due to the pain I was experiencing and that they could no longer help me.

The senior doctor did not state his name, he came in and leaned against the wall and said "what do you wish to achieve from me at this stage?". I replied with "an answer and some treatment moving forward so I can get better". He rudely said to me that I won't ever get an answer as there is nothing wrong with me that all tests and ECG's have come back normal, he stated there was High white blood cells but did not seem to stay on that topic as to why even when my husband quizzed him again. He



said that I need to change my head and to understand I won't get a diagnosis and that I need to go back to my GP and not to come back to the hospital as they are no longer going to help me.

This is not normal, it is not right I feel I cannot go back to the hospital for treatment and my GP has sat in front of me and said this is all because of my weight and asked my husband how long I have been chubby for and that it is all anxiety and I need to stop going to the hospital, that this is all in my head.

The discharge letter from the Logan Hospital stated that there "was" evidence thus far of Pericarditis and Myocarditis. I then proceeded to make an official complaint to the Logan Liaison Patient Office and also contacted the OHO Ombudsman. I received a phone call from the directing doctor of Logan Hospital who I had 24min conversation with regarding my treatment and the letter of discharge and conduct of the doctors who saw me.

I wanted to let you know that the discharge summary that the doctor has specifically wrote up for my GP as a "care plan" was apparently incorrectly written and contains a grammar error according to the Directing Doctor of Logan Hospital. The Doctor was on a fresh change over shift that started at 7am that morning and the letter was supposed to read "there is no evidence" thus far of etc. I was advised by that Doctor not to attend emergency again and the Directing Doctor told me yesterday that all she can say to me is sorry, that she had a look over my record but when I was talking to her she only had a quick glance at my blood pressures and did not see over that my obs had not been taken or the fact of the ultrasound showing my heart chamber was more enlarged than usual.

I told the directing doctor that my blood pressure was 182/162 and she did not believe me, she said that I would be dead if that was the case, this blood pressure was taken up at the PA Hospital @11:35pm on the 12/10/2021 and I could not get a photo of it but they did input it on the computer so they would have that record. The directing doctor then said to me that blood pressure is always usual high on presentation to an ED department, I replied to her that my blood pressure has been stage 3 hypertension consistently for over 2 weeks and it is still getting dismissed.

I am just wanting to share my story with you all so there is evidence in case something happens to me as I am scared I am going to die as no one will run all tests or acknowledge what is going on. This was not a grammar error and I got pulled outside the Gold Coast University Hospital by the ED Doctor on duty so no one was in ear and this was outside the exit and entry foyer with my husband.

I have a 2yr old son and I need this heard for not just him for his future that I may not get to see if this keeps happening but to the many others that are suffering in the exact same position.

Since having mental health threatened if I keep pushing my symptoms and pain, I am suffering severe anxiety to be around anyone as I feel as though I am being thrown out to dry as a mental nutcase. My periods are so irregular that the cycle has completely stopped now. I have no energy, I tried to go back to the gym cause everyone keeps saying its my weight but I was on my weightless journey fine before all this happened and when I walk at 4.2kms/ per hour on the treadmill my heart rate sky rockets to 185bpm when 2mins in.

My blood pressure is still high, constant migraines, arm pain, chest pain and cramps and another thing to add tingling in my legs and face. I am too anxious to seek anymore medical help, I would rather die at home then them pump me more full of drugs and threaten to call mental health and have my son taken from me. I have been on TRS spray and folic acid which has subsided the migraines but I still get them every few weeks. I have lost friends and family cause of this, I feel alone and like I'm loosing each day, trying to find will power to try keep fighting to see if time will heal.

Alex, M Sunshine Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZg-4VdJQxq/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/alexollier94/

I ran a sporting business for the last 8 years and actively participated in competitive soccer for the last 20 years. I've never had ANY issues with my heart or respiratory system prior to the mandate.

On the 10th of January 2022I received my 2nd i originally felt no side effects and was able to enjoy my life as usual until 5 days later. The heart palpations began along with the constant stinging sensation from the left side of chest. I persisted on working and enjoying my social life whilst looking more into possible side effects. I knew I fell into the category of Pericarditis due to being a young fit male, so I began to take my own anti inflammatory whilst desperately trying to book into a GP (all were booked out on the coast due to staff shortages)

It was on the 19th of January I managed to finally secure a booking with a GP it was between the 15th & 19th my symptoms worsened. I began having a tingling sensation in my legs similar to RLS. I was reduced to constant diarrhoea along with hot cold sweats, felt like my throat was closing over and began having breathing issues (constant shortness of breath, along with stinging sensations in my ribs)

After having an ECG at the GP, nothing was found and I was asked about stress in my life and this heart pain was probably attributed to anxiety and other factors. I was told to book an echo gram to be safe and to take ibuprofen to help reduce any possible inflammation. I was fobbed off.

Fast forward to today to the 24th. My symptoms have worsened. I haven't slept properly in a week over fear I won't wake up. My breathing has become so bad I can barely walk up a flight of stairs before clutching at my chest. I don't sleep more than 4-5 hours a night currently and stopped socialising and partaking in any physical activity out of fear and having to sit down. I administered myself into hospital this morning. After my ECG today they found pericarditis immediately and I was sent for extra x rays and ultrasounds. I am now booked in again for regular heart scans that over the next week that will determine the severity of the damage.

The financial strain this has put me under is immense, as I am self employed and have been told I am not eligible for any of the adverse reaction schemes. Overall the hospital staff were great. But the general practice whom also administered my seemed not concerned at all with my symptoms and or complaints.

Keir, 30yrs, F Bathurst, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZgCKyIJFRT/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/key\_sinclair / As a healthy 30 year old women, mum of 3 kids. I was extremely hesitant to get the . I was so hesitant after seeing and hearing all the stories and stood firm I did not want to get it done. However I work for an organisation that is funded by the bit G. I was mandated after being told it was going to be. We were told it was never going to be "forced" but every single day it was spoken about.

Little medical history, I have stage 4 endometriosis. 3 surgeries and half of my reproductive system removed. After reading on the TGA website women stating they had bleeding etc after receiving it, I was even more hesitant. I consulted with my doctor and specialist to get an exemption and was told NO, I should get  $\stackrel{\square}{\text{PQ}}$  as it would less likely cause effects.

Every ! I have received since I was a baby, I've always had adverse reactions. Chicken pox for example. Ended in hospital for 3 weeks with it in my mouth, my eyes you name it. So I was even more hesitant to get it. Still after being told no I was not entitled to an exemption, I rolled up my sleeve and cried the entire time.

The nurse asked me if I was ok, I looked at her and said, how is any of this ok. If I don't get it, I loose my job, if I do get it, I risk my health. If I don't get it my children are stuck to endure lockdown for as long as I don't.

Fast forward to 28th October 2021, I got my first P. I felt awful after getting it. Hot, cold, nausea, headache, vomiting. That was normal apparently. The next day I got really light headed. I can only explain it as if I had vertigo. I couldn't stand upright for long at all.

I was vomiting non stop, severe chest pain and so on. It even got to the point where I asked my husband to stay awake until I fell asleep as I feared I would die in my sleep.

Contacted my doctor and alerted them of what had happened and explained I'm too scared get the second explained I'm too scared get the second was fine and it was normal and encouraged the second.

Fast forward to the second Pe. Of course I was dreading it. I felt pressured, unsupported and forced in lesser words.

November 19th 2021, here came the second . I had to sit for an extra 20 minutes as I was told because I have "anaphylaxis" to peanuts. Not that I reported how bad the first reaction was .

I got it done. Went and got my children and went to town. Within I'd say an hour, I said to my middle child, "Is it hot sweetheart" she relied "not at all". I was dripping in sweat and became extremely light headed again. I ended up going home where I started vomiting again and the vertigo sensation was back. I pushed through the night, shivering in hot and cold sweats.

The next day came around and I could hardly move out of bed. I was extremely lethargic and limp. By this stage I started getting extremely bad chest pain. Thinking about it now it still scares me. I called my local GP. I ended up driving myself there as everyone was at work and school. Within 5 minutes of explaining I got the second the day before, she did the normal observations on me. She got to listening to my heart and said the words "oh" and paused for what felt like a long time. She then asked me to lay down and checked my blood pressure.

Within a minute of seeing it at 150/90 and a heart rate of 150, she called for assistance. She stated that I needed to go to the nurses and lay on the bed immediately so they could hook me up to an ECG machine and they would call the ambulance . She stated my heart was Tachycardia, along with my high blood pressure and she held concern that if It wasn't attended too quickly I'd become ill very quickly.

Silly enough I drove myself to the hospital, I didn't want to pay an ambulance fee so close to Christmas. Upon arriving there were 3 nurses and 2 doctors waiting for me. They rushed me straight in and had me undressed and hooked to observations. My blood pressure was 160/120 at this stage and my heart rate at 160bpm. By this stage the chest pain was so bad they pumped me with medication to give me comfort, along with medication for my blood pressure.

I was hot and cold, sweating, limp and disoriented at this point. I can honestly say, I thought that was it for me. A nurse that was caring for me sat with me while they were waiting for my heart rate and blood pressure to go down. She said a similar thing happened to her and that she was too scared to tell anyone in fear of loosing her job. 6 long hours it took for my Obs to stabilise. 8 days off work on sick leave later.

Today, almost 9 weeks since getting the two (4), I still feel awful. I'm always so tired, I get constant chest pain, especially if I do anything that makes my heart race. I get palpitations constantly. I can't run anymore, I get so out of breathe. I'm a mum of 3

the last thing I wanted was to feel like this. I wish I never got it. I wish I stuck it out and pushed through no matter the pressure I felt. I never want anyone to go through anything like this whether our stories are similar or not. I've never been anti e, but I am never going to be forced into something like this again.

Mikayla, 26yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZeQ8GqJE\_y/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/mikwilliams/

I am 26 years old, living in WA, I am a stay at home mother of three beautiful girls and married to an amazing man.

On the 13th of January 2022, the announcement was made by our WA premier that to be able to enter certain locations or places you will need to be fully ...

to be able to visit my own mother in ICU I must of had at least two of my exprior the 31st Jan. sadly my mother passed away on the 20th of January after fighting terminal lung cancer for 6 months.

On the 14th of January a day after the announcement was made, I decided it was time to give in and get it because not being able to say goodbye to my mother would have ruined me, as it would have done to many others.

As soon as I entered the walk-in clinic in Bunbury I went into a panic attack, the staff did look after me while having this panic attack. I decided the would be the one for me.. boy do I regret that day.

After the em my arm was sore for the day and nothing more and just a little tired

16th of January came, I noticed tingles through out my toes and fingers, just ignored it as I do suffer anxiety so that can be common for me to a degree. 18th of January I woke up over night with a pounding chest, a pain that felt like someone had a hold my heart and was squishing it. I remember having a shower and almost passing out screaming ring an ambulance out to my husband as I thought I was having a heart attack.

ECG was done, heart was actually okay but had a nurse tell me I had pericarditis, take some Nurofen you will be right after a few weeks. So I thought, No worries.

The 20th was the day my mother passed, I noticed my feet were getting tingly but going up my legs and also my arms started tingly, chest pain was the same. The next week was a blur of pain and Hospital trips plus another ambulance trip

But this sums up my hospital visits

- +Cardio-vascular, chest wall pain
- +sprain/strain upper limb, elbow
- +cardio-vascular pericarditis
- +cardio-vascular pericarditis
- + Aches and pains, generalised
- + Aches and pains, generalised

Then come 29th of January this is where it got scary, I started having tonic seizures all up from the 29th-until today 1st of February. I have had 18 seizures and more to come as this becomes a part of my everyday life the doctors told me, It turns out I don't have PERICARDITIS, I actually have FND, (Functional neurological disorder), they are claiming my mothers death is the

cause but If you knew me personally, you know where I would stand and how I feel at peace with my mothers passing and that she is no longer in pain.

I was sent home with sleeping tablets also anti depressants and told to rest up and get the mental health support I need to recover.. this isn't triggered by anxiety I wake up daily in pain and spasms even heart palpitations to be told it's nothing more then FND.. I honestly don't know what the future holds for me and my body. I would also like to add I have had to get an exemption from the next os I'm able to attend my own mother's funeral/wake thanks to the MANDATES. (Which happened today)

Lucy, 36yrs, F Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZeJLxMp6PN/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/lucyjane\_ldn/

I'm a 36 yr. old female and I studied science at uni, I even did a minor in microbiology and I'm 💯 pro 🤐

For the next few weeks, I had no energy or appetite and I could barely leave the house. I also started getting bad headaches and brain fog and these horrible extreme mood swings/intense waves of depression that were really terrifying as I'm quite a chill person. I felt completely out of whack and like something was seriously wrong with me.

The Doctor advised me that they'd seen other people with similar symptoms and assured me that it was most likely a transient inflammatory response, and to try not to worry. Luckily, over the next few weeks, the ringing in my ears calmed down and the weird adrenaline symptoms began to fade. However, around this time I started getting chest pains and my head still felt super foggy, so I decided to go to the doctor again and he finally ordered some blood tests.

That's when I got the fright of my life and was advised that it looked like my ovaries had stopped functioning- they called it 'premature ovarian failure'. All my sex hormones were extremely low and my fsh was high. I was distraught. An emergency gynaecologist appointment was scheduled and to my relief the gynaecologist said everything looked completely normal. She said if I stopped having periods or any other symptoms of menopause, I should come back immediately. Luckily I haven't had to and my most recent hormone tests at 7 months were completely normal again  $\Theta$ 

The gynaecologist told me sometimes when the body is under extreme stress, the reproductive system can temporarily shut down to deal with whatever else is going on. A researcher who studies reproductive immunology also suggested that ACE 2 autoantibodies that can develop from the  $\bigcirc$ , and  $\bigcirc$ , can bind to numerous organs throughout the body which can ultimately suppress that organs function  $\bigcirc$  apparently there are numerous ACE 2 receptors on the ovaries so who knows wtf happened

That whole experience was truly horrible and very stressful. After the gyno fiasco, I still had pretty bad brain fog, chest pain and I was getting slightly dizzy when I had to stand for long periods of time. My parents wanted me back in Australia so I came home. Immediately my Aussie GP referred me to VicSIS where I have been assessed and was given a temporary exemption. An ECG, more bloods and a heart ultrasound were conducted and were normal but I had high levels of IgA and low C3.

Weirdly, my GP discovered that when I stand my heart rate is above 100! Sometimes it has been as high as 160 God knows when that started happening! Apparently now I have POTS (postural othrastatic tachycardia syndrome) but haven't been formally diagnosed. Luckily it seems mild compared to other POTS sufferers but it means I can't exercise normally anymore, until I get better. It's weird because many people with long have also developed POTS, but I've never had ....

I've continued to feel heaps better over the months with small flares occasionally. I'm happy I can now function, laugh, enjoy life and be happy again after what felt like many months of hell.

My heart goes out to everyone who has been severely disabled and is still suffering months in. I still think the ''s are saving lives but obviously there are reactions occurring, which really need to be acknowledged and researched by the scientific and medical community.

Ellie, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZdfUBIpK4J, Contact: https://www.instagram.com/ellliemaree/

In early 2021, my work mandated double As a healthy and fit 18 year-old, with a clear health history, I got the , I thought that I would never be the one to experience an adverse reaction, however I was dreadfully wrong.

On the 31st of March 2021, I received my first 4 days later, on the slate of thinking I was reaction free, the next day I noticed these red pin-point dots of my lower legs (as pictured).

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, I raised my concerns with the pin-point dots with a GP. I was sent home without any answers, and instead swabbed for (negative), because a rash can be a rare symptom.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of April, I noticed a tight throbbing and pulsating feeling of my right calf and precautionary, I went to ED. I had an ultrasound done, but no blood cl0t was found. So I was discharged and told to see a GP if the pain continued.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of April, I suffered a severe headache over three days, causing blurred vision and dizziness. However, after listening to the doctors at my last ED visit, I believed that I wasn't having an adverse reaction to the each and ignored the headaches.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, I started getting a weird painful feeling around my collar bones when breathing. I tried to ignore the pain for a couple days, but it was consistent and uncomfortable. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of May, and still having the chest pain, my body was suddenly overcome with body aches all over. It was about 7pm at night, and the pains started abruptly in an instant from feeling nothing to 100. I was hysterically crying and unable to move. Luckily, I was out in public at the time, where there were first aid on site who cared for me.

I seen a GP on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May who diagnosed me with pneumonia shown by chest X-Ray. I received scripts for antibiotics.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of May, I went to ED again, as I was still in excruciating pain and begun coughing up blood. However, I was discharged with vital signs and an ECG being the only observations conducted. My symptoms were ignored and the doctor had actually mentioned that she hadn't had time to look into my case, but was happy to discharge me home with no pain relief because the pain relief would slow my pneumonia recovery. (After my diagnosis, a Ryan's Rule was called about this).

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, there had been no change. I was coughing blood, couldn't lay down flat without coughing frantically, had a mild headache, chest pain, fever and shortness of breath. I went to a GP again, whom was an amazing GP, and took one glimpse at me and immediately called an ambulance to pick me up. I had Sp02 of 89% and put-on oxygen straight away. The GP wrote a letter to pass onto ED that stated my symptoms and said that further investigation is required. I had a CT scan that revealed three blood clots on one lung and pneumonia. I had an extremely low platelet blood count and my D-Dimer result was high.

I was diagnosed with VITT – Induced Thrombosis and Thrombocytopenia. Thrombosis: blood cl0ts blocking the flow of blood Thrombocytopenia: low blood platelets

Throughout my whole experience with the , I felt ignored and dismissed on multiple occasions. I was told "you're young and healthy" and that "it's unlikely you would be suffering a reaction." It's a shame on the health system that such a serious health condition can be easily missed. I am truly lucky to be here today to tell my story, because there've been many lives lost by VITT. But I have lost my trust in receiving healthcare. I am scared for my future self, that if I ever get sick, my health conditions will be missed, disregarded or misdiagnosed.

Rhiannon, 30yrs, F Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZbC\_A2J8LV/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/rhi.jade10/

I'm a 30 year old relatively healthy female and mother to a 4 year old boy. I am an Enrolled Nurse and about to start studying my bachelor. Over the years, I've suffered migraines and some weight gain for a few years, but never anything dramatic. Appendectomy and some female reproductive issues, but again, nothing major.

I got my first  $\bigcirc$  on the 12th of March 2021. I had just worked my first shift (nurse) administering  $\bigcirc$  to hospital staff for 10 hours and there was a spare dose. I was all for it. I had it and didn't feel a thing. I already had a headache from working, my mum was a patient in the same hospital and of course I was tired. No arm pain, literally nothing. I briefly wondered if it was saline but pushed that aside with a laugh.

9th of April 2021, I went in for my second Pe. Again, no issues, not even a sore arm. It was only a few days later that I started getting palpitations. I've had them prior and thought it was just anxiety.

I spent the next few months working and still administering P and A to all that could have it. I was all for it. I had no issues, the side effects were so minimal for so many people.

Most people that I gave second ws to said they were fine, some felt pretty average for a week or so. But I hadn't heard of any rare reactions (I've given over 2000 stalone)



My friend (GP clinic nurse) had a spare (December 18th) and I knew I'd have to have it, but was trying to push it out, closer to winter, for extra protection. I ended up having it (3rd (2rd)) and was initially fine.

I woke up the next more to horrible left arm pain, except it wasn't where I'd had the , it was in my armpit. My lymph nodes had swelled right up. My upper chest was in so much pain and I couldn't lift my arm. I struggled through the Sunday, trying to be there for my son but I just felt like crap. Monday came and I went to see my GP. She wasn't on and I saw another female Doctor. She gave me some anti inflammatory medications and we kept an eye on my lymph nodes for a few days.

Over those few days, the chest pain became unbelievably painful, I had right sided abdominal pain and issues with going to the toilet so I went to hospital. Even with chest pain, it was over a 6 hour wait. My ECG was clear and I decided to head home. The pain continued, I went to the hospital again around a week later. This time I stayed

I was in for over 8 hours and had pain relief, chest X-ray and plenty of blood tests.

Everything was clear. Which was technically a good sign because I didn't want there to be any issues with my heart, but I did want an answer.

My GP had me on Endone daily, I was scheduled for a gastroscopy and colonoscopy. During all of this, I established an abscesses in my groin and needed a 2 day hospital admission for surgery and procedures were all taken into consideration. I needed my test to come back before theatre.

(An abscess in my groin got more attention in hospital that the constant chest pain I was having)

Since that surgery in the beginning of January, I have had chest pain non stop all day, every day. I have tried limiting the Endone intake because I know what side effects that can have.

I ended up in hospital last week again. (Each trip is usually by ambo and having morphine or fentanyl to help settle the pain) this time nearly every test was done. I have been told that it's reflux. Given meds to relieve any possible pain which it never does. The pain in my stomach or throat. Nexium and other drugs in that category, do nothing. I feel no relief at all.

A gastroenterologist told me that's its my gut, intestinal colic. I need to see a psych, sort out my mental health and then see another psych that works with the stomach. (Basically I'm now crazy)

I've been 3 times, just this week. They don't believe it has anything to do with ...

I'm now looked at as a drug addict and completely crazy at one particular hospital. I can no longer get care there (my choice, I don't want the judgement) I got laughed at, snickered at right in front of me and basically told that there is no way the could possibly of done this.

It's now Jan 30th, I still have major chest pain every single day. I sit at around a 7/10 pain in general and then it goes up when it flares up. I didn't think the pain could have been related to the until another nurse suggested it to me. Now it's all I think about. I have resigned from my GP clinic, and start study in less than a month.

This chest pain is with me every single day. Not once has it been suggested that I see a cardiologist. I read the stories on here and I nearly cry. I hate that I pushed so hard for people to be of for my own freedom. I hate that I even gave the to so many people. The stories are definitely opening my eyes and my fellow nursing friends eyes. But we have no pull in our community. We are baby nurses who know nothing.

I am so sorry to everyone who has gone through so much since this whole saga began and I wish I could have seen the future to prevent this or even just not take jobs that entail this.

Brooke, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZaucnUpwez/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/brookereynolds/

I was an active healthy mum of 3 young girls, I am not against or for the . I Just had my concerns and didn't want to get it yet. I am a support worker. As you are aware I need to have your to keep my job, I supported my client and we went together to get our on the 6th September 2021.

I had the normal symptoms, headache, fever. I recovered, my client also recovered.

We went again for our 2nd on 07 October 2021. 1 week passed and I was still suffering with pain at the site, numb arm, shoulder pain, loss of movement in the arm, pins and needles, the worst is the burning sensation, my arm is slightly swollen and red, visible to they eye where the burning is, a couple cm right of the site.

3 weeks later the symptoms were getting worse, I couldn't lift my arm past my shoulder, increased sensitivity to my left arm, heat, cold ,touch, triggered by stress or anything. I booked a GP appointment, he did not entertain the idea it was the use ijust ignored any suggestion or questions I had about it. He thinks I have injured my shoulder even though I assured him nothing has changed.

The way I was treated was the beginning of a never ending cycle of getting no answers.

I was sent for an ultrasound revealing bursitis and inflammation at the shoulder joint on the arm.

I was prescribed anti-inflammatory and pain relief at my next GP check up. This pain never got better it in fact got worse, I could not sleep, I could not eat, I was tormented everyday with a burning flare up on my arm and as mentioned before the pins and needles, numbness, weakness.

I admitted my self to hospital on 25th November by UBER as I was in no state to drive, with extreme burning sensation, it just got worse and worse, the pain so crippling I couldn't keep my eyes open, just trying to control my self as my arm felt like it was on fire. I arrive at my ED department desperate for pain relief, any relief from the burning. The doctors and nurses were so confused and conflicted with my symptoms, my bloods normal, everything showing normal results apart from my pain. No medication provided relief, at any opportunity when I was strong enough to keep my eyes open to have a conversation, I questioned the having anything to do with it and I got no answers, they just don't know they would say.

I was admitted 2 nights in an elderly rehabilitation ward, the nurses even commented they had never seen a birthday so young on this ward. Long story short I was drugged up for this period with no answers or relief, I just slept and cried through the pain and the drugs blurred my days into nights.

I was discharged with buprenorphine, duloxetine, tapentonal to manage the pain. I was seen by doctors twice in the 2 night stay and each time they were as confused as each other as to what has happened to me. The only explanation is Complex regional pain syndrome, Complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS) is a **form of chronic pain** that usually affects an arm or a leg. CRPS typically develops after an injury, a surgery, a stroke or a heart attack. The pain is out of proportion to the severity of the initial injury. As they freed me from all my questions it only left more unanswered.

What now? I say and they replied with 'There nothing left we can do, you need to see a specialist, get a nerve conduction test & MRI'

I went for my MRI, it showed a slight inflamed B3 B4 in my neck, when I questioned the element was told it's nothing to do with that and could be 'wear and tear'. This gave no answers. I finally received my nerve conduction test appointment for 2 months time.

Not only am I left with drugs that I can't function or work on, I am left with no reassurance my life will be back to normal, that me and my family are now suffering due to an adverse reaction from a elidion't want and now I'm paying for it. I have received no sympathy, empathy or felt justified that I am suffering. I am now bitter sad and full of questions 'why me'

5 months later I am still In pain everyday, some days are better than others but It's unpredictable. There needs to be more support and simple understanding, compensation, more studies that this is not okay for anybody to go through. My life has changed and I don't know if il ever get it back.

Fiona, 31yrs, F Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZamrTlv28N/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/fi\_joy\_berry/

I'm 31 years old, I was a perfectly healthy, physically active person with my line of work, and also regular exercise. I got my first on Monday 11 October 2021, I did not want to get it, due to a history with reactions to childhood ::

I had a sore arm and headache pretty soon after, but that's a fairly normal reaction for me.

On Friday that same week at about 5pm, I was on my way over to my boyfriend's place when I started to get mild pain in the left side of my chest, it was mild so I just tried to ignore it.

When I arrived I greeted my boyfriend, grabbed a can of cider, opened it, sat down, then started to feel a massive wave of brain fog, I was struggling to see straight and felt like I was loosing control of my body. I stood back up, took 2 steps forward, then collapsed, I was going in and out of consciousness, I was trying to talk but I was either slurring my words or couldn't open my mouth. At this point my boyfriend called an ambulance.

When they arrived they did an ECG, they briefly said something about my heart skipping a beat. There was no more mention of this after they noticed the opened can of cider on the table, after that they told my partner it was probably alcohol poisoning... again there was 1 open can that had not been touched and I was not vomiting.

At hospital, they treated me like I was the scum of the earth, they did a few tests, they said everything was fine and sent me on my way. Follow ups with the doctor also showed nothing except a report on my record saying I had alcohol poisoning.....but nothing to do with my heart.

I had the second ( on 11 November 2021. I didn't notice anything out of the ordinary, so it was just life as usual until early December I developed a blistering rash between my breasts, initially I believed it was a heat rash but no matter what I did, nothing helped, the doctor gave me anti-fungal cream for it but again it didn't help.

December 27 I started getting bad period pains so bad it bought me to tears, then out of nowhere I passed a massive clot as well as 2 months worth of blood in less than a minute, about an hour later it happened again, I went straight to the hospital, they did a few blood tests and I was told it was just a bad period.

I went to the doctor a week later for a follow up. I was sent to get more blood tests and told to book in for an ultrasound. Now, between the doctors appointment and the ultrasound, I take yet another trip to the hospital.

This time it was for chest pains and shortness of breath, I had had a mild episode of this a couple of nights in a row but because of how they treated me the last time I had chest pains I ignored it but this time I had them during the day and it was worse than

previously, I was getting pain all down my left arm, shoulder, ribs and chest. Initially (yet again) they said my heart was skipping a beat but after a bunch of tests, I told them about all the other issues and was told it was all just a coincidence and that I apparently was only having muscle cramps in my chest and was sent on my way.

I decide to just focus on the bleeding for the moment finally get this ultrasound and it showed cysts on my ovaries and a small mass in my uterus which is ongoing, I've never had anything like this in my life before.

After speaking with my sister she has experienced the same type of bleeding.

My current status is:

- \*Headaches most days
- \*Brain fog a lot of the time
- \*Bleeding most of the time
- \*Occasional chest pain
- \*Rash between breasts still there
- \*Tired all the time
- \*Wild mood swings and deep depression.

Faith, 16yrs, F Launceston, TAS



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZXo8yVh1vq/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/stand\_with\_faith/

My name Is Faith, I'm 16, soon to be 17, A lot of you have probably already heard about me through Gerard Rennick and later on through channel 7 news, I was one of the first publicised victims of the for adverse reactions which happened 6 months ago.

Before all of this I was attending school, working a part time job, learning to drive, I was very successful in most things I participated in. I was a healthy, physically fit and mentally stable happy girl. I hadn't heard of any adverse reactions and as my job was in a pharmacy and with everything I heard about , I thought it was a good idea to get the . After all, the Tasmanian government was very persistent about how safe and effective it was. I was one of the first in my age group to get the in Launceston. I wish that I did more research.

I got my first  $\bigcirc$  on the 24th of July , I had the usual itchy arm, other than that, everything was fine. I got the second  $\bigcirc$  on the 7th of August. I didn't feel anything other than a sore arm for the first 24 hours but 3 days after the  $\bigcirc$  I woke up to a 9.5 out of 10, stabbing pain under my rib cage that made me feel nauseous and wanting to vomit. As the day went on I went to my GP and the doctor had his suspicions that it was my appendix and that I needed to go straight to the hospital.

When I arrived at the hospital, it was around 6-7 hours waiting around, they ran bloods, ultra sound and X-ray and put me on a drip in the waiting room, which I have since found out is illegal. After all of that they pumped me full of a pain killers, told me I had a stomach bug and I'm fine to go home. I was home for 24 hours, the pain killers were pretty good but I was still not feeling great at all so my mum took me back up to the hospital. When we arrived we mentioned I was there the night before and

explained the situation. One of the surgeons came and had a look at me. They acknowledged something wasn't right and after waiting around another 6 hours they came and told me that my vitamin D was low and they put me on a drip for vit D and admitted me to the kids ward in Launceston General Hospital. They said that they would go in and do a precautionary laparoscopic surgery on my appendix to look for any abnormalities.

I waited all the next day for the surgery and they made me fast for 24 hours without water. That night I went into surgery. I woke an hour after Surgery in a great deal of pain to find that they decided to take my appendix and they put me back in the kids ward to sleep until the next day.

The next morning they came in, they said the surgery was successful and everything was Great and because of \*\* they were able to release me early.

I went home and for the next 2 weeks I was resting a lot, still experiencing the same sharp stabbing pains under my ribcage with no change, without appetite, not sleeping very well and because I'd just come out of surgery, I just thought I was recovering from that.

After the 2 weeks I went back to my GP for a post surgery check up. He was still concerned about what I was feeling so he sent me back up to the ED, On arrival, the doctor was concerned I was suffering from porphyria so we got the haematologist involved but everything came back clear. They tested me for lupus, mast cell disorder, thyroid, everything you can think of but everything came back fine. It was then that they told me that there was also nothing wrong with my appendix according to the report. It said there was no appendicitis. They just said they took it because "we don't really need it". My mum mentioned the of or the 1st time and the surgeon laughed and told me not to be so silly. They didn't know what to do so they gave me pain killers and sent me home.

The next day I wasn't well at all, Mum rang telly health and went through everything that had happened, they told us to go us straight back to the hospital. On arrival, they gave me pain relief and tablets for nausea, they had someone from gyno and paediatrics come down. I was then admitted for 2 nights and they treated me for the pain and nausea so I could at least get a bit of rest, they eventually said I could be having this at home, so they sent me home.

For the next week I was still in lots of pain taking pills, trying to stay hydrated and rest as much as possible but the pain wouldn't subside. We went back to the GP and he brought up that he was worried she had a mast cell disorder, he then referred me to a professor in immunology and a paediatrician.

When we saw the professor in immunology my mum asked him if this was from the earn the said yes it is, This is but in writing didn't say it was the earn, instead he wrote it was a post viral symptom which is not what he told us in conversation. We put in an official complaint to the hospital as did senator Rennick. The professor rewrote the letter and corrected the report to say that this was a delayed adverse reaction to the

A week after that my pain was getting to the point it was no longer manageable, so I went back to the hospital again... I was there for about 4.5 hours until they sent down a registrar from the paediatrics,

I was admitted straight away to the kids ward, and they gave me medication to sleep. 2 am that night I awoke to what was the first time I experienced my first tic.

The nurse informed my mum to get her camera out and start filming this, she said we needed This footage. The registrar was called in and to the look of horror on her face, she said she had never seen anything like this, she was crying saying that she doesn't know what to do. Meanwhile I was still having a violent tic episode. The doctor decided to give me some Valium and it helped with the tic, it slowed down but not completely and lasted for about 2 hours, finally I just passed out from exhaustion.

The next day I woke up and I felt like I'd just finished a 10k marathon, and that's when the day time tics started. My medication was changed and they kept me in hospital for the next 3 days, they then sent me home without anything but medication and still with the tics happening. They didn't seem to concerned about the tic at all. to this day the tics have not stopped, they have gotten worse happening every night and lasting up to 4 hours an episode and are extremely painful. It's a 10 out of 10 muscle like pain, It's like my muscles are pulling and spasming all over my body, convulsion like, I can't control it and the more I try, the more it hurts, so I just have to let myself go.

Early December I ended up back at hospital again because things were getting worse, the triage nurse said, "I was very lucky I didn't get because it could've been worse and killed me". I waited 4 hours with my mum and asked for Panadol but they wouldn't even give me that. We were then ushered into a small room with a dentist like chair in it. There was a senior paediatrician and 2 registrars and one of them knew faiths ordeal. He asked a number of times where our car was for some

unknown reason and then said continuously pointing his finger at my mum "Be very firm with Faith" "This has all been caused by too much screen time". At that point my mum had a gut full and we did not accept that as final and left in disgust!

Flash forward to three weeks ago, I had really bad pain and nausea and I was told I had to return to the hospital again, I was told I need fluids, I didn't want to go but I did, again they ran some more bloods. The doctor couldn't figure out what was going on and said she couldn't give me a drip and told me they're not going to give me any pain killers either. The treating doctor had an emergency so she left. When she came back, she took me to a room in the back corner of the hospital and did acupuncture on me in the ED! She was patronising, telling me to breathe through the pain and I'm just going to have to live with it while I'm literally crying in pain. In the end, they just sent us home, I hadn't even had a drink of water in 3 days as I hadn't been able to keep anything down, I would just vomit anytime I tried. I had to force myself to get rehydrated with icy poles as it was all I could manage.

Since then I haven't been back to hospital and I don't want to.

At the end of October there was a referral made to the Melbourne children hospital for the adolescent clinic and I was put on a waiting list, they accepted the referral. Fast forward we went back to the gp to update the referral because my condition is deteriorating at a faster pace, if you imagine the snowball effect. It's getting harder and harder every week. On the 28th of January 2022 I found out I was rejected on the grounds that I'm out of the region which hasn't been an issue before. We aren't sure if that is because of code brown but the GP and paediatrician have been making referrals for the last 15 years with no problem. Now we are looking for somewhere else to help me.

Currently I can't use glass cups and mugs anymore because of random tics, just in case I accidentally throw one and smash it, I can't learn to drive anymore, I can't work but they said I can return when I'm better, I can't follow my career, I haven't been to school in 6 months! I have extreme light and noise sensitivity on and off. I take an average of 20 pills a day plus drinking medicine, memory loss, concentration difficulty and the latest is my legs collapsing on me out of nowhere and then having to be carried.

Ingi, 53yrs, F Sunshine Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZRVCGoJ24R/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/ingidoyle/

This story was written in the first week of October 2021 and has been published widely on the internet but it was originally written not to draw the attention of the Social Media fact checkers, hence it doesn't focus on the correlation to the ...

However it was clear then and is even clearer now that this absolutely was caused by the ...

"Covered up with long sleeved, loose clothing. My skin-on-bone body does not feel real in my head. But every so often, I catch an unwanted glimpse of myself in the mirror and cry. Losing 12-14 kg of myself suddenly, is not pretty.

After a lovely ski holiday in July, I was waiting for my luggage to arrive, when I suddenly felt a sharp pain in my lower abdomen and lower back. During the hour-long drive home, it got a lot worse. Being Sunday evening, I thought I'll sleep it off till the morning. However, it was getting bad near midnight, so off to emergency we went. By now, we both thought I must have appendicitis... oh, how I wish it was!

This was during lockdown, so Scott was not allowed to come in with me. I was quickly attended to and assessed. Sent off for a scan, then to be greeted by a team of foreign faces of doctors who introduced themselves and in the next breath told me I had a dissected Aorta. At this moment, I started to feel very scared. I did not in my state of pain, understand fully what they were trying to explain to me. I asked if Scott could please join me, but I was denied anyone to come to support me. I vaguely remember calling him and trying to explain the situation, but I did a bad job, and he was starting to freak out. A dissected Aorta sound to me like a death sentence. I was again sent off for a different scan, so they could pick up more details. It was confirmed, a dissected Aorta from below the renal arteries, down to the iliac branch. The one thing I remember most was that I was told, I was not going home anytime soon. Before daylight hours, I had various medical teams popping in, talking what felt like a foreign language to me. It was all a blur.

Later that morning, I was sent to a ward. Little did I know that this was now, going to be my place of residence, for most of the next 2 months. During my first 24 hours, I think I had every scan and blood test possible, under the sun. I was in and out of my room like a yoyo. They were looking for a cause and signs of disease. The urgency of it all compounding my anxiety. Compounded further by still being unable to have any visitor support. This was a scary time, as the seriousness of what had struck me, set in. I was started on BP, Stroke, cholesterol, blood thinning, painkillers, and nausea medications. I had within 48 hours seen so many different medical teams, I had lost count of who was who. I learnt that there was no obvious reason why this had happened to me, and I had them all puzzled how someone at my age, so fit and healthy, living a fitness and health-based lifestyle, would be struck by this. I also learnt that they found a condition called FMD (Fibro Muscular Dysplasia), in my posterior neck arteries. This is a condition I had never heard of but apparently it is likely I have had it all my life. They found a small dissection on my left side, but I was told it was unrelated as it looked all healed over and old. Of course, they looked high and low for other signs of FMD in all the common places but found none.

One night before lockdown ended, I broke down and cried. The lovely nurse who was looking after me, organised an exemption for Scott to visit that evening. Finally, I felt I had my team with me. Someone to help absorb the incoming information, and to pass it on to my family and friends on the outside. Someone who loves me and asked all the questions I could not think of. Over the weekend, I had my amazing children visiting me as well, as lockdown was over. After an additional few nights on the ward, I was sent home to manage my new condition with medication as well as strict instructions not to elevate my HR or BP. Was this my new life now?

Two weeks at home adjusting to a very slow way of living. The thoughts running through my head were "only until follow up scan", "it's not forever", "I will be back doing the things I love". I was staying as positive as I possibly could. Very short walks each day kept me sane. I felt positive walking to the hospital for my follow up scan. However, once back home, I got a phone call asking me to come straight back to emergency .... I was devastated...

This time I was sent to ICU. Again, the various teams of doctors where rotating fast, explaining that I had a hematoma developed above my dissection, getting very close to the renal arteries. Not a good result. They were getting ready for surgery. I was about to get a new piece of Aorta with new arteries to kidneys. A massive graft. This was on a Wednesday afternoon. I spent the weekend there, being closely monitored. Monday, it was show time!! For me, Monday was non-existent. Not for my poor family. They endured 12 hours of waiting before hearing any news. It was a huge surgery, that left me with a nasty scar and a pressure sore on my backside. After the 12 hours, I was kept asleep for another 6 or so hours. I had been warned about waking with a breathing tube but was told I wouldn't remember it. They were wrong! I woke hearing voices; I felt the tube but was able to breath myself with it. It seemed to be forever when they were pulling at it, while I was awake trying to breath around it. It was a horrible experience. After seemingly an eternity, they finally started to get it out. I remember gagging and coughing, and after that I don't remember much.

The next week can only be described as a living hell. I have vivid memories of being in ICU. Feeling sick all the time. Not eating, as I was hooked to tubes of food. My Kidneys, bowel and liver had stopped working as during surgery the blood supply was cut for some time. The risk of living without kidney function and/or bowel function forever was an ever-present terrifying reality. The heavy drugs I was given made me hallucinate badly. I was hearing voices, seeing things, thoughts of conspiracy against me, freaking out at nights. I lost time and days.

One experience has stuck with me. This was when they were putting in an epidural for pain relief. I had a moment of clarity before they began, as I was on this constantly moving air bed. It was set to move to reduce pressure sores. I recall shouting out to the nurse to switch the bed off. The last thing I wanted during this delicate procedure around my spinal cord, was the bed to start moving.

The procedure took a very long time. I was in a lot of pain and the little tube, got stuck and wouldn't go in properly. They had about 6 inches to feed into my spine I was told. I remember shaking badly and was continuously told to stay still. Then, in the middle of it all, the bed started to move! I have always been very appreciative and respectful to all staff who has cared for me, and I would never dream of being rude. But I lost it! I am not proud of it, but I swore and cursed at the person trying to help me. I guess pain and anxiety got to me.

Every day my beautiful children and Scott were by my side as much as they were allowed to be. Those moments were the highlights! I also had some incredible nurses caring for me around the clock. There were many moments when I thought, I was not going to make it through this. Several times I just felt like I just couldn't go on and asking the doctors if I was going to die was commonplace in my new hell. I was being rolled from side to side to stay off my pressure sore. I was being washed in the bed. I was fed by a tube. All dignity gone. My kidneys were hooked up to dialysis. I was trying different drugs for pain to get away from hallucinations.

At the end of my ICU stay I was allowed to drink and eat liquids. This proved to be a real struggle. My stomach would not accept much. I spent a lot of time bringing back up what I worked so hard at getting down. I also had the misfortune of experiencing two vasovagal attacks, fainting, and leaving me unconscious for a short while. After successfully getting on the walking frame with the physios and moving slowly up the corridor it was decided I was ready to go to a ward. Goodbye ICU, 2 weeks there, was plenty enough!

The surgery had been a success. My failing kidneys were nursed back slowly with regular dialysis. My liver function improved. Continuous blood tests and reassuring scans over the next week made me feel positive. Flowers and visitors cheered me up. I was allowed to eat anything now, but this was my main struggle. I just couldn't eat or drink much at all. My weight had now started to plummet, and I was feeling weak rather than sore. The nutritionist team, that is still supporting me, kept a close eye on me. Short walks up and down the corridor, plus trying to get as much food into me as possible, became my daily routine.

The one thing I couldn't shake was the constant nausea and an oversized belly. My abdomen was huge, pushed out like a tight drum skin ready to pop. I looked like I was 9 months pregnant. The renal team kept trying to get fluid off me, but all it did at the end was dehydrate me without moving the fluid off my belly. 14 litres had been removed from me, but my belly persisted and wouldn't budge.

After 8 nights, I was deemed well enough to go home. I still couldn't eat very much, and the constant nausea was still there. Also, a crippling neck pain had developed after they removed the final central line coming out of my neck. It was replaced with a Permacath, that was put in for dialysis use only.

Once home, I had to continue dialysis as an outpatient. 3 times over the next week, 5 hrs each visit.

At my first follow up, my neck was really playing up. I had the doctors concerned. So much that I was called into to emergency that same night for an emergency scan. This was a rather scary experience. Imagine a VIP getting the royal treatment. But the treatment is a rushed entry to ED.

My arrival was expected, I did not have to wait even for one minute. All my details were on their screens ready to go. Within minutes, I was hooked up to machines, blood taken and rushed into the CT scan. As my kidneys were only just starting back, I had to sign a special permission slip to be able to have the dye. They weighed up the risks and benefits and deemed it worthwhile. This gave us both a big fright, as the last thing we could cope with right now, was another setback. In true VIP style, the results were interpreted very quickly, and I was declared safe and stable. No further issues at all! I think both Scott and I had held our breaths throughout that whole ordeal.

Over the next few days at home, my belly did not get any smaller, and the renal team was getting more and more concerned. The great part was that my kidneys had kicked in more and more and the decision to stop the dialysis for a week as a trial, was made. Try for a moment and understand the anxiety of waiting for weeks to see if you're going to spend the rest of your life living on dialysis. What a relief. After only a few days off dialysis, a young doctor decided to investigate my belly further. More scans and x rays. I was off to see the liver specialist next. It was decided that my belly was full of fluid caused by a leak from my lymphatic system. I was called back into hospital for another v@c@tion....

This time, they put a drain in my waistline, guided by ultrasound. After six hours, 3 full bags of Chyle, had poured out of me. 6 litres, just from my belly. I can't describe how amazing it felt to lose all that pressure on my organs, ribcage, and spine. I felt like I was melting away. I learnt that Chyle is made in the lymphatic system every time you eat fat, and its purpose is to move the fat away. As it turns out, my lymphatic system was damaged during surgery, and a small leak had caused my belly to fill up. Each time I ate something with fat in it, it would leak into my belly. The best cure for this, is to be on a no-fat-diet, to allow the



leak to heal naturally. I was again getting advice from the nutritionists. By now, my weight was 53-54 kg. I had lost so much weight. A no-fat-diet just seemed absurd as I already looked and felt completely anorexic.

After 4 more nights on the ward, I was again sent home with strict diet instructions and follow up appointments booked. Ha, sticking to this diet was incredibly difficult. The good part here was that my nausea finally subsided. The neck pain still made my head fuzzy and kept me up at night.

The following week I had a follow up appointment with the liver specialist. It was decided I start reintroducing fats in my diet, while keeping a close eye on my belly. This is where I am now, as I write this. It all seems ok. I feel like I have turned a corner and finally have a little more energy. I have started to do some short walks around our lake. I have even been out of the house for a couple of short trips. I still have a very long way to go. Each day, as the day progresses, I get tired, and my stomach is bloated and unsettled. It kind of resets itself each night, as I feel better when I wake up. I do wake up a few times each night. Sometimes all sweaty, sometimes just restless. As my haemoglobin is low, I need to inject myself once a week to boost it. This is a job for Scott, as there is no way I could do that myself. It is only for a few weeks, until things go back to normal.

Overall, I am progressing in the right direction. We are hoping for smooth sailing from here. Eight weeks after surgery this week. I do have some follow ups coming up within the next two weeks and I am having ongoing treatments for my neck, which is improving each time. My now, very thin body is all about getting more energy on-board so I can start rebuilding. Today, as I walked around the lake, I listened to my running music. It was emotional and uplifting at the same time. As I glance at my shadow and see this stick like silhouette, I tear up. But I am determined, no matter how long it takes, to get back to being me."

## Some Notes:

- Ingi received the Pe
- 14 days prior to the dissection occurring Ingi received the second Pe
- 2 days after the 2nd she had a sore arm and developed significant fluid retention swelling under her arm after the second (aka Boob) this was imaged by ultrasound via a GP. This lasted until about the 7th day post 2nd ...
- 7th to 14th day after 2nd She continued to have headaches and tiredness and loss of appetite and a significant drop in aerobic ability suffering from extreme exhaustion after basic aerobic activity.
- She has undergone a 12 hour open abdominal surgery to have a prosthetic graft inserted from her renal arteries down to and including both of the common iliac.
- Reported to TGA by SCUH head vascular surgeon as harm in early November 2021.

Since Ingi's open letter above which specifically left out our concerns about due to c3n50rsh!p concerns, there has been a lot more happen in the wider acceptance of harm, research of harm and understanding of the processes involved that means that endothelia damage can be caused in otherwise healthy people by . Most importantly, we have had close contact with a well know Professor and creator of . He currently has Ingi's Biopsies and will be running them through the mass spectrometer in early February and it is expected that he will be able to locate the generated sp1ke proteins "the smoking gun". He has explained the process that has occurred in Ingi and others in technical terms as being that these therapy are transfecting the endothelium (courtesy of the liposomes) that then expresses sp1ke protein and causes an immune attack thereby causing endothelial dysfunction and in addition the secreted sp1ke protein which may also be binding ACE2 on the vessel wall further exacerbating the problem. In the presence of high blood pressures induced by exercise this vessel wall inflammation causes points of weakness that trigger the initial rupture and dissection.

We have had dozens of emails with the Professor and they unremarkably show the very real challenge and mental anguish we were put through in trying to get heard by a then very uneducated medical profession. By 'uneducated' I mean that remarkably, straight after surgery when we were still trying to find an explanation for Ingi's Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection (SCAD) we raised a list of questions only one of which related to the which was quickly quashed by the head surgeon who told us that the couldn't be a factor because the stays in the muscle of the arm, and all of the proteins are gone within 3 days, which we now know is absolutely incorrect because this is not a tradition and the liposomes carry the therapy all over the body and the body continues to make the sp1ke proteins in part. So their lack of knowledge of the new was instrumental in a huge amount of our anguish.

Ingi still to today battles with exhaustion after attempting basic exercise, she has blood pressure issues for which is medicated and may have to be for life and her renal function has plateaued at around 25%. She is still unable to work and if often feeling depressed and sad. All of this alongside the legal battles that are just beginning.

Many thanks for your time and dedication to sharing our stories.

Ingi Doyle

Kat, 23yrs, F Adelaide, SA



Source: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CZQrfM\_hAvP/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CZQrfM\_hAvP/</a>/
Contact: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/kat.sidlo/">https://www.instagram.com/kat.sidlo/</a>

**P**#1: FK6268

I'm a 23yr old who works in early childhood education, I've always been into health and fitness and never had any health problems. I never wanted the . I did too much research to the point where I freaked myself out. When I found out it was mandatory to keep my job, I booked all my annual leave off in hopes that something would reserve. Of course, that didn't happen and I caved in.

12/12/21 At the clinic I was crying my eyes out and tried backing out multiple times. The nurse took me to a separate room and while I looked away she said 'ok you're going to count to 3'. I still wasn't sure about it therefore I didn't count. Next thing I knew it was in my arm. 'F\*\*ksakes!' Was all I said.

The first couple hours I was fine and in fact I celebrated this by spending the rest of my day as normal and going shopping. Then it crept up on me, I needed to instantly go home. I felt really nauseous and my arm was ridiculously sore. I spent the rest of the day in bed with an ice pack and Panadol.

The next morning I woke up at 5am with what felt like 'an explosion' in my arm. I got up and had an intense feeling where I felt like vomiting and broke out in a full body sweat. I started getting really dizzy and my vision was fading. I quickly called my brother and said quick come over I'm passing out! I dropped to the kitchen floor and literally poured a whole bottle of water over myself to snap out of it. I was so close to calling an ambulance but after a few minutes I was ok again. After that I literally stayed in bed for a week. My entire body was aching, all my joints hurt and my arm wasn't getting any better.

Once the week passed, I still noticed that I wasn't my 'normal self'. Exercising and the gym became tough as I got dizzy quite quickly. My arm was STILL sore and I just felt weak.

Fast forward another 2 weeks, I had returned to work and out of nowhere, I had a sharp intense pain in the left side of my chest. I'm usually good with pain, but this was something I had never felt before. I felt like I had literally been stabbed. I was screaming in pain and had to stop everything I was doing, this was on and off for about 10 minutes. It was about an 8/10.

I was ready to go to the hospital but didn't want to leave work as it was my first week back. When I spoke to others about it, they convinced me that maybe it's just a muscle or even anxiety.. (I've had both of these things and I know it wasn't that) but I convinced myself that I'm just overreacting and I let it slide.

It came to Saturday night and the chest pain happened again while I was laying in bed. I also noticed some heart fluttering. This time I also had a 'shock' feeling throughout my left arm and fingers so I thought I would sleep it off and told myself if it happened again I need to take it seriously. The following Sunday morning at 5am I woke up to the chest pain being so intense. My entire left arm was sore but numb. I rushed myself to the emergency department.

A range of questions were about \*\* and the \*\*. They did an ECG, blood test and an x-ray and told me that everything came back normal. They said the only thing they can think of is if I've got 'inflammation around the heart' which can only be detected

through a CT scan, however they didn't want to perform one on me straight away as I'm 'young and there are risks with a CT scan'. They said if it happens again to come back and get the scan. So they sent me home.

The chest pain occurred every single day after it for about a minute at a time. The shock and tingling feeling in my left arm had become consistent and hasn't gone away. So then I booked in with my doctor. I gave him a summary of what's been happening and he said that these are common issues with and It's ticking all the boxes except with the fact that I'm 'not male'. He then had a listen to my chest with a stethoscope and he listened for a while. He then said "What's with the heart murmur?" I was like ".. what?" - I thought he was joking. I then remembered that I was born with a hole in my heart which I had always been told that it corrected itself. I wasn't sure if this was it. He made me listen to my heart beat compared to his. Instead of the beat being steady, it was more a 'boom, chh, boom, chh". He immediately started typing a number of referrals and stated that they are 'urgent'. Without exactly saying it, he believed that the is linked with this problem.

I went to a clinic to get a CT scan and even the lady behind the desk was so upset. She said that she has seen lots of people come in for scans ever since the and that it's not fair. She later approached me and apologised saying that she wasn't meaning to scare me but she's just upset that it's all come to this. I thanked her for being honest. I've been booked in with a heart specialist and will find my results in about 2 weeks.

#ItsNotWeakToSpeak

Scott, 30yrs, M Toowoomba, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZQdYQzhNOp/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/open\_your\_minddd/

Fit healthy 30 year old male. Never had any health issues. Loved life before this happened

On the 10th of august 2021, I got my first ( My job made it mandatory. Within an hour I had sharp chest pain so I took myself to the emergency department of the hospital I work at. Had my bloods and an ECG taken, both came back fine, my blood pressure was 168/100. They gave me Panadol and nurofen and sent me home.

3 days later I still had sharp chest pain and high blood pressure so I went to my gp. When he saw my blood pressure, he told me to go straight back to emergency department. I Had more bloods, ECG and chest X-ray. This time all came back fine again was sent home again still In insane pain.

I was absolutely miserable and couldn't do anything for the next 3 months I saw a public and private cardiac specialist whom both wouldn't warrant a cardiac MRI, I had kidney check, liver check and another 10 bloods tests all come back fine. The Doctor started me on blood pressure tablets which I'm now off and colchicine which I've been taking for 2 and half months now. I've given up on seeing so called health professionals. I had to get my second 30th October still having sharp chest pains. The cardiac specialist said it'll be fine and if I didn't get it I would lose my job so I got it and only had normal symptoms from it didn't make my chest pain worse.

I kept taking the colchicine. We are now at the 2 and half month mark of that and the 5 1/2 month mark from when it all started. I still have chest pain it is a lot more manageable but still gets worse at work. I'm an electrician. I can't exercise which I used to love to do. I have really bad days mentally now and it has changed my life so drastically. So now I'm just stuck with this lingering chest pain that I can't get help for.

I'm Really stressed about my work place making it mandatory for a 3rd now.

Hopefully another 6 months a full year of this and I might have no pain at all...Can only hope.

These health professionals really need to educate themselves on the situation.

Katrina, 29yrs, F Ulladulla, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZQK97ssVak/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/katrina.a.bennett/

I'm 29 years old, a wife, mother of three children and business owner.

My husband and I were unsure if we wanted to receive the as we feel we are both young, healthy and it just didn't sit right with us

We spoke with our GP about it and after that decided that it would be best that we did have the as we have a son who has scar tissue on his lungs from a near death experience with pneumonia and a collapsed lung. The GP stated that if he was to get it could go very bad. We would do anything to protect him after what we had seen him go through. So that's where this s\*\*t fight begins.

1st Pe mid September 2021

I was quite nervous about it but we got it done.

Within 15 minutes I felt dizzy and my chest felt tight. I figured I was having some anxiety (anxiety sufferer) and ignored it. We got home and the tightness in my chest had become painful. Around the left side on my chest was stabbing pain that was going into my neck/ shoulder. I had tingling in my arms and legs and had started to faint. We rushed off to the hospital 30 minutes away. I thought I was dying.

Once we got to the hospital they took me in straight away for an ECG and blood work.

All came back fine and I was told that it was just a mild reaction and to take two Panadol and nurofen together for the next few days and it will settle. Two days later I ended back up at ED again with the same symptoms and major fatigue. I had another ECG and more blood work done. This time my D-dimer came back elevated for clots.

I was taken to another hospital for a CT scan of my lungs. The doctor there argued with me that I shouldn't have it done as I'm young and don't need this much radiation going into my body.

I made the decision to go through with it and thankfully there were no cl0ts present.

I was discharged and told by the doctor that I needed a mental health care plan and to take heart burn tablets. He wouldn't see my dying of clots but would likely see me in 50 years for cancer treatment after that radiation. Those were his EXACT words. I left in tears feeling so angry and frustrated. Why is this happening to me?! What is happening to me?!

The next day I saw my GP and was prescribed anti inflammatory medication and was left to see if it would settle. Over the next few months things didn't get any better but I started to just learn to deal with it. The pain settled to dull constant aches in my chest. And then would flare up to full force again where it feels like I am constantly having a cardiac arrest and waking up suddenly in pain during the night.

I finally found a doctor who has listened to me and my concerns. I am about to have my fourth ECG, an ECHOCARDIOGRAM and off to see a cardiologist as they suspect that I have pericarditis.. I hope I find answers soon.

I don't know what normal feels like anymore.

Tash, F Lismore, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZP--5KsSvl/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/tashmyers2020/

I work in aged care, I've always been a healthy go getter person and illness has very rarely knocked me around. I've had some serious problems (due to hospital negligence) in the past and recovered very quickly.

Work asked us to get the they told us that it would become mandatory and we wouldn't have a choice. It was early in the Australian roll out and we were told that the had bad side effects and we should have the while it was available (12 residents had refused it, so it was offered to staff, with people in pretty pink vests, we walked around all day getting the facility done, everyone seemed fine (we were doing obs every hour) extra shifts were given out to accommodate this. So in good faith 12 of us lined up for our how bad could it be. We had literally just watched 190 people have NO effect.

1st. Pee. Went home after sitting together for half an hour to watch each other for symptoms of a bad reaction. We were all fine but that night I could not warm up for the life of me. The next few days my arm was really sore at the site. I took no time off work and all seemed well.

24th of march 2021. We had our 2nd (200). I worked half an hour after mine and everything seemed fine, my arm didn't even hurt this time. The next day I was so tired I nearly fell asleep driving to work. We had no staff, everyone was sick. Everyone EXCEPT our elderly. I took the next 2 days off as my head was pounding. My GP ended up sending me for a scan as he believed I had a minor stroke. Nothing showed up on the scan. 6 weeks after my 2nd I still hadn't shown any sign of getting better. I was tired, I picked up EVERYTHING but the ...

My head was still constantly throbbing and now my heart had starting doing palpitations. I went to my GP. He put me on a monitor and said nothing was wrong. Three trips to the hospital they still couldn't find "anything wrong". I thought I was going to die of a massive heart attack. A week after my last hospital visit, so now we are 12 weeks post and I was at the uni, we were playing with our new heart monitor and hooking up to each other to run a trace. When we set the machine up to my chest, ankles and wrists it became erratic. Our clinical teacher (a nurse from our cardiology ward) informed me I should attend ED in our local hospital immediately and she was convinced a heart attack was impending.

I went straight up to the hospital and told them my chest was pumping erratic and I couldn't breathe. They put me onto the observation machine and my heart rate (resting) was 150 bpm. It's supposed to sit on 60 to 80. They set up a drip straight away and rushed me into resuscitation. They set up a variety of machines here convinced also that I was having a heart attack. They asked me if I had been I told them I had. They immediately stopped panicking. I started panicking. It was like they were going to let me die now they knew.

They took me to Short Stay where I was placed into a cubicle much like the ones others have described in different hospitals. They ran more blood tests. The only thing that looked amiss was, my d dimer was sky high. Meaning that I have a blood clOt

somewhere. After several more scans they forgot about my heart feeling like it was exploding and concentrated on the cl0t they couldn't find, so treated me for that and sent me home.

It took months to discover that I actually have inflammation around the heart. And now just beats on average at 120bpm. The hospital has altered my criteria so it doesn't send the machines beeping every 5 minutes. My immune system is now compromised, my heart is playing up, I'm waiting for it to just stop one day.

I've just quit my job, which I've had so much time off since my 2nd e, now they're asking that we have a 3rd. I'm honestly too scared to. So I quit

Britnie, 27yrs, F Gold Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZPtNsLshPO/

Contact:

Hi, I'm a 27yo mother from the Gold Coast. Pre 🔒 I was a fit and healthy person who loves to play netball, dance, get outdoors and take spontaneous adventures with my son and fiancé. I had no previous medical history or issues and have been seeing my GP for the past 6.5years.

I got the because it was mandated for my industry (Early childhood and care) which I have been working in for the past 10 years. Working with children I know they should be protected but also believe I was pushed into a decision without any choice really. I loved my job and couldn't imagine having to walk away from it.

On Monday Dec 13th 2021, I got my 1st each as I needed it by the 17th to keep my employment. Within a few hours of receiving the I had sharp pains in my chest, a throbbing headache and tingles down my left arm. I Was trying to convince myself it was all my anxiety as I wasn't 100% committed to getting it done.

By Wednesday 15th I was like enough is enough, I need to get this checked out as I also started to get shortness of breath walking from the kitchen to my lounge room or up a few steps. I Went to a walk in doctor and was seen straight away presenting with chest pains. They did an ECG straight away and it came back normal. The doctor then diagnosing me with Costochondritis (inflammation of the chest cartilage) after pushing on my chest. Walking out I thought ok maybe it is. Feels similar to what I have experienced in the past from sports.

With the chest pains, headaches and tingles still lingering I booked an appointment with my amazing GP. Of course she is hard to get into but when I finally seen her she sent me straight away for blood tests, chest X-ray and an echocardiogram. Turns out I ended up with pericarditis. Now medically exempt from my second but only for 2 months as I need to be 6 weeks free of side effects before I'm allowed the next. I'm petrified of getting it as I can only imagine what's going to happen next time. I'm Still experiencing stabbing pains in my chest every now and then. It's definitely calming down but only because I haven't been lifting which is a big part of my job role working with children.

The reason I'm sharing my story is because I feel as though we should be able to make our own decisions about the and not be forced into having it. I want people to be aware these side effects are real and even though they seem to be brushing it all off we need as much awareness and support out there as possible for others going through the same thing.



If it turns to our children being mandated I DO NOT want my son to go through the pain I have been through. I know people have had worse side effects out there and I wish them all the best through their recovery. We are not alone and need to stand by each other.

Jodie, F Howard Springs, NT



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZOYP\_5pGwi/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/jodie.singline.9/

I live on the outskirts of Darwin Northern Territory Australia. I am a mother of 10, and a grandmother of 3 beautiful babies. I didn't want to get the each but to keep my job I was told that I had to get the

I have always been active, fit and healthy until I had my first Pa on 29th October 2021. Two hours after I received the lecame incredibly fatigued, I then started to experience light sensitivity, groin, lower back and leg pain and had to lie down, I was then in bed for three days, unable to even walk myself to the toilet. 10 days after the left was on my way to bed and got numbness in my hands and blurry vision.

I went to hospital, they gave me ECG and 2 diazepam and told me to relax and follow up with your gp about your mental health and was discharged at 3:30am.

Three days later I was back at hospital with the same symptoms, I told the nurse that I thought it was from the earn and she responded saying, "No it's not" and discharged me again with nothing.

Five days after that I was back at hospital with the same symptoms but also now unable to walk without help as I was experiencing severe body tremors. Luckily I had a good doctor who got me an MRI which then he came back and said I had MS but I denied having MS and he responded covertly that it could have been from the

I have been to the hospital repeatedly since and they have been unable to help me. My condition appears to be getting worse with tremors, convulsions, tics, stuttering speech and now seizures which come with memory loss.

I have a loving partner Rick, but this has been so incredibly hard on us, as because I am confined to a wheelchair and unable to be left alone Rick has taken all of his leave to care for me, with a lot of it being unpaid.

The current diagnosis they want to give me is functional neurologic disorder which is a way for them to dismiss my injury and to say it's "all in my head", which has been what the hospital has been pushing while denying any relationship to the ...

Despite it being "all in my head" I am having success with natural medicine the freedom community have given me to detox the effects of the  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{=}$  and reducing the inflammation affecting my nervous system. This has lessened my tremors greatly and I can actually feed myself now.

I'm here today sharing my story to show everyone what I believe is 1000% an adverse reaction to the , before the less I was perfectly fine and I rarely got sick and now I'm absolutely destroyed and not just my life but the people around me and with no one from the government to help without me forking out a fortune that I do not have.

Tonya, 35yrs, F Brisbane, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZOLykPps0M/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/tdfitbodies/

I'm a pt, a nutritionist and a body builder, it is and has been my life for the last 12 years. I'm extremely passionate and successful in my profession and have had no prior health issues being a fit and healthy 35 year old woman.

I got the end for my profession because I was told it was going to be mandated (it hasn't happened yet) I also have a honey moon that I haven't gone on yet and to go there I needed to be

I got my (1) on the 1st of November 2021. Things were fine until 4 days after, I started getting a rash on my chest, I didn't really think much of it at first but each day it got worse with a fiery burning sensation and it wasn't until about the 2 week mark that I knew something was really wrong as the rash had turned purulent, my lymph nodes started hurting and I was experiencing extreme fatigue which hasn't left me to this day. I called the home doctor and he gave me steroid tablets which did nothing.

A week later I went to my doctor, I told her I had the and she believed what I was experiencing was a result of the , she gave me a steroid cream and some Keflex and the rash started to go away but a week after that I ended up back at the doctors because my tongue and throat started swelling which then brought on a severe asthma attack which I haven't had since I was 13 yrs old.

My doctor told me I had to go to straight to emergency and I sat in Gold Coast hospital for 8 hours, meanwhile my legs and my left arm and left side of my face were burning. The treating doctors ran some quick tests, they said my oxygen was fine, my bloods were fine and told me I'm all good, I should book myself into a rheumatologist and I need to go back to my doctor.

I went back to my doctor, I was scared I was going to die because I had extreme difficulty breathing and the fatigue was something was constant, she sent me to get an MRI, ECG and bloods. Later I was at work, She rang me and said that I need to get into emergency as soon as possible because my heart could stop at any minute, my EF reading was at 50 when it should've been at 65.

Before I could get myself to the hospital I started hyperventilating, my hands started going blue and I had pains down both my arms and legs, my limbs and everything felt heavy and my skin was on fire.

They called the ambulance which was going to be 45 minutes and they came and took me to QE2 emergency.

My doctor emailed me through the results for me to show the emergency doctors and they said no one can look at me unless I have a heart attack. They treated me poorly as if I was just someone putting on an act. After they told me that, they released me with absolutely nothing.

I went home and that night and said goodbye to my husband because I thought I was going die in my sleep. I woke up the next day and it was my birthday, It was one of the most challenging days being unable to appreciate the love I was receiving from the people around me, especially my husband.

In the moment, the only thing I could think about was getting myself into a cardiologist because I felt like I was going to die if I didn't. Somehow we found a cardiologist who sent me straight into hospital and I was in there for 17 days straight, where there were 5 other people who were experiencing similar to me and worse.

I had a neurologist, rheumatologist a cardiologist and a disease specialist all looking at me and still are looking at me except the disease specialist who told me I'm still young and I'll get over it and to get the 200. I was supposed to stay longer in hospital but I couldn't afford not to work as I had responsibilities.

I went home and here I am 2 weeks later taking 10 pills a day with no real improvements and no end in sight, not knowing where to go to next or what will happen to me next.

It's a gamble if you take the 🤐, some people are fine and some people aren't but I'm one of the people that isn't fine. By sharing my story I hope that you can see you're not alone and you're not over reacting if you feel like you have an adverse reaction. Keep fighting for the truth from your doctors and do not give up, there are doctors and specialists out there that do want to help.

What happened after and still happening:

Weird puss and burning Rash on chest Skin burning and itchy around neck and lymph nodes Feeling very uncomfortable Difficulty breathing Difficulty speaking at times

Joint and muscle aches At times very nauseated

Loss of appetite & Weight gain

Legs and arms burning and aching feeling as though acid was poured onto my skin and felt like my body was a balloon about to

Lost vision twice (everything went cloudy)

Burning down left side of my face

Left arm burnt and ached constantly along with legs

Stomach burning and bloating hurt to touch

Extreme fatigue all the time everyday

Swollen tongue

Swollen neck

Lack of being able to communicate

Can't remember things

Feeling embarrassed

Loss of strength in my arms

Swollen heart making difficult for blood to pump

Kidneys affected

Nervous system affected

Thought I was going to die. About 4 times now through the 3.5 months

Saying goodbye to my family

17 days hospital

Couldn't exercise after still finding hard to

Burning of skin after exercise. Light functional movements or 20 minute walking exhausts me and makes me puffed couldn't even attempt this until I was medicated.

Use to hit average 15,000 steps a day after 🐸 it was difficult for me to even get 300 steps. Still to this day is hard for me to reach 15,000. Currently, this week I have reached 8-10,000 after 12weeks.

Cannot function without medication at this stage.

If I exercise I can't for 2 days as I have really bad fatigue, head aches, body aches and fevers

Loss of work, loss of finance, loss of quality of life and lifestyle

Couldn't prepare food for myself (Couldn't seem to be able to flip a steak without it going out pan or even scoop potato out a container.)

Still find it hard to do some days as so exhausted and uncomfortable

Can't walk my dogs or even pat, brush, wash, feed as to fatigued or dizzy

Can't finish my study as cannot focus or remember things.

Went to emergency twice got sent away both times even with doctor referral. I felt alone and unheard and like they thought I was just putting it on. I felt terrified for my life.

Advised it could be another 2.5 months yet before I feel better.

Katie, 26yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZMFXW2JGdY/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/kt\_clark97/

I am a 24 year old female with zero prior health conditions and no family history of heart or other serious health conditions.

I received my first (Page 1) May 2021 as it was mandatory for my workplace. To note, I was never for or against the (Page 2) and I never really thought much of it! I had no notable side effects from my first (Page 2).

I had my second in mid June 2021, and again, initially I had absolutely no side effects. About 3 weeks later, I began having severe shortness of breath. I ignored this for 2 weeks before eventually making an appointment to see a doctor at the start of August. This doctor referred me to have some blood tests done and sent me for a chest X-ray, but she was not concerned and sent me on my way with some Metamucil as she believed I was constipated and that's what was causing my shortness of breath. I never heard back from her about my blood test or chest X-ray results.

2 weeks later, I was seeing another doctor for a check-up and I mentioned to her that I was still suffering from shortness of breath. She was convinced that I was suffering from 'air hunger' which was caused by anxiety (I have never been diagnosed with anxiety and I did not have anxiety). I expressed my concerns for my health and asked if I could see a specialist to get further testing done. Eventually, she agreed to refer me on to a lung specialist and also a cardiologist to have an ECG and Echocardiogram. I had a full lung function test done at the end of august which came back normal.

At the end of September I had my appointment to have an ECG and Echo done. The lady conducing the tests told me that my ECG indicated my T wave was inverted and my echo indicated that my right ventricular was dilated. I never heard back from the referring doctor about the results.

I was furious about the lack of care, and not to mention extremely stressed and confused about the findings! At this point I hadn't even considered the fact that I might of had an adverse reaction to the . I went back to see the doctor and ask why I never got a call about the results, so that day they booked me in to see another doctor, which I hadn't seen before, to discuss.

This doctor was extremely dismissive and said that just because my heart is dilated doesn't mean that's what would be causing my shortness of breath. He also believed that I was suffering from anxiety. I asked him if I could see a cardiologist about the results but he believed that it wasn't necessary. I then asked if there was more tests that could be done, so he did another blood test. Once again, I NEVER received a call from this doctor about the results of this test.

A week later, I had no guidance or support for what was going on with my health so I booked another appointment. During this appointment, the doctor informed me that the results of my previous blood test had come back with an elevated BNP which is an indication of heart failure. At this point, she was unsure of what to do and I had to request to see a cardiologist to which she agreed. My symptoms were still terrible and my exercise tolerance was dropping more and more each day. I was out of breath having a conversation.

Weeks later I finally got to see a cardiologist who didn't really know what to think of all of my symptoms and strange test results. He recommended I have a cardiac MRI done to really see what was going on. There was a huge wait list to get the MRI

and I was booked in for the 8th November which was about a 3 - 4 week wait. During this period, my symptoms were getting worse and I begin experience chest pain, bad fatigue and not to mention my SOB was getting worse.

I went to see a doctor about my symptoms as they were worsening and once again I was pushed out the door. He told me that I was overthinking it and when I feel a bad episode coming on I should go for a run and take some deep breaths! I was speechless and so fed up with the way I had been treated. I didn't trust the healthcare system anymore after this point.

Finally the 8th November came around and I had my MRI done. 3 days later the cardiologist rang and said that there was an area of focal myocarditis, but he was still very wary and said that 'we can't prove this was from the vaccination'. He never gave me any recommendations to stop exercise or ANYTHING! He said 'I can give you perindopril if you want' as if I was wasting his time. I agreed to try the medication, and I took it for a month as directed with absolutely no change to my symptoms.

Ever since, I have been battling the doctors and specialists to stop downplaying my symptoms and possible condition as they were always 'reassuring' me that if it is myocarditis, it should go away on its own. But it hasn't!!! And they can't tell me what's going to happen if it won't. I still struggle every day with SOB, heart attack sensation chest and arm pain, palpitations and fatigue. At this point in time I am awaiting to see an immunologist to hopefully get an exemption from further ...

Kaylah, F Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZLic24prMY/

Contact: kaylahde94hotmail.com

A #1: 319693P

I am personally pro-choice and especially being a social worker, I believe that every person should have autonomy over their lives and their bodies but such is not the case when it comes to these gov mandates.

I was mandated to get the but not only the government but also the Department of Community Justice (The Communities and Justice cluster that works with children, adults, families and communities to improve lives and help people realise their potential) in August 2021 and I held off as long as I could but to no avail. They backed me into a corner and I gave in booking in my 1st 27.9.21.

Quick back story: I had surgery on both my eyes to treat my keratoconus in early July and 3 weeks prior to the 1st had seen my eye surgeon who said I was healing fine with no issues at all and also no longer needed any eyedrops or any medication.

Day of the let fine, had a slight fever that went away with Advil so no major issues. The next morning I woke up to blurred vision in my right eye and immediately freaked out thinking it was a blood cl0t as googling reactions to look out for showed me that blurry vision is a sign of possible blood cl0t. Called my Gp who advised me to go to ED, went and no blood test was taken even though I persistently told them do one, no blood pressure taken, nothing. I told them about my eye surgery and they were then convinced that it was a complication related to that. They called my eye surgeon who then booked me in immediately. I Saw them and they said they had no idea what was happening in my eye and did a cornea scraping to see what would come back.

Waited 1 week for results whilst the blob in my eye grew bigger and bigger and my vision deteriorated to the point I couldn't drive as all I saw was a white haze covering my vision much like when you get out of a really steamy shower). 1st results came back with nothing. I was told to take 2 different eye drops one fungal and one bacterial to treat it. I got a 2nd eye scrape (every time they scrape my eye it causes corneal scarring which can cause permanent scarring and possible blindness). I had to take time off work as I couldn't even see my computer screen (been working from home during lockdown) and had to have my partner take me to my weekly eye appointments.

2nd eye scrape came back with a diagnosis of Keratitis which is an inflammation of the cornea, but the issue is they can't determine if it is bacterial or fungal (fungal keratitis is extremely rare) and if left untreated I can go blind. I also went to Sydney eye hospital and they quickly said it is not possible to be related to the . My eye surgeon was stunned and did not have an explanation as to what caused the keratitis as according to them I did not match any of the other patients that presented to them with keratitis. I had no pain other then feeling something gritty in my eye which is not common at all with keratitis. I said it had to be the there's no other possible explanation.

Doctor at first dismissed me and said it wasn't possible. I went home and researched and found numerous articles showing has been linked to people developing Keratitis the day after the exactly like me. The next time I saw them I showed my peer reviewed research and they couldn't argue with facts so gave me a paper exemption for life, however has not uploaded it onto the HCOS data base so it is not registered on my immunisation record and is basically useless if I lose the paper or if I want to travel overseas

As of now, my vision is not 100% but a lot better than what it was. I still have slightly blurred vision and a slight white haze but I am able to drive and do everything as before. I don't know if it will ever go away or if my vision will go back to 20/20 as I have scarring but I'm hopeful. I want to share this story as I see so many people having heart issues and leg spasms and things and I'm curious if people know that these can affect your eyes also.

Thank you so much for allowing this platform to exist. Honestly I didn't want to post my story but seeing all the brave people come forward helped me to make my decision. I realised if I can educate people on other side effects that aren't as "commonly reported", I can help them to make an informed choice and I am doing the right thing.

Charlie, 50yrs, M Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZJnJVjJNbQ/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/will.be.free/

I'm Charlie, I'm a 50 year old man, fit and healthy (regular trail runner), masters educated professional working in business strategy in Perth.

I have a solid science and technical background, having worked in many fields from defence, bioinformatics (gene sequencing), drug discovery and toxicology, super computing and forensics. So I'm pretty ok with understanding all the science-collecting and analysing data, making assessments, working through problems dispassionately.

I knew already that the data was showing issues with lack of efficacy against infection and transmission so I was pretty sad when I found out I was mandated for one given how pointless it would be. I wasn't too worried about adverse effects, more

pissed off at just how stupid and unnecessary the mandates and looming passports would be.. Anyways..my (P) side effect s\*\*t show.

I'm in the group 2 mandates here, so I had to take 1 before Dec 31 2021 to keep my job. I don't have an option as the sole breadwinner and support for my family - wife, 4 kids, mortgage, dogs etc. Am blah about the mandates, plus I really wanted to wait until there was a chance of actually catching our spiky -friend before getting ...no point in peaking too soon and having McGowan keep the borders closed and have and BOOS for no reason. Risk is risk, even if low, so for me, it was I going to have to have it, the best decision in the circumstances is to do it when I absolutely had to and not before.

1 on the 22nd Dec 2021 Started off with vomiting for a few days, sore arm, nothing too crazy. No fever, or feeling unwell, Read up - looks like standard side effects. Few days later, I went for a run but had to bail - got cramps and felt exhausted after a few km. Thought it's just body dealing with the immune response - no big deal, pushed too soon. Walked home.

Dec 27-30 - very tired. Like almost narcolepsy tired. Nodding off randomly and suddenly during the day. Half the days written off. But then it was a million degrees outside here in Perth and I had Christmas leftovers to eat so no big deal. Too hot for walking the dogs anyways, so didn't really push it.

From New Years day, the chest pains and breathless started very suddenly. Also had a day with electric/fire like stabbing pains down left arm with tingles in my fingers. Painful enough to make me actually cry out when it happened. Pain started in my left armpit, left groin. Also knees and ankles very sore. Chest pains were focussed over centre left side and I had real difficulty breathing which carried on getting worse - definitely not normal - wasn't feeling unwell - was just the chest pain and pulse racing - resting HR raised over 80, sometimes 100+ - which is nearly double normal. Just getting up off the sofa sent it over 130.. Bearing in mind I'm into trail running and usually have a decently low pulse. I haven't walked my poor dogs since Christmas Eve.

On Jan 2, 2022 The chest pains over my left side over the heart area became quite severe, very hard to breathe, fluttering feeling in left chest. Pulse very elevated. Shooting and aching pains in my whole left side, armpit and elbow in particular. Also fingers - tingling and electric shock pain. Made GP appointment. I'm a typical man, I hate the doctors, it feels like defeat to have to go get this checked out. But I know my body and I know what's right and what's not and what I can and should cope with and what needs looking at.

Jan 4 - Severe chest pain and difficulty breathing, shooting pains in left side - arm and leg.. Sat in GP waiting room wondering if I was having a heart attack. Chest felt like it was fluttering

Doc put me on ECG, saw some minor trace abnormalities but otherwise normal. BP and heart rate were high, but there wasn't much for him to go on. Got referral for echo, detailed ECG and bloods. Sent away without any treatment options.

Jan 5 - Same as before - serious chest pain, day was written off, couldn't do anything. Starting to feel pretty pissed off that I had more than 2 weeks of holiday time that I wanted to use productively for running, jobs in the garden, day trips etc and had done nothing at all - completely wasted it.

Jan 6. Chest pains and breathlessness really bad. At 9am I asked my wife to take me to ER. Was feeling terrible. Passed out in the car on the way there. Rushed through into ER (although they made me wear a f\*\*\*\*g mask which as I was gasping for breath I was actually momentarily angry about.

Over the 6 hours I was there, they did 2x ECG, 4x bloods, chest x-ray, ultrasound - they knew right away what they were looking for (I could tell this wasn't the first time. They were right onto it) but nothing showed up apart from spiky BP and tachycardia. Resting BP 170/120, HR 120. Doc suggested I might be anxious and wanted to give me some benzos. Humm..no thank you!

After 6 hours and fentanyl for the chest pain (ugh, hated that feeling, I'd be the worst drug addict) - I felt ok enough to leave. BP was normal again. Nothing showed on any tests - Doc suspected costochondritis - asked me if I'd done any physical activity that could have caused it. Hadn't done a thing apart from sweep the deck of all the summer leaves. She also mentioned that it could possibly be mild pericarditis but the ultrasound didn't show it and they didn't have the echo to be able to tell for sure - as I was booked in a week later for it anyways they left it. They set up a referral for CT/Angiogram to rule out arterial issues (I have actually since cancelled that referral as it won't show anything and it'll just cost me a fortune)

Friday Jan 7th - bloods. Nurse has the same story from her first ( Horrible chest pains, hospital and tests to rule out but nothing found. Her 2nd and 3rd were fine however and she recovered after a few months, which gave me some comfort - if that was what I was going to experience it wouldn't be the end of the world. Very annoying, however. From the 7th, Self



medicating with max ibuprofen in case it's inflammation, plus taking vitamin D and Zinc based on multiple recommendations to boost recovery.

Wed Jan 12th - cardiologist - nothing showing up on ECG or echo. It's good that there's nothing obviously heart related, but frustrating because it's not getting me closer to answers.

Still have significant chest pain, and have developed shakes - hard to describe - it kind of starts like a tiny ball inside me and rushes out - doesn't hurt, but it leaves me feeling like I've had 34 coffees, jittery, hyper, tweaking. And my right hand shakes uncontrollably. Now my right eye won't focus either.

Jan 19th - GP results review: nothing in cardio scans and bloods. He thought shakes could be anxiety (which I definitely don't have) - I'm pretty pissed off at this suggestion actually. I'm not an anxious person. A pissed off person at this point, yes. But gimme a break.

Got prescribed beta blockers for the shaking (and double anti anxiety meds I subsequently found out - yeah, thanks) and BP meds for hypertension - which is a symptom not a cause - gah!

Jan 25th - I am getting better slowly, but I'm not even close to where I was before the morning of the 22nd Dec. I sit here a month on with really annoying stabbing left centre chest pain, breathing is sometimes laboured when the pain strikes and I'm very quick to tire out.

I still have a feeling of being wired, a twitching right hand and a right eye that's unfocussed, and more importantly no real diagnosis I can use. I'm still staring down the barrel of 2 to keep my job (and only source of family income) and running out of sick leave from work.

BP meds and beta blockers are working to reduce the high BP induced by the but as soon as I have chest pain, it spikes up into state 2 hypertension and my pulse rockets to over 130

Shaking and feeling wired not going away. Chest pain is subsiding from it's worst point, but am still not able to do any physical activity as I feel like I am quickly out of breath and my pulse races, even walking, my ankles and knees and left elbow remain very sore - hard to stress the joints much without painkillers. Can't walk the dogs anymore.

Work are sympathetic but the mandate laws and sadly are unwilling to rock the boat for me. There is some additional sick leave available, but only after I've used my base entitlement and only if a medical diagnosis saying illness is related to  $\bigcirc$ .

Next GP appointment is Thursday 27th - I am going to ask for a deferral so I can a) heal and b) get the N-type. If the GP is gunshy re deferral, I must have 2 by 31st or get stood down - I can't afford to be unemployed and unable to provide for my family - I'll be left looking for jobs in the fraction of what's in the non mandated sections of the Perth job market.

I have serious concerns that I might have pericarditis and the tests just missed it (based on reading many stories re: symptoms and diagnosis) - so the risk there is that having 2 could easily result in very negative health outcomes. I am taking all the risk - I do not have the ability to say no - it's not informed consent.

Jessica, 34yrs, F Northern Rivers, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZIeXbZP\_P\_/

Contact: https://www.instagram.com/jcuti/

P #1: FE8163 P #2: NA

I just want to start off by saying the last 4 months have been so isolating, feeling alone with my injury and suffering. Scared to talk about it publicly, or even privately.

Before the 🔐 I was a healthy vibrant 34yr old mother of 2. I walked 4km per day, coached my daughters soccer team, worked 5 days a week and volunteered on many community committees.

My husband travels a lot for work, so the majority of the home life duty's fell to me.

My work mandated the and I had a family history of stroke, so made the informed choice to have over . After my first not the 19th August 2021, I had text book symptoms, sore arm, headache, a bit of fatigue.

I showed up for my second end on the 9th September 2021, they asked me how my first one was, gave it to me and sent me on my way.

5 days later, while collecting my kids from school I suddenly felt unwell. I had pain and numbness radiating from my chest down my left arm. I attended my local hospital feeling like I was having a heart attack. They were condescending. When my mum attended to collect my very scared children the nurses said to me it would be nice for me to have some "me time" in a hospital bed covered in machines and monitors. They kept me for 2 lots of Troponin before sending me home with Gaviscon.

I went home and slept for 2 days and nights before returning to my local GP office. They took one look at me and sent me off to another hospital for testing. They took bloods and a chest X-ray before giving me oxy and sending me home.

Another 5 days passed where I was too unwell to care for my children, I slept most of the day and night, barely ate, couldn't walk from the bed to the kitchen without being in intense chest pain and short of breath, but too scared to go back to hospital to be treated like I was wasting their time.

Saw my GP on the following week, who had been away up until this point. He listen to my chest and rang straight through to the local cardiologist who booked me for an echo that day.

Based on the echo the cardiologist wanted a cardiac MRI to rule out myocarditis. Being that I live on the NSW side of the border communities I couldn't get into QLD to have the required testing for a month. During this time I just had to live with the pain, shortness of breath and exhaustion. I wasn't offered any medication to help in anyway. I was unable to care for my children, my husband quit his job to be home. 3wks post I returned to work, but couldn't manage much more then the 3 hours and would come home and sleep, useless to my family.

The cardiac MRI diagnosed myocarditis. At this point I was offered medication to try (colchicine), told not to "exert" myself. I am still living with chest pain and SOB every day, this is affecting my relationships because I'm constantly irritable, exhausted and cranky. Recently my echo looks good, so the specialist is backtracking and basically I'm left to live with the pain and discomfort without worry from medical professionals.

It worries me that the pain and suffering caused by these  $\stackrel{\square}{=}$  isn't being spoken about in the media. To make it worse, now the pressure of  $\stackrel{\square}{=}$  our kids has started. My family have been left with an uncertain future both medically and financially.

I saw the cardiologist on Friday and he's now back tracking on everything he's ever said and I'm over it all, I have letters from him to my GP and MRI reports to say I have myocarditis. He told me I'm never to have another  $\stackrel{\text{\tiny (4)}}{=}$  just before Christmas.

Now he's saying it's questionable if I ever had myocarditis and saying that a 6 month exemption is all I'll ever get. My echo is okay so be basically said what do I want from him.

Anonymous,



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZGu4gjp0jZ/

I've been living in Australia for almost 8 years. I have been running a BJJ (Brazilian Jiu Jitsu) School teaching children, teenagers and adults. I also have a sponsorship in helping disadvantaged kids. To give you an idea of my level of fitness, I've been doing Brazilian Jiu jitsu since I was 14 and judo since I was 6. I've been competing in world championships for BJJ. Other than a hip and knee surgery from sport injuries, I've always been incredibly fit, healthy and love to travel and surf a lot.

On the 29th of October 2021, I was booked in for . The nurse gave me a very hard time, trying to scare me, telling me that I shouldn't get the . because it will give me health issues and blood cl0ts because of my age group. I told her I already did my homework and you just need to do what I'm telling you to do. She persisted and kept on arguing with me and I just said, that I'm booked in for the . I said you do whatever you want but it's on you.

She took me into the room and she gave me the before mentioning it was the and said you'll be fine, don't worry and I put my hand over my head.. "I asked you specifically for the ." I left annoyed for my decision being taken away from me for something I really didn't want in the first place.

When I got home It was just the usual, I was feeling a bit tired so I just went to bed early. 1am in the morning I woke up with my heart was beating out of my chest, I stood up sweating profusely, I wasn't sure what was going on, I just went and got a drink of water and I rang my family over seas to explain what was happening to me, Unaware that This had anything to do with the

My night was sleepless and I didn't get to sleep till 5am and then I had to rush to the gym to teach my class, I felt okay but my heart was beating a little bit faster than usual, I just kept on going, later that afternoon I had a nap because I was feeling a bit off. I woke up to pain in my arm and my neck and pins and needles in my forearm and fingers, feeling nauseous, I thought I was having a heart attack so I asked my partner to take me to the hospital.

When I arrived at the hospital they sent me straight to the area but I had 2 negative tests the week before. The doctor was very lovely, she checked my bloods, blood pressure, ECG, X-ray of my chest and did a routine ultra sound. All of them came back clear except She said that she thinks there is a little liquid around the heart but I would need to see a cardiologist to be sure. I asked her to write it down for me but she said she can only put down that I had a reaction from the and she discharged me with all the medication for pericarditis.

The next day I was feeling very drowsy from the medication, I was in pain and I couldn't sleep.

I went to the GP and my heart rate was resting at 140-160bpm as soon as he saw the heart rate he started freaking out, telling me to breathe and calm down and he gave me some pills to calm down. (I'm not sure what they were) my blood pressure started to go down a bit and he just told me I'm already on oxycodone (2, 4 times a day) and colchicine and to pantoprazole and to go home and rest. I told him I need to get a referral to a cardiologist because something isn't right. He tried to get me in for an appointment but they were all booked for the next 5 weeks. He called 3 different clinics and they were all the same. He told me I'd be fine within 2 weeks and in 5 weeks time there would be no point to do the echocardiogram so he didn't book me in but he gave me a referral.

Everything was stabilising until 10th of November 2021. I started to feel a bit off while I was driving with the stabbing pains in my chest and my arm and neck were numb with pins and needles so I went the hospital. They put me in a bed and checked my bloods and did ECG, the doctor in charge saw that I was creating some attention and called me a playboy in these words and removed me from my bed and put me in a hard chair. He continuously told me that I don't have any problems, I just have anxiety, over and over again and he gave me a pill which knocked me out to the point I could see what was happening around me but I had no control over my body, meanwhile my heart is still pumping out of my chest. 3 hours later the doctor came and gave me a shove and told me to go home and everything is fine, "you can go and run your business and do your sport no problems". I told him to write it all down on paper and that he will be responsible if anything were to happen to me.

January 6th 2021. I had to go to emergency again I was at class. I had to stop and lay down infant of my students because my heart was in so much pain. When I got to the hospital they put me in a bed and did my bloods and ECG and once again came back clear even though my heart was resting at 189bpm. They gave me Morphine and Panadol and they held me there till my heart rate dropped to 109. They kept me till 1am in the morning and kicked me out with the needle still in my vein (which I removed myself) saying This isn't a hotel. I asked for them to write on paper that it was alright for me to leave on my own at 1am pumped full of drugs and they just told me to leave.

I went straight to the police and the police had already spoken to the hospital which then they were informed that I "escaped" and the police said that they wouldn't help me.

I went to another doctor days later who gave me a referral to a cardiologist who I had found through my own research, I told her that I'm scared of dying and no one will look after me, she explained, no one will look after me because no one wants to risk losing their license.

The cardiologist appointment came and all the tests came back clear, the doctor said he would give me more colchicine to make me happy but he wouldn't give a diagnosis and told me to go and get the second . He was relaying to me that he had a reaction for the 3 so therefore if he was okay then I would be too. I Couldn't believe it.

Here we are currently today, I'm looking for flights back home because the medical system here in Australia is failing me, I'm also looking for lawyers as I have all the records and names. My health is suffering, my business is suffering, my personal life is suffering and with no end in sight, I'm just so grateful I have a loving partner who is standing by my side though all of this.

My message to you, is just don't take this 🤐

Chris, 35yrs, M Mornington peninsula, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZGo-\_2pdE3/

Contact: https://www.instagram.com/c.wilko\_lordofshoreham/



I'm a 35yo male from the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria. I live with my partner and my 5yo son (co-parenting). I've always lived a fit and active lifestyle, have surfed since I was very young and played many sports. Prior to I was at a level of fitness I would consider to be high, had just run 20km the week prior and was running 5-10km multiple times a week along with boxing 3 nights a week and surfing more days than not. My work was also ultra physical as I am a gardener and a landscaper so strenuous activity was all day everyday. I was initially sceptical about getting the I didn't like how it was rushed and I also didn't really see how the statistics were supporting the large amount of fear. I love statistics, always have and due to early hysteria I was checking websites and actually finding comfort at the percentages and figures I was seeing, it certainly wasn't adding up to the amount of fear that was being generated.

After seeing numerous friends and family go I just thought f\*\*k it, it didn't feel like it was going to change and I was yet to hear of any side effects so I thought I'd set a bit of an example and do what I felt like might save a few elderly lives etc. I got my first on the 22 of August 2021 and felt a little funny after but put that down to maybe just anxiety. 3 days later I was having chest discomfort, like a foot on my chest at night and sharp pains when breathing in. I also noticed my cognitive function was

reduced and my brain felt super numb and I was losing things and forgetting stuff I had literally just been told. A few more days went by and nothing had changed until at work one afternoon I felt like I was going to pass out and collapse. My legs were weak and I felt like I was not in the real world, really spacey. I told my partner and we left work and I went straight home where I was hit with more chest pains, arm tingling and felt like I was on the brink of passing out.

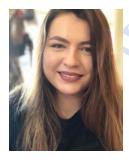
I called the ambulance. I was dismissed from hospital that night after being told I was fine and likely was having side effects from the that would pass. I heard one nurse laugh and say I must be suffering man flu which I shrugged off. My breathing was hard felt like it was restricted and I was getting lung burning like I was doing intense cardio when I was only doing medial tasks. I did an overnight heart monitor a week or so later that showed an irregular heart beat when I was sleeping. The doctor said it was normal and my stress test came back good also, they didn't think there was any issues with my heart and set me up for a lung function test. My lung function test showed restricted breathing and the doctor issued me a puffer which I felt only made breathing harder so I didn't use it much longer than a few days. Every time I mentioned the up till this point it was falling on deaf ears. I asked my doctor for a CT, he didn't want to do it.

I basically had to demand one, it showed swelling and inflammation of the lungs, the doctor said it was probably Asthma, I've never had Asthma. He issues me another puffer, a stronger puffer, it did nothing. I then went and got my second on the 25th of October 2021 thinking that the doctors would know best and maybe I was thinking too much about it. As a result by this stage I was attempting to push through with exercise but my cardio was really bad. I had gone from easily doing 12 rounds of bag work boxing to not being able to get through one round with out stopping. I also was struggling to run one km as the chest burning was so intense and I was struggling to breath and just felt not right, dizzy and super fatigued. This was also happening at work and is still happening.

I'm yet to be given any clear leads although I'm on herbal tonic and have a fantastic naturopath who has been really helpful and my cognitive function has improved dramatically due to what she's doing.

The second made my cardio worse again. I'm yet to have a diagnosis. I've packed up my business of 5 years because I can't physically do what I was doing anymore. I sleep a lot and have hardly any energy. I might have bursts of a few hours and then crash, I also try to surf and exercise but when I do, the next day it's like I've been hit by a car. I wish I trusted my gut instinct on this and moving forwards II be doing everything in my power to avoid having another . Our health is our choice and there is no way they're going to take that choice away from me and do the same to my son. It's time for change, this is wrong I know more people in my small social circle hurt from the than from the I'm trying to stay positive but I never know what the next day's going to feel like and I currently have no income. It's ironic that I took this to stop having to stop work and to help Australian businesses get back to operating and as a result I've lost my income, my business and my health.

Caitlin, 23yrs, F, Deceased Toowoomba, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CZF9e3-v3RJ/

Contact: Justice4Caitlin@hotmail.com

Caitlin was tall, strong, fit, muscular and hardworking. Her 6 day a week job entailed 20 km per day walking two year old thoroughbred racehorses and manual work. She died at work, on shift. Please share for Caitlin:

My beautiful, vibrant, healthy and fit daughter, Caitlin, died on Wednesday 17th November 2021. Her horrific death at work, was preceded by three weeks of illness immediately following her second mandated (by Qld Racing).

On the day, events unfolded like this:

Mum who lives an hour from Toowoomba, received a message from Caitlin's boss saying to get to her work urgently. Caitlin had stopped breathing and the ambulance were with her. Mum called Caitlin's brothers, not knowing that Caitlin was already long dead. 20 year old and 15 year old brothers reached Caitlin half hour before mum. She looked perfect. Yet dead on the footpath. Head in the gutter. Needle in her heart. Tube down her throat. Vomit all over the inside of her car, which we had to drive home ourselves. Police all around, yet race goers walking past her. Hundreds of cars and rubberneckers driving past her. For hours.

Here is a timeline leading up to this day, and since. (Information taken directly from Caitlin's text messages - legal and true. No assumptions in this timeline).

6th September 2021 - Monday

o Caitlin received (Page approximately midday, at Hospital (Quality) clinic.

18th September 2021 - Saturday

o Very tired and needing sleep

28th September 2021 - Tuesday

o Received second P

29th September 2021 - Wednesday

o Caitlin very ill from side effects

30th September 2021 - Thursday

o Caitlin very ill from side effects

o Caitlin concerned about length of her es side effects.

o Too tired and sick to go shopping for food.

o Texted work mates telling them she was so sick from the \* she could not go to work.

1st October 2021 - Friday

o Caitlin very ill from side effects

2nd October 2021 – Saturday

o Caitlin very ill from side effects

5th October 2021 - Tuesday

o Caitlin's personality began to change - cranky

9th October 2021 - Saturday

o Caitlin not well enough to help with cattle mustering and drafting.

11th October 2021 - Monday

o Texted asking how she can get some Ventolin.

o Caitlin stated she has had "allergies enough to need Zyrtec these last couple weeks and a little asthma every now and again.

21st October 2021 - Thursday

o Caitlin asking for privacy. Very stressed from being ill

13th November 2021 - Saturday

o Caitlin was with friends in the evening when she suddenly couldn't breathe. She left and drove herself to the Toowoomba Base Hospital where she was treated for asthma

o The ECG monitor in her selfie photo shows a flat line.

14th November 2021 - Sunday

o Caitlin was discharged from the Toowoomba Base Hospital in the early hours of the morning and went home to bed.

o Medications prescribed were antibiotics, steroids, preventer and reliever inhalers

o Caitlin texted "Has (brothers) asthma been any worse lately?,,,I had an asthma attack out of the blue last night and went to the hospital for it. Had a bit of asthma a few weeks ago when I was a bit sick with a bit of sinus congestion. That's it. Haven't had a preventer in years. Hospital gave me script for inhaler and steroids...Fluticasone inhaler. And prednisolone tablets.

o Caitlin too ill to attend work and stayed in bed

15th November 2021 - Monday

o Extremely upset about issues at work with her boss not believing she was sick and making her work extra hours

o Caitlin stated that the we had made her sick

o Caitlin attended a GP appointment with her doctor of 15 years – no further action

16th November 2021 – Tuesday

o Final notification from Queensland Racing that from tomorrow Friday 17th November, all Qld Race meetings are fully events.

17th November 2021 - Wednesday

o Caitlin worked both morning and afternoon shifts.

o Around 3:30pm, whilst on shift, Caitlin walked out the front door of the stables to her car.



o Staff knew Caitlin had gone to her car. They stated they thought she was cranky, or taking a phone call. They stated they gave her time alone.

- o In her car it appears she tried to take her asthma puffer through her spacer.
- o Caitlin died.
- o Closer to 4pm Caitlin's workmates decided to get her from her car. Caitlin was sitting in drivers seat and had collapsed into the passenger seat. There was vomit everywhere. Staff stated she felt no warmth in Caitlin's body.
- o Staff went inside and called another workmate who came out and removed Caitlin's body from the car onto the sidewalk. He began CPR. A passer-by then took over CPR. At some stage an ambulance was called.
- o Caitlin's mother received the first message from boss at 4:26pm, to return her call. Didn't find out Caitlin was dead until an hour later when arrived at scene.
- o Two days later Caitlin's body was transferred John Tonge Centre in Brisbane for bloodwork and scans.
- o Two days later Forensic pathologist requested to do an autopsy
- o Three days later forensic pathologist advised mother that they found no cause for Caitlin's death except she had an enlarged heart and her lungs were overinflated, which he said was most likely from all the CPR she received. Forensic pathologist said lungs did not show signs of asthma.
- o Took tissue samples of heart and lungs for histology
- o Coroner advised via forensic pathologist that histology would take six months and a cause may never be found, and the family needs to be prepared for the conclusion of "UNDETERMINED" as a cause of death.
- o 1st of December 2021 Caitlin was laid to rest.

WH&S have said I to not their jurisdiction and have given a referral to the Health Ombudsman, for consideration of an investigation.

The reason I am making this public, is because I do not accept Caitlin died of UNDETERMINED causes. I hope to pressure the Coroner into making a true and correct report, in a timely manner. I hope to then take this further and bring the people responsible for the unfathomable loss of my darling girl, to justice.

Nicole, 45yrs, F Gold Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CY-2L7cpGdf/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/nicfray13/

P#1: FH4092

I'm a 45 year old mum of 3 boys, 17, 14 and 11, living with my hubby on the Gold Coast. I work 4 days a week and would say my life is pretty busy. My health has been pretty good the last few years although I have suffered depression and also migraines. I've also been carrying extra weight for around 7 years due to a previous back injury and surgery. 2021 started as a pretty good year as far as my mental health and I started a walking program to lose weight In July 2021. I was feeling good.

I had reserved feelings about the . Not that I'm anti but I just wondered about the necessity of it and the fact it was so new and untested that made me apprehensive.

I went with my 17 yr old son on 27th September 2021 to a hub and got the Pe. I have a previous allergy to tetanus so was required to wait 30 minutes afterwards before I left. I felt fine and went home.



For the next 2-3 days I had some tiredness, nausea, dizziness and some strange aches and pains in my body. One day I had a severe case of diarrhoea. I had been on annual leave at the time and returned to work on 5/10/21.

Approximately 2 weeks later I started to go downhill. I had some days off work, tried to keep pushing on and would then spend the weekend in bed. 1/11/2022 I could no longer function. I was at work and couldn't comprehend what I was doing or what people were saying to me. I left work and have never returned. I spent just over 2 weeks completely bed ridden. I had severe joint pain, fatigue, nausea, vertigo, brain fog. It hurt to walk, I had no energy to shower and I barely ate. I would be awake for an hour at a time. I stopped driving as I believe it would be dangerous. At times I thought I was slowly dying.

My GP who I have been with for about 2 years was very supportive. He never dismissed that it was probably from the  $\stackrel{\square}{=}$ , I guess because he knew how well I was functioning prior and how debilitated I was now. He ran loads of blood tests and the only thing that registered was I had high inflammation levels and my B12 had bottomed out. I thought that was the answer to it all and had some  $\stackrel{\square}{=}$ 's which did nothing. I was put on prednisolone for 6 days but again it did nothing.

18/11/2021 out of desperation I went to the ED. I waited about 4 hours to see a Doctor. She took me in to a room, rather than a cubicle. I now know this was because she didn't want anyone to hear me. She listened to everything I said, told me there was no way it was from the as it was too long ago and kept asking why I was at the hospital. She then told me it was most likely anxiety. I cried. And cried. She refused to look up my blood test records and acted like she didn't believe me because I knew so much about my current symptoms, like exactly what my inflammation levels were. They took bloods and I sat back in the waiting room for another few hours. I was then seen by a senior doctor. I did challenge him on if I was the only person that had come to the hospital with these problems. He said my heart was fine so it couldn't be from the . My husband was begging him to do something but I said they can't do anything because they have no idea what the has done to me. I told the doctor that it astounded me that when someone is sick they can't be helped by the medical profession. I was completely distraught. Did he just expect me to go home and die quietly? I felt like that's what was happening to me.

Back to my GP who lodged an adverse reaction with public health and applied for an exemption for the second . Public Health advised I should not receive a second until I had been seen by a specialist. My exemption was approved, although temporary until the end of May.

He referred me to a rheumatologist with around a 2 month wait. I hoped I would get an earlier appt. My symptoms continued to be the same although I had some improvement in that I could be up for longer periods of time. I have developed sensory issues - can't handle lots of noise, bright lights, it becomes too much for my brain to handle. I struggle to follow conversations, have no memory and sometimes can't find words to make sense. My hair has started falling out. Sometimes I manage to go out for an hour or 2 but then will need the next day or 2 in bed. I've had treatment with a naturopath and taking lots of supplements and also my wonderful chiro who has done some free sessions for me as she knows I have no income. I saw the Rheumatologist on the 6/12/21 and it was an expensive and complete waste of time. I don't think she believed this was from the . She said amongst other things that I probably had sleep apnoea and that's why I was tired, I should lose some weight, see a psychologist and get physio on my knee. Not sure what my knee had to do with my symptoms.

So that's where I'm at. No idea what to do next, haven't earned anything in 3 months which has put us in huge financial strain. I have a job to return to but can't imagine being there any time soon. My husband is exhausted from working full time, caring for me and the kids. My family is suffering. We don't have any family nearby to help us. I can't shop, cook, clean, anything that I would normally do in day to day life. Mentally I've hit a wall. I try and stay positive but the thought of how long this could go on is hard to comprehend. I miss my life. I feel like there is no help. I had to stop reading about when there is no acknowledgment for people with adverse reactions. It upsets me so much. I did what they told me to do and when it went wrong there was no help. I know people have it far worse than me but I don't know what to try next. How long can I continue like this?

Brent, 31yrs, M Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CY8umPQp3eH/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/b\_rent\_/

**P#1**: FG7372

My name is Brent, I'm 31 years old from Sydney. I'm an electrician who used to love being outdoors whether it was fishing, hiking, working out or being in the water. I loved catching up with friends over food and wine as much as possible. I loved doing everything with my wife that sadly I can't do anymore. Ever since I had my second things have never been the same.

My views on this are probably not the same as most people's, I'm heavily against a medical product that was fast tracked. I'm not against , I've had all of them including many before travelling more than once, I just wanted more time to see long term safety data. I was feeling a lot of pressure from the government and from society to get this. My site would make us fill out paperwork each week to state our status which I thought was intrusive. My employer said they respected my decision in whatever I chose but noted that many building contractors may be changing their policies on allowing people who had not had the to enter their site, which did ultimately happen.

I was listening to podcasts with very smart people at the time about how amazing and safe these things were and started to question my intuition. So I made the decision to just get it over with. I got my first in late August and had mild chest discomfort but nothing bad enough to seek advice. I put it down to exercise and having quite physical weeks at work. On September 20th I went to get my second in I spoke with the 2 men at the check-in and the nurse about the chest discomfort I had from the first in an asked if there was something to worry about. The nurse said that I've got nothing to worry about and if I had concerns I should just get the second in and go to the hospital.

I feel so stupid now looking back at this grotesque disregard for patient safety especially when reading the safety guidelines for this particular especially when reading the safety guidelines for this particular says I should have been sent for testing before receiving it.

This is where things took a turn for the worse. Within hours I felt a lot pressure in my chest, it felt like somebody was sitting on my chest. It was really starting to worry me and my wife started to worry too so she booked me an appointment at her local GP. At the GP the following day they ran an ECG and showed abnormalities and gave me a preliminary diagnosis of pericarditis. I was shocked to say the least because I'd only heard about myocarditis before getting this. I went home and things became even worse. I started to get intense and heavy palpitations where I felt like my heart was stopping, twitching and essentially struggling. It felt like it was injured. That was the best way I could describe it. I was admitted to hospital where they ran all the tests required and I was admitted with "pericarditis secondary to the "where they kept me overnight. That was probably the scariest night of my life. I didn't sleep at all, even after 5mg of diazepam. The pain and pressure was so intense I thought I was going to die.

They released me the next afternoon saying I was in no immediate danger. The next week was hell to say the least. I ended up in hospital again a week later with the same symptoms. Sharp pain in my chest, down my arm and up my neck, pressure throughout my entire torso, hurt to breathe in deeply and very scary palpitations. They did all the scans, bloodwork etc and told me I was just experiencing the symptoms of pericarditis and it'll clear up in a few weeks.

This is where my story gets very hard to deal with now. After 7 weeks I started to feel a lot better, not fully better but manageable pain and slight palpitations. My cardiologist cleared me for full capacity and work and exercise saying I was only going to get stronger. Within a week I was back home with pain and palpitations worse than before.

I was so upset and angry. I then started to seek out stories and guidance online. Turns out you're not supposed to elevate your heart rate for minimum 3 months, something my cardiologist said nothing about and actually advocated the opposite. He took me off colchicine, which I found out through many people online was the wrong thing to do as their cardiologists have all

recommended the exact opposite. He wanted to stress test me, which is the opposite of what should be done according to about 30 other people's cardiologists. I feel very disappointed in the advice that I received and worry it's left me permanently damaged. I've spoken with an immunologist since then that couldn't really help me, he explained that it should just clear up eventually but wasn't actually able to refer to any reason why he thinks that. I've booked in to see another cardiologist at the end of January and hope I can get some clearer answers and hopefully get back to at least how I was before I returned to work the first time. Then I will just take it very slow and pray I get back to some sort of normality.

It's been 2.5 months since I've slipped back into this cycle of extreme pain and palpitations and 4 months since this started. I have good days where I'm able to clean the house. But those good days end up being the ones that produce the bad days. I get my heart rate up and pay for it the following days. It's been just an up and down rollercoaster of emotions and pain. I feel better some days and can see a light at the end of the tunnel and it's ripped away from me only a day or 2 later. It's unbelievably mentally exhausting. My wife's mental health has declined having to watch me in pain most days. I can't work, I can't exercise, I can't go out with my friends, I'm down to the last bit of my savings because they government provides no assistance and am probably going to have to move in with my brother who lives hours away. My wife will have to quit her job, my brother's life will be impacted by having to take us in. It makes me so sad to even think what this has done to not only my life but the lives of those closest to me.

The reason I'm sharing my story is to hopefully reach people who either have similar symptoms or are thinking of getting another one. The numbers are scary, the government uses words like "transient" or "mild" and the media and public brush it off as rare. A healthy male under 40 is at such a high risk of heart issues from this that it I consider it to be playing Russian roulette.

I appreciate anyone that has taken the time to read this and I'd like to open my page to anyone who is interested in following me over the course of my healing journey, I will leave more details about what is happening with me there, I feel like I have a long road ahead so any support is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Rebecca, 34yrs, F Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CY8bthlJiAy/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/the\_imperfect\_mum/

P#1: FF4206 P#2: FG3712

My name is Rebecca. I'm a 34yr old school teacher. I'm a wife and mother to two young, active boys. I am pro . I have had all relevant since a child including extras for a trip to Nepal years ago. I do not agree what's in them but trusted the science at the time

My kids are fully as am I. I have never received the VOLUNTARY fl00. Nor have I ever had the fl00 and very rarely get even a sniffle. Sickness is not common to my body. I am healthy. I am also a firm believer in the ALMIGHTY HEALER. JESUS.

The ONLY reason I got the was due to work mandates. My husband's work was not mandating it but they work with various businesses who did. I put it off as long as I financially could and collectively with my husband decided we had to chance it. I worked in schools throughout lockdown with extremely high student numbers of essential workers. I wore a mask when asked to. Another thing I don't agree with and suddenly I'm now at risk because someone said so. Ridiculous.

Prior to this I had my period as normal. I did go to the doctor with some minor concerns and had been checked over thoroughly. I got blood work and several tests done to rule out any issues that might affect me. I even spoke to several biologists, virologists and people in the field. All who had differing opinions. Some who flat out suggested not to get . Some who said they were cautious but suggest one over the other. I covered all my bases.

On September 4th I received the first  $\bigcirc$  I went to a hub on 'teachers day'. The thought of this still makes me feel sick. We were given a sticker indicating various things for the staff and ushered along long lines like cows about to be branded. It was a sickening environment and made my stomach churn. I was asked a series of questions regarding consent to which I announced loudly "ABSOLUTELY NOT" but acknowledged they wouldn't respond to that on the form. Several others piped up with me. No one. Absolutely no one there received any information regarding reactions or adverse effects and it was never discussed with the person doing the roll out.

Immediately my arm at the site was on fire and my mouth instantly tasted metallic. The rest of the day went ok until I had a severe headache in the evening. Apparently normal so I rested and put it off. My arm continued to feel hot, red and swollen and sleeping was difficult. This lasted about a week. The next morning I woke up to severe stomach cramping. It lasted about an hour and followed with severe bleeding. An assumed extended period is what I was told by medical staff. This continued for 3 weeks. Heavy bleeding. Passing clots the size of my palm. Heavier than I've ever experienced. At one point I thought I was having a miscarriage.

I was assured I wasn't and went about my days with this constant blood loss and cramping. Headaches daily and extreme exhaustion by 11am to the point I need a rest and sometimes a short nap to get through until the afternoon. Eventually the bleeding subsided and returned randomly for another 3 days with the same symptoms. Random bleeds, passing large clots, headaches, exhaustion and a sense of itchiness. Scratching at the skin as if something is running through my body. It's a consistent tingle and can make me stop in my tracks. I can at any point have a gush of blood and do not know when it will come or go. The fatigue was insane. I couldn't walk from one end of school to another without stopping for a break. By 11am I was often so exhausted that I needed a nap or at the very least take a break to close my eyes and by the evening I was completely out of it.

My second was coming up and instead of booking the appointment at a hub to be treated like cattle and line up with the masses again, I decided to attend a GP clinic where I could at least air my grievances and was less anxious. I am not an anxious person. Absolutely nothing about this made me comfortable.

October 16th. As I waited I was asked the same questions re previous or medications. I admitted my previous symptoms and aired my concerns. I mentioned I had spoken to specialists already. I was told a D Dimer blood test will show nothing except where cl0ts have been and only applies to thrombosis and was told nothing was wrong. I broke down. In that moment I had a complete and utter hyperventilating meltdown. As I described what I had been through and continued to go through with it. The nurse apologised constantly and hugged and rocked a fully grown woman who bawled on her shoulder in a heap on the floor. She apologised again and said she had 5 people come in with the same symptoms. She was shocked and upset for my own experiences. She offered to send me to a specialist to treat my symptoms..... with medication.... but other than that she's not allowed to do anything else. Even stating that exemptions aren't likely and considering I'd already had one it was even less likely and I may as well have it.

She asked if I consented. I said no but I need to work. She performed the , followed by a hug and offered me some water. I'm thankful for her. I continued to sob and she continued to hold me. I am disgusted with this system. I waited the 15mins in a puddle of tears and she lovingly continued to check on me. Several people walked in and witnessed me. The curtains were closed for my own privacy but several people also acknowledged the ridiculousness of these mandates.

After the I left... still in tears and didn't make it out of the centre before I ran to the toilet and vomited on the floor. I was assessed again for 15 mins and allowed to leave through the back door so I could leave privately. Less than 48hrs later.... The same symptoms occurred. Again my arm was fire hot. This time followed by intense tingling throughout my body. It felt like ants or bugs are running through my skin constantly. It's not itchy. It's just uncomfortable and constant agitation.

Week 2 post vaccination unexplained rash to add to my symptoms. I have been tested for various skin viruses and all come up negative. It has appeared in several places including a large cluster on my stomach. It is red hot and inflamed. My right inner thigh. My left inner thigh and several small patches on my upper legs. After doing my own research I got off lucky. Others who have this strange rash have had severe skin shedding and pain throughout their bodies. The rash is itchy and now has broken

skin throughout. I have been prescribed a steroid cream for the rashes and it seems to be effective however I have also included several natural concoctions to get rid of them. The doctor I spoke to this time.... 4th doctor... Told me that my symptoms aren't likely to be long term but we just don't know because there's no data!!! She too suffers daily headaches from having it. The rash is not disappearing but they are less vibrant until another patch appears.

In all this I have been keeping a blog of my symptoms and with my son's. I am still breastfeeding albeit not often and from all research the eare "safe for pregnant and lactating mums" but again there is no evidence for this..... Because conducting research on this category of people is unethical and no one is willing to risk it. From my own research and conversations with others diarrhoea is a common symptom for kids which we've had a few bouts of. He's too young to tell me how he's feeling or what's happening so for now all I can monitor is myself and any abnormalities that I see in him.

I spoke to family members who ignored my concerns and tried to continuously tell me it could be from anything. I don't wish my experience on anyone. I am a minority. I know this, however the affects that others and myself are experiencing is in my opinion not ok. We are being seen.... when we're not being censored. We're being heard when we can get our voice acknowledged. We are being seen.... sometimes but for the most part we suffer alone because it's different for everyone. I acknowledge there is no one fix for everything however this rollout of experimental medicines is no longer about health. I will continue to have appointments with specialists and spend money on whatever I need to get this under control because as much as I am pro . I'm also pro science and on top of all that I'm pro choice and consent. One thing I do know is that absolutely no one will be coming for my children. This madness has to stop. It is not safe.

My symptoms are still ongoing

Davey, 45yrs, M Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CY8QUbgpv4K/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/darvydee/



My name is Davey and I'm 45 year old with two little boys, a 1 and 3 year old. I have a science background and have worked as an ecologist and currently work in the social equity space. Both my science brain and natural instinct were very wary about getting the . I felt healthy and strong and had done enough research to not be convinced of the safety and effectiveness of the . But everyone discouraged me from doing research and having my own objective view. It has not been safe to have my own views around the people in my life. You either get the or you are crazy and anxious. I also did not know how I would provide for my fam if I didn't get the . I would have lost my job and my family wouldn't have spoken to me. That does not feel like love to me. I got the first . I would not started having heart pain within a few days. This was the start of the hardest time in my life and I have been in many traumatic situations. The pain was stabbing and all consuming.

I started going to doctors and they said it was anxiety. The man doing my echocardiogram said otherwise. He was seeing many ppl with the same problems. All the tests came back fine and I was told to get the second. It took me 3 months to go back. I was so scared and everyone around me just told me to get it or I will lose my job and not be able to see anyone. I had an appointment with a cardiologist to get a final opinion and they laughed me off and told me I had no choice. I was sweating on the day and the nurse actually seemed apprehensive about giving it to me. Within a few days the pain became worse and more debilitating. And the scary side of the story is that no one in my life wants to talk to me anyway. They are already telling me to

get my third. But this is not going to happen  $\frac{1}{8}$ . I have been to hospital recently with huge heart palpitations. I am scared of the long term damage and possibly dying. My kids need me.

If you really love someone, tell them you respect their choice and will be there for them. How have we got to this situation where we put so much trust in a corrupt system. Scientists don't even know why mosquitoes bite some ppl more than others. They definitely would not understand the full impact of the . I know 3 other people that have been diagnosed with heart inflammation post . I hope there is justice soon

Elle, F Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CY5tWLWP60v/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/elle.a.w/



I had to back in March 2021 when it was first rolled out in 1B. I work in healthcare and I wanted to get it because I wanted to protect my patients and myself, I was completely for the and figured that the risks were so rare that I'd be fine. I had the fl00 every year with no issues so wasn't concerned. I'm not a huge fan of needles so I was nervous getting it, the nurse was very kind and let my friend come in with me to help with my nerves. We headed home both feeling fine and grabbed dinner before heading our separate ways.

I woke up the morning after at 2am with horrible fl00 like symptoms, which was fine I had fully expected that, took some Panadol and went back to bed. I woke up to a text from my friend saying that she was feeling the same so I wasn't worried. Next day was the same, shivering, nausea, feeling like I had the fl00.. but expected it so still brushed it off.

Day three I started vomiting, couldn't keep anything down, horrible back and stomach pain, and felt awful. By this point my friends symptoms has disappeared and I hoped that meant it was nearly over. So I left it because I thought that I was having the expected symptoms as stated on the fact sheet and my friend said that she went to sleep feeling crappy and woke up feeling fine, which is what I was thinking would happen.

It wasn't until day 5 (Easter Saturday) that I went to my parents for Easter weekend and they saw how bad I was, my sister described me as looking like the walking dead (charming as always!). We agreed that we'd see how I went overnight and go to the local urgent care centre the next day if needed. I was convinced that it was mostly anxiety at this point and that by worrying about the side effects I was having I was making it worse.

After another night of vomiting continuously, and not even keeping small sips of water down my mum dragged me to the UCC. They they couldn't run bloods as it was a public holiday and they're only a small centre but asked for a urine sample, I told them that I hadn't passed urine for three or four days (I assumed I was dehydrated from vomiting so this hadn't actually struck me as a concern), they immediately panicked and sent me straight to the ED. The ED rushed me straight back, took bloods, and asked for a urine sample.. I told them the same, I hadn't peed for about four days. They pulled out an ultrasound machine to scan my kidneys and added more tests to my bloods.

I only remember fragments of here on as I became so out of it as I got sicker. but the doctor said that my kidneys and liver were both failing. Kidneys were functioning at barely 4% and my liver ALT levels were around 3900 when healthy levels should be below 30. I was taken to admissions where they placed a catheter to confirm my kidneys were shut down and not producing

urine (they weren't), and began calling down specialists to see me. The doctor was incredibly calm through it all, explaining what was happening, how long I could expect to be in, and where I would go from here. My parents were warned that it wasn't looking good and I may not make it. I can honestly say that I have never felt so horrific in my life, my blood sugars and ketones were dangerously low and the trauma of laying there unable to ask for help as I felt myself dying will probably never fully go away. I was incredibly lucky with the efficiency of the doctors and nurses who didn't take any chances and made sure that I got the best care.

From here I ended up in the ICU having tubes cut into my neck and down into my artery (the pain of that was like nothing I'd ever experienced) and placed on CRRT (chronic renal replacement therapy) for 20 hours, where I vomited and retched for the first four hours, before they gave me additional ondansetron to stop it. It's basically emergency dialysis, the blood isn't warmed before re-entering the body, so you lay there with room temperature blood being forced back into your body shivering and shaking so violently that you end up pulling muscles all over your body even with a heated blanket over you. This was one of the hardest parts, physically unable to stop myself from shaking and shivering until they gave my drugs to make me drowsy and I finally passed out for a few hours (by this point I was running on no sleep for a good 48 hours). Whilst this was happening I had an arterial line placed, it took four attempts to place it as my arteries were so narrow and hard to access. The doctor was great, but it was just more unbearable pain as the local anaesthetic wasn't working and the four attempts were excruciating.

I was getting hundreds of scans and tests run in amongst everything, they had concerns about cl0ts as my d-dimer levels were elevated but fortunately there were no obvious cl0ts that showed up so they surmised that my body was handling any cl0ts I may have had. I had doctors in and out asking for more tests and trying to explain what was happening and why things were being down and what they'd show. Every doctor I saw explained that they had to run the tests to rule out the as as the cause because when they made the report to TGA they would ask for the tests to be run. If they hadn't run them the TGA could reject the report. All of the tests came back showing that I was in perfect health for my age, EXCEPT of course the organ failure. I was initially discharged after 12 days, sent home to my parents for care and ongoing dialysis as an outpatient. When I came in for my first dialysis (two days after discharge) I collapsed during it and had a code blue called. I was readmitted immediately and stayed in till I no longer needed dialysis. I spent a month in the hospital all up, receiving dialysis and being monitored before discharge home with strict instructions. I was fortunate that after five months my kidneys and liver bounced back to normal levels, there is scarring in my kidneys but it is minimal and they're hopeful that they won't fail again.

Amidst all of this I ended up with severe hearing loss in my left ear, a side effect of that others have reported, and whilst I can manage most days I do have hearing aids for when I'm in busier environments and manage to hear what people are saying to me. I hate wearing them though as the noise becomes overwhelming (my ability to manage sensory input has drastically diminished, something I'm told isn't uncommon post a medical trauma like this) and I can't cope. I didn't mention the hearing loss whilst in hospital as I thought that in the scheme of things it wasn't a big deal and thought it could have been stress. I've since been told that there is a high chance it was actually an ear stroke and should have been immediately assessed.

Following the last developed two chronic conditions that became apparent once I was home and tried to return to my life. I've been diagnosed with POTS/dysautonomia and mast cell activation syndrome (MCAS), it's had me in and out of hospital looking for answers and have led to further admissions. I end up tachycardic everyday, on a good day it doesn't go above 155 and on a bad day it can hit 200.. I'm constantly dizzy, off balance, nauseous, and having chest pains has become a daily occurrence. There have been multiple episodes where my body couldn't tolerate the HR and I've fainted. The MCAS had me reacting everyday to my cats, foods, and allergens would set me off. It's only in the last month since starting Xolair sthat the symptoms have come under control and I feel like I'm not spending my days waiting for a reaction to occur.

I wasn't given an exemption for the second , I was told to get instead as I could safely have it, and this worsened my POTS symptoms to the point that I can't manage to work atm. Because of the dysautonomia my proprioception is now incredibly poor and I often fall. I am waiting on a referral to a rheumatologist as my right leg often loses colour, gets pins and needles, and my ankle will roll and foot will drag as I can't lift it high enough. My physio noted that capillary refill in my right foot was drastically slower than in my left as well. So far no one can explain why this is happening and we are hoping a rheumatologist may have answers, for now I use an ankle brace or strap my ankle to keep my foot in the correct position and try to prevent me falling and tripping. I use a walking stick and walker to get around to assist with my balance, poor proprioception, and POTS.

And of course all of this has taken a huge toll on my overall health, I've gained weight as I can't exercise like I used to, I've been diagnosed with C-PTSD related to medical trauma, I have anxiety and panic attacks, and I'm struggling to manage day to day. The CPTSD has made blood tests and admissions incredibly hard and I can't get through a blood test anymore without a panic attack. Sometimes something small will trigger a panic attack, drinking tap water makes me feel like I'm back in the hospital on fluid restrictions and the panic returns, sometimes I can't figure out what it is that triggers my panic attacks.

My family and friends have been incredible through this. At the start of the year I was close to having a house deposit saved up, I've now depleted it this year paying for medical expenses, medications, specialists, and mobility aids. I'm devastated that I have to start all over with my house deposit, whilst juggling medical expenses that are out of my reach and leave little room for me to even consider saving. I don't even qualify for a health care card to help lower costs as I still receive part of my income.

I am not against the in anyway, but the mandate is NOT okay and is forcing the hand of those with poor health who know that they can't safely get the in Alaring a first generation is like this should never be forced into anyone and we should be free to choose. I understand the importance of those of us on the frontline getting it (I am no longer working on the front line so am hoping to avoid the third in hot everyone is working on the front line and not everyone can safely have the I know that what happened to me is incredibly rare (so far that are no other reports made to TGA of a reaction the same as mine) but there is no way I am the only person who had this response. I want people to be better informed of the risks before they make the choice for themselves, not have it made for them.

My GP has put in an application for an exemption for the third , but I am still waiting for the government for approve it. I don't think that I'd survive another and another hit to my body. But if they mandate it I will need to get it to return to my job, or make the decision to lose my job, something that I cannot financially afford when I am already unable to get up with my medical costs.

Carolina, 35yrs, F Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CY5R-wZP9GG/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/cari.soul/

P #1: FF4206 P #2: FG3712

My name is Carolina, I am 35 years old International student from Chile, I received my first e on September 7th 2021 (I was very happy because I have always believed in ). That same day after receiving the , I began to feel strange chest pain, the sensation of a "closed throat," shortness of breath, and weakness. As I received the in a hospital, they told me to stay with a doctor to examine me. After waiting 3-4 hours without being able to see a doctor, I decided to go home because I was afraid of catching (there were many people coughing).

At home, I felt very bad, a weakness that I had never felt before in my life, shortness of breath, a lot of pain in my chest, and very strange palpitations. The next day I woke up worse, so on September 8th 2021, I decided to go to the emergency room. I explained that the day before I had received the , that I had severe chest pain, strange palpitations, extreme weakness, very high blood pressure, dizziness, etc, but the doctors did not attribute it to the indirectly. They did an ECG, and they told me that my heart looked normal, that it was probably anxiety (clearly it was not, but when doctors have no explanation, they usually say that).

I have a medical condition called Dysautonomia, diagnosed eight years ago, and I explained in emergencies that I have two types of Dysautonomia (vasovagal syncope and orthostatic hypotension), but that I was taking medicine daily for these conditions since many years ago, that both were under control. I had not I felt like this before the (never ever in my life). They clearly did not

listen to me (or did not want to listen to me). They kept me in the hospital until the blood pressure dropped, gave me "strong" painkillers to ease my chest pain, and sent me home.

The following days I was only able to be in bed because every time I stood up (even to go to the bathroom), I felt extreme weakness, heart rate at 150 bpm when I stood up, and dizziness. As I continued to feel bad, on September 13th 2021, I had to go to the ER again, as chest pain, pounding palpitations, dizziness, and shortness of breath increased, in addition to my high blood pressure and tachycardia. History repeated again, and I did not receive the help I expected. I went home very frustrated.

The following days I was lying down, I lost my social life, I worked from home, but I still stopped working many days because my blood pressure went up a lot (my normal pressure is low because I have hypotension, but now I had hypertension, crazy levels for my body!).

Until the night of October 7th, I was falling asleep when SUDDENLY my blood pressure went up to 207/150 and my heart rate up to 170 bpm, and I felt the strongest chest pain of my life. I literally felt soooo bad, like I was dying. I would have liked to tell my parents and my brothers that I loved them, and I said goodbye because I felt that I was dying, and I was afraid of dying away from my family.

The ambulance took me to the hospital, gave me painkillers, and waited for my pressure and pulse to drop, while they monitored my heart (ECG was fine as they said). After more than 15 hours in emergencies, they sent me home. I felt very weak, but the worst was not over. The doctors had no explanation.

On October 17th 2021, I received my second (with great fear). Symptoms worsened, especially palpitations. At rest, I had palpitations of 70-80 bpm, and then just by standing up and walking to the bathroom, my palpitations would hit 140-150 in less than a minute. Also, at night I would wake up suddenly with tachycardia of 160 bpm. There were many sleepless nights because my night blood pressure did not drop below 150/100 (with my normal ranges being 110/70-100/60, taking my medicine daily).

On October 22nd 2021, a cardiologist was finally able to see me, and she diagnosed Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS) after reviewing the tests I had performed in October (I asked my GP for a stress echocardiogram and a 24-hour pressure monitor), in addition to nocturnal hypertension. Finally, someone listened to me and understood me!!! Plus, she told me that I was not the first patient to have had POTS after receiving the two  $\square$  which made a lot of sense to me. I cried a lot because finally, someone understood me, but also because the  $\square$  had added a third type of Dysautonomia to my life.

I was in the emergency room again on November 1st and November 3rd 2021 (even though I was on SOS pills from my cardiologist, but I had too many symptoms). I had to move to live with some friends of my family here in Australia (since my family is not in this country, and I only had my partner). I had to work fewer hours, and I am making less money than I did before I got the ...

Unfortunately at the beginning of December I started to feel bad again, and after two visits to the emergency room, on December 18 2021, I arrived at the emergency room with an extremely weak body (I couldn't walk on my own), legs and arms extremely weak, so they decided to hospitalise me for suspected Guillain-Barré Syndrome. I was in the hospital for a week receiving IVIg treatment (which is quite invasive, I did not tolerate it well the first few days).

After hospitalisation, I have again had days with spikes in blood pressure (160/110), as well as my POTS, being a bit out of control (regular days when the beta-blocker the cardiologist gave me helps, and other days worse), as well many dizziness and instability at the body level.

In short, my life changed after the . My cardiologist doesn't know if this will be permanent if it will last 6 months, or a year, or how long it will last. My cardiologist is going to give me an exemption, so I don't get the 3rd . In addition, no one is responsible for our health and medical expenses (I am an international student, and I have spent the money I don't have on hospitals and doctors after the .).

Still, every time I leave the house, I carry my SOS pills because I feel weak. I get more tired when walking, I have dizziness and a lot of weakness in my body, and I just really hope I can feel a little better every day. I have lost faith many times, but I found this Instagram account and I feel a little better. Thank you very much for spreading our stories, because no one else has really listened to us.

Grace, 21yrs, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CY3cAmKpmN2/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/lovgrace2/



My name is Grace Loveless, I am 21 years of age. I received my very first  $\textcircled{\ }$  on the 28th of September 2021. Unfortunately for me this was not on an optional basis and was forced by current mandates. After a receiving an email from my current employer stating "If your occupation is classified as Group 1 and have not provided evidence to \* that you have received your  $\textcircled{\ }$ 's (or exemption) in line with the dates, you will not be capable of meeting requirements and will be stood down without pay" I decided it would help me to be wise to get  $\textcircled{\ }$  in order to retain employment.

After receiving the at approximately 1:30PM I felt dizzy and was concerned. When I spoke to the attendant at the chemist they offered me a glass of water and monitored me over the period of 15 minutes. Following those 15 minutes I was discharged and sent on my way as everyone usually does after their appointment. The next day I noticed pins and needles at the site that extended down into my hands, legs and feet along with high temperatures reaching 38.5 degrees. After doing some googling I discovered this may be a common side effect and monitored myself closely by taking regular Panadol, resting in bed and drinking plenty of fluid.

On the 30th of September 2021 the fever and the pins and needles continued, however now, I had developed a rash on my arms and legs, again after doing some personal research I assumed it was a common side effect so I treated myself with some Dermaid Ointment and focused on recovering. Over the next few weeks symptoms persisted accompanied by aches and pains.

On the 29th of November I received my second . Again this was not optional after the state making it mandatory and it continuously being pressed by work both in person and via email. Shortly after my second I started experiencing the same symptoms, dizziness and light headedness. Again there was no great concern and after the 15 minute period I was sent on my way. The first and second day was very difficult for me to function normally. I suffered from extreme fatigue, muscle aches and pains, pins and needles, high fevers and rashes. Weaning myself back into normality I started developing bruises on my legs. Bruising is not common for me and I had no reason to suspect bruising was caused from any previous activity. It was very dark and spread right around the top of my thighs. This continued for 3 days and settled.

Over the Christmas period I had 4 weeks off. This consisted of severe chest pain and shortness of breath. As again, this is not very common for me. I made a doctor's appointment. It was difficult to get into my regular GP so I made an appointment to see an emergency GP in a different suburb. This doctor explained that the cause was due to the inflammation of the chest lining and rapid heart beats inevitably diagnosing me with Pleurisy and Tachycardia. He said this should subside with some over the counter painkillers and anti-inflammatories but if it continues I should make another appointment.

About a week later I continued to have symptoms so I made an appointment with my regular GP and he prescribed me with Crysanal 550mg twice a day. 3 days later I developed a very painful infection at the site of a piercing I had done over 5 months ago so I drove down to ED as concerns grew after trying to treat with saline and salt water.

When I arrived I was unable to have any patrons with me which made me feel very isolated and concerned as I had, at the time been very unwell. 3 hours later I was seen too, they inspected the site and told me I had severe postauricular infection and a serve middle ear infection in both sides. Which again, I had never had before. When I mentioned the they had told me it was far too late for it to be remotely related and I should not be concerned.

When discussing the next outcome the nurse wanted to admit me overnight and be treated urgently on IV antibiotics and antiinflammatories to get the infection under control, however, his higher ups had instructed to remove the extremely painful earring and send me on my way. This process consists of having an ear block, meaning they block all central nerves with local anaesthetic.

On the 12th of January 2022 I returned to work. After all the events I still have not been well. I tried to push through to continue employment and continue making a living. However on the 13th of January I fell extremely ill. I was not able to be in any direct light, I felt very stiff, my body was constantly aching and I was not able to retain any fluids or solid foods. Unable to work in such poor condition I was sent to the hospital where they treated me with a migraine, something I had never experienced before and was sent home after begging for answers. When returning home I made a follow up appointment with my regular GP in hopes to get some answers. Unfortunately I was also brushed off with a migraine and referrals to the pathologist for a blood count and iron count.

Symptoms are still ongoing and I am concerned I will never fully recover from side effects.

Prue, 32yrs, F Hervey Bay, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CY3EptFpVgG Contact: https://www.instagram.com/prue.singh/

P#1: FL7649 P#2: FK0892

My name is Prue. I'm a 32 year old mum from Hervey Bay. I had my first ee on 2/12/21 the second on the 23/12/21 to keep my job. Originally I was super firm on not getting it at all. I even decided I'd stay home and not work if I had to. However with my partners recent bad back it was inevitable I'd need to continue to work. I also have history of cancer and have had open heart surgery as a child. My family and I have experienced serious Illness as I was diagnosed with the cancer just six weeks after my first baby was born, she is now three.

I'm sure there is a little trauma from being so sick and the thought of being bed ridden again gives me anxiety. I am 2 1/2 years in remission and I worked VERY hard to recover and get my body healthy and strong. I was hesitant with the as a the last thing that I wanted was to get seriously ill. As a family we had been through enough and it took 1.5 years to feel normal again. I was worried that a rushed in its trial would take away everything. Most people were dismissive of my concern even my own mother. I begged two Doctors for an exemption referring to the open heart surgery I had as a young child and the history of lymphoma. I was declined.

I tried to get in the car to go and get the wtwice in time for the QLD mandate however I just couldn't physically walk to the car, get in, and go and do it. The third attempt my partner took me. I tried to keep my composure going to the clinic, it was strange I wasn't hyperventilating I was just sad, here I was flying the white flag I was so adamant I wouldn't do. When I got there tears just leaked from my eyes, I was trying my hardest not to cry because I felt embarrassed and I'm not a big crier, but they just flowed from my eyes, it was like my body was telling me to GTFO of there. The nurse was emotionless, didn't ask me if I was ok or if I was sure if I wanted to go ahead. She injected me and sent me to the waiting room. It was like I was just another number



dosing up. I felt shame and disappointed that I wasn't strong enough to not do it. But it meant putting my family under financial pressure.

Since my 1st , I felt fluttering 'pinchy' pain and a dull ache in the left hand side of my chest/heart (same location as my lymphoma) the very next day. I thought it may have been scar tissue from the cancer as I sometimes get it.

After my second the symptoms intensified and slowly continued to do so. I had trouble getting into the GP over the Christmas holiday so the next available was at least two weeks away so I booked it and had to wait.

It then started to scare me. On the evening of the 4/1/22 I Presented to the emergency department in my home town. It was so busy and over the space of two hours one person was called into ED and there were at least 20 in the waiting room. I observed two teenage boys who were having reactions that night. I decided it was best to go home and rest and come back the next morning. I went in and I told the nurse at the admin I was having a sharp dull Pinchy chest pain since my first and that it had intensified since the second . After a couple of hours I got in and was treated in another waiting room of the emergency department. My doctor was lovely he ordered a chest x-ray, bloods and an ECG. Once they were completed he came back and said to me that I had had a reaction to the . He told me that I had linduced Pericarditis, we talked a little about it and then he said "google reaction" were his exact words. Got me thinking, It Can't be to uncommon hey?

I feel sick to my stomach with guilt, shame and regret. All I can think about is how stupid I feel and wish I listened to my gut. I have deep regret. I'm angry. I'm frightened and scared I might to have to deal with a serious Illness all over again when I felt perfectly fine before having it. I begged for an exemption from my Haematologist for what I would say was definitely a valid argument and was declined. All I wanted was time....and more study. That's all...

I should not have ever had to experience any of this. I SHOULD NOT have to be feeling ANY of these emotions. I have gone from being very active, healthy and doing 1.5 hour gym sessions at least 4x a week to just trying to get through the working week without calling in sick. I manage some light home duties but otherwise if I do too much my chest pain flares up. I feel so exhausted easily and pretty much permanently. I get short of breath. I am now on heart medication with no idea how long or how serious this will be. I'm sharing my story as these reactions are not rare! All this for 98% survival rate. I would have preferred to taken my chances with ...at least that would have been MY CHOICE. Consider stories like these before deciding what is best for your child.

Thanks for your time A very furious Prue ⊌ ♥

Maddy, 21yrs, F Secret Harbour, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CY2sKWxJrKY/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/maddy.healy00/

**P**#1: FL3560

I'm 21 years old, mother of one, always been reasonably healthy without any problems prior to the (4), obviously being a mother, I have a lot of running around to do, I also have to work to pay the bills and put food on the table. I didn't want to get

the but working as a caterer, my work was mandated it and I didn't feel like I had any other option as I'm also going through the process of starting to build my first home.

I had my 1st 19th of December 2021. I woke up on the 22nd of December so unwell. I was vomiting every 10/30minutes and I automatically thought gastro, I couldn't eat, couldn't walk, was dizzy. I had to get my friend to pick my son up as I could not look after my 15 month old.

At around 3pm that day, I started getting major chest pains, it felt deep, sharp and it was going from my chest through to my back with a burning like sensation. I called health direct but they just told me to go to hospital.

My partner came home from work early and we went to ED as we were getting worried.

We spoke to triage and they did the usual checks, after seeing my heart rate resting at 125 and fever running temp at 38.7c they rushed me in. I spoke to the Doctor straight away, he said my heart rate was in the high range. I mentioned I had the 33 days ago, they ran an ECG, XRAY and blood tests, They also put me on a drip as I was dehydrated. After 5 hours, my fever dropped, so did my heart rate, the results came back normal and he wrote down on my discharge form "inflammation reaction post" but also said "I wouldn't say this was serious enough to not get the second one"

The day after, I returned to the hospital again, I had shallow breath and burning sensation down my left arm. I thought I was having a heart attack but when I got there and they ran tests, they all came back fine and discharged me saying that I'm just bruised from the day before.

My chest was bruised for a week, and I still suffer from chest pain 3.5 weeks on. I am due for my second even thought my work acknowledged my injury. I have tried to get an exemption but I'm unable to without a diagnosed heart condition and I need to work, so I have to get it.

Mine isn't as bad as others but I am still scared, this isn't much of a choice, no one has a choice. It's either get the end up homeless, with no social life.

Ti, 28yrs, M Gold Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYtAAbeJmde/

Contact:

P#1: FK0892

I'm a 28 year old male, fit and healthy. I'm training everyday, always active playing sports, eating good with the odd cheat meal here and there. My job is physical which is perfect and in a safe, supportive environment. I have no health problems other than asthma which I've had since I was a baby. I've completed many health & fitness tests through the medical centre and all results have come back .

I've never taken any painkillers if I feel under the weather or resulted to pharmaceutical medication if I feel something isn't right with my body. I like to think I know my body very well.



For the last year I've been trying to get back to home to my family in New Zealand which had put a lot of stress on myself during these ridiculous times. As you may be aware the MIQ lottery system between AU and NZ has provided false hope for 1000s of kiwis and Aussies trying to reunite themselves with love ones. As we can see AU government & NZ government are unpredictable and forever changing the rules.

Throughout the whole of 2021 I looked for advice surrounding the safety of the and learning from friends and families experience after taking the . This whole time I haven't felt comfortable with the idea of taking something like this in order to protect myself from a . With all the information I received I still felt like there was something missing.

After the latest news regarding Kiwis in AU will be locked out of the latest MIQ lottery system that was the final straw. Hearing that sort of news was a shock. My whole life flashed before my eyes the only thought I had was "I'm not going to see my family again! I'm going to be stuck here in AU and not be able to leave without getting the ""

Due to the pressure of work and the stress of not being able to see my family, I had no choice but to book myself in for my first I can confidently say I was scared Aless!

Friday 7th Jan. The nurse/doctor made me feel scum as I was wasn't wearing a mask even though I told her wearing a mask aggravates my asthma, she still made me sit at the front door away from everyone else who was receiving their ...

I was called in to receive my first .... I asked the nurse/doctor "can you please tell me if this is safe and if you have experience anyone having a reaction to the ?" She's responded with "you will be fine" which to tell you the truth made me feel a little bit of comfort. Moments later everything is done and now I'm waiting outside for the required 15mins as per usual.

Within moments I started to feel dizzy.. I started sweating to the point sweat was dripping from my chin onto the floor, my arms were wet as if I had just been swimming all while I was struggling to string a sentence together. I remember a young lady beside me asking if I was ok while she quickly ran and got a nurse. I was placed into a private room to rest for a further 1.5hours being monitored every 15mins or so.

For two days after the 😂 I felt fine. I had heart palpitations but didn't think anything of it. I relaxed around the house and rested as instructed 🙏.

Monday 10th comes around and I wake up feeling completely out of whack... I woke up to my legs tingling, my heart rate was high but again I thought that was normal. I also was experiencing shortness of breath where I could feel minor chest pains. Once I got down stairs to head off to work I started to sweat again but this sweat was intense.. almost like I had stood under a shower in my work clothes  $\Theta$ .

While I was at work things started to get really bad! I hadn't even started the day. My heart was beating so hard I was getting head spins again I thought this was normal after the so carried on as per usual. Within moments my legs began to shake! My legs looked like electric shocks were being sent through my them.. all my muscles were moving in all directions which made me sit down till they stopped doing their thing.

A few hours later I'm walking down the street from the job site. I hadn't even made it 200m down the road and my heart was racing BAD! I tried to contact my doctor but could only talk to him without a appointment being booked. I resulted in contacting a friend in NZ who is a nurse who started to ask me basic questions on what I'm feeling.. she asked me to take my pulse which I done (70 beats within 30seconds at this moment in time) she blankly said contact the ambulance!! While I was getting help with an ambulance I had to be seated at a restaurant table as my legs began to shake violently.... While this is happening I began to loose my breath again with sharp pains in my chest.

About an hour later I'm in the hospital being assessed! I would have had a total of 6 nurses working on me along with two doctors. Each time I asked them "IS THIS COMMON FOR PEOPLE TO BE COMING IN POST ?" The response was palmed off or ignored!

When I called the nurses in to watch my legs violently shake they told me "LEGS USUALY SHAKE WHEN YOU DO EXCESSIVE EXERCISE" which seriously f@&ked me off. I could see in some of the nurses eyes that they had no clue what was going on!

When they saw my heart rate on the monitor beating at 124bpm they said "YOUR HEART RATE IS HIGH BECAUSE YOU MAY HAVE HAD PREWORKOUT OR MAY HAVE BEEN EXPERIENCING A MINOR HEART ATTACK"!! This here made me feel like I wasn't



being heard at all! I tried to explain every little feeling I was having.. every time I spoke it felt like they had already made up their minds on what they were going to say!

The worst feeling of it all was when the doctor told me everything I'm feeling is "IN MY HEAD" which hit me so hard considering they can see my high heart rate, they can see me struggling to breathe and the violent shakes in my legs.

A few hours later I go in to get my heart scan, I quickly asked the gentleman who was pushing my bed if what I'm experiencing is normal and if he had seen much people come into the emergency department for the same reasons.. without telling me he looked at me with a look of sadness which I believe was him saying yes!!

This made me upset. Trying to hold back the tears of accepting the fact that I've really stuffed up here by getting the exercise that I've really stuffed up here by

Once I was put back into my ward, a nurse came in to take another blood sample. I practically begged her to give me clarity on what I'm feeling isn't normal and that if she sees many others like me coming in here experiencing the same reactions post ... throughout my whole experience being in hospital this nurse showed true emotion.. through her mask and protective eyewear she started to tear up. She pulled herself together and changed the subject.

A few days later I am out of hospital. My arms shake and twitch uncontrollably! I still struggle to do simple house hold things like walk up stairs!! I can't lay down on my back because it aggravates my chest pains and increases my heart rate. I now get the sharpest pains in my arms and neck! All while this is all happening I'm in regular communication with other "health care professionals" and they continually say "THIS IS NORMAL AFTER THE FOR PEOPLE OF YOUR AGE" On top of all this I've been told that I'll be fine to get the second Guys! Be careful ok!! I understand you may be backed into a corner but please be careful!! This isn't fun at all!

Sheena, 60yrs, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYs3i2RpiQk/

Contact: sheenaec7@gmail.com

Day 6 I got a taxi to the hospital ED after not sleeping the night before due to a huge headache that no painkillers would touch. After hours of waiting I got blood tests. All they showed was that there were elevated levels of inflammation in my body. I went home to bed.

Day 7 I felt a small painful rash in the middle of my spine. I went to the GP who took a swab to test for Shingles and started me on anti-virials. Although we got in early the shingles spread to the right around my ribs and finished in the middle of my chest. It was a very uncomfortable, painful 6 weeks.

Day 8 I just lightly brushed a crumb off my chest and felt a very obvious lump in my breast. It shocked the life out of me as I'd actually, out of the blue, done a proper breast check about 3 days before I got the . There was absolutely nothing there. So, to go from absolutely nothing to an unmissable 2cm lump in the space of 7 to 10 days was a shock. My immediate gut feeling was that it was the . I then spent the next 2 months with mammograms, ultrasounds, biopsies and lots of long waits for results of each (meanwhile I'm still dealing with Shingles and a multitude of other symptoms). The results of the biopsy came back that it was a 'slow growing' invasive ductile carcinoma. There was nothing slow growing about it.

On 4th October I had surgery to remove the cancer & several lymph nodes and I completed 3 weeks of radiation therapy just before Christmas. There is no further treatment needed but I'm now on anti-cancer drugs for the next 5-7 years. Other symptoms include: Heavy fatigue (which seemed to get better but I am very limited in how much I can do each day) Pain radiating from mid spine (ongoing) Waves of nausea (lasted a month or so) Heavy tingling in both feet (getting worse - still waiting to see a neurologist) I feel like I have a fly crawling on the back of my left calf (on and off). Heavy feeling in legs (ongoing) Brain Fog and slow thinking process (ongoing) Deep ache in right thigh (Lasted for the first 3-4 weeks) Feeling of sparklers going off in different parts of my left forearm and left shin (lasted 3-4 weeks) Strong pain up the back of my neck/base of skull. Permanent headache (on going) Felt like I'd been kicked in the diaphragm (lasted 3-4 weeks) Stabbing in left ear (regular for first month or so now just occasional) Ringing in right (regular for first month or so now just occasional) Continuing pain in finger joints (the first joint of each finger)Ache in the left elbow (ongoing) Laboured breathing at times (ongoing off and on)

My GP readily agreed that the Shingles were due to the but wasn't sure about the breast cancer (I'm 100% sure) The breast surgeon scoffed when I suggested that the lump was triggered by the ...

I have not been able to return to the activities I used to do, lap swimming, bike riding, stand-up paddle boarding and lots of walking. I'm just starting to get out and do some walks now.

My days are focused on trying to regain my health by eating as well as I can and taking a bucket load of supplements.

My mental health is another matter. As I am not fully , whenever we go into Lockout I am completely cut off from my usual support networks which makes life unbearable. This last lockout us 5% weren't even allowed out for a walk. I don't articulate things too well these days and it's an effort to put this together coherently. I live on my own and I've had 5 really tough months health-wise. I really need all the support I can get right now. So, being locked up at home on my own, knowing that my usual activities are going on without me and missing the much needed human contact has been hard.

Now we have the expression passports I am still basically trapped at home on my own as there is hardly anywhere that will let me in without a VP. After the last lockout ended I was excited about being able to go out and catch up on errands starting with the local op shop (shops of any kind were not listed on the Govt website as places we needed a VP for). I got there and was turned away because I wasn't double . I just got in the car and cried all the way home.

The first Lockout hit me hard. I wasn't expecting the level of segregation, discrimination and the feeling that I don't belong that I felt. I started to spiral pretty quickly and went into a very dark place.

I've had to work really hard since then to keep going and I'm currently having 2 telehealth counselling appointments a week. I feel like I'm being constantly kicked while I'm down and I'm bloody tired. There is so much more to say but I'll leave it there because it will just turn into anger. Thanks for listening and I'm sorry if it's a bit disjointed. I'm not who I used to be and life is a bloody awful nightmare right now but I WILL NOT GIVE UP HOPE!!!

Karlo, M Melbourne, VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYqMLuJJwjM/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYqMLuJJwjM/

Hey people. Not by any means am I an anti . What I am is someone who was afraid of severe reactions. I never wanted to get it (I'm self employed) but a big construction company I subcontract to said I had to get it or I would lose a multi million dollar contract, so I gave in and got it. Here goes:

25/10/21 I was booked in @5:15pm @Bendigo Health hub to revive my first . I attended and the part went well, they then took me out to the front area to wait 15min before I could go.

As soon as I sat down, within a few minutes I felt light headed, dizzy, lethargic and a high heart rate. So they put me on a wheel chair and took me out back Where they hooked me up to a heart rate monitor BP monitor etc. They kept me there for around 50 minutes. After that time I felt a little better. So I got up to walk out and that's when I noticed severe lower back pain, sciatica and the left side of my entire body started to go numb. In that time I thought it was just a normal reaction in such a short time, luckily I took my mum and dad to the appointment who drove me home. That night the pain in my lower back grew worse and worse. Over the next few days I stared to get heart palpitations and was having trouble breathing and started coming out with random entire body bruising etc

On the 28/10/21 I though enough was enough. I rang up a doctor and made an appointment who I attended an appointment with. The doctor gave me a referral to go straight to the emergency department at St Vincent's Hospital. I then caught an Uber to Saint Vincent's Hospital emergency department. I was triaged and tried to explain the severe side-effects I was experiencing etc they then sat me down and kept an me and made me wait 2.5 hours.

In the time I was in the waiting room I experienced seeing so many people being rushed to ED with similar symptoms. I was then called up and admitted to SSU in which I had an echo cardiogram, blood tests, vitals taken etc. everything came back great but they couldn't understand why my rate was jumping from 50-100+ BPM randomly. They told me that it was anxiety and stress, I was adamant that it wasn't but in the end I gave in and just listen to what they said. The only outcome of this attendance to the emergency department was diagnosed as mild Myalgias from the ...

For the next 11 days I felt like absolute garbage. I couldn't breath properly. Shortness of breath, chest pains, all body pains, bruising etc. I tried to go back to work on the 29/10/21 but I couldn't work the way I used to (I'm self employed so this really had a HUGE impact on my business) I barely worked for the next 11 days.

On the 9/11/21 It got really bad. My entire face went tomato red and I was gasping for air. The headaches were severe all day long as well as all the other side effects I was already suffering from.

I was then taken to the RMH ED in which I was triaged, I was made to wait 3 hours fainting numerous times in the waiting room. Once again I saw numerous people in there advising me to their adverse reactions from the . I was then admitted to ED SSU which multiple tests were done

Antinuclear Antibody (ANA) CCP Antibodies
DSDNA Antibodies Extractable Nuclear Antigens
Imaging Tests
12 lead ECG Trace
CT Chest Pulmonary Angiogram (CTPA) ECG Trace ONLY
X-ray Chest

They couldn't find anything except for massive enlarged lymph nodes in my chest. I was then admitted to see a rheumatologist, pulmonary doctor, respiratory expert etc. they did everything they could to convince me that it wasn't from the but lucky enough, I was able to have an emergency doctor who admitted that it was from the so with that, they put me on prednisolone almost immediately to completely suppress my immune system. The sent my immune system into overdrive

causing an auto immune reaction which made my body attack itself. It was diagnosed to be sarcoidosis from the . It's now been approximately 12 weeks since my first and nothing has improved. I have attended multiple appointments and have countless specialist appointments to attend in the future.

I'm in constant pain. It's hard to breathe, I get severe sweats. I get constant tremors and spasms all over my body randomly now. It's taking a huge toll on my business and my personal life. I am no longer able to work (I've had to step down from the tools to quote, which I hate) or drive the way I used to and I have been told that this is now a life long condition. Prior to all of this, the last 32 years of my life I have been in absolute perfect health and it's been incredibly hard to come to terms with.

My doctor promised me the was safe and nothing would happen but all the medical stuff I've dealt with over the last 3 to 4 months have been absolutely nothing short of useless and have done nothing but make me feel segregated and crazy. They tried to blame it on everything else other than the ...

I was able to get a 2 month exemption from the rheumatologist in regards to getting the second but that has now expired and they are pushing me to get it.. My body can not handle another because it will most likely kill me.

As my appointments over the next 3 to 4 months progress I will keep you updated, please feel free to tag me on your Instagram in the stories as I'm wanting to tell as many people as possible what I am going through first hand. Please share my story far and wide, that is what I want now more than anything. Thank you.

## Anonymous,



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYpy1ZaJKVB/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/journey\_with\_us\_four/

Hi I'd like to keep my name anonymous. I was very hesitant to get the . However after lots of pressure from everyone and after my doctor of 10 years told me he wouldn't see me anymore until I was double , I decided to get my first on Tuesday the 4th January 2022. I didn't sleep for 3 days and on day 4 or 5 I started to deteriorate. Couldn't walk, pins and needles in arms, legs, hands, burning sensations. Hot flushes for a couple days straight. I called 000 a number of times to be seen to and they passed it off as normal side effects.

My doctor said he would see me if I had one which just goes to show it was a way to get people in as with one I'm not classified as fully . So I went to the doctors with my side effects explaining something was wrong, he gave me sleeping pills and sent me home. The next day I couldn't walk. My symptoms kept getting worse and better and one minute I thought it's going away and next my walking is starting to improve although only for short periods of time due to severe weakness.

We decided to go to a third hospital which was a private one just to try get testing done, they ran bloods and CT scan, then a MRI which showed subtle enhancement of the nerve roots anteriorly especially at the level of L3 and L5. They thought it was Guillain Barre but after told me it's probably neurological and go see a specialist. They haven't ruled out Guillain Barre just yet



but said as it's coming and going it could very well be something else. He then called a neurologist specialist for another opinion and they said they have seen quite a few people who have had this after the  $\stackrel{\textcircled{\tiny 4}}{=}$  but more commonly with  $\stackrel{\textcircled{\tiny 4}}{\triangle}$  and not  $\stackrel{\textcircled{\tiny 5}}{=}$  which I had.

They said to hold off for another 4 weeks until my next MRI which is booked for then. They also said I can't get an exemption as they are only giving them for life threatening reactions, they suggested I may be exempt from 2 after my I see my first specialist but will have to choose between 2 or 4 for my second 4. I'm scared. I'm 26, two kids 5 and 2 they barley have had a night away from me. It's been traumatic and so scary. I am begging you IF YOU ARE YOUNG HEALTHY AND FIT do NOT get this. Please.

I literally fell to the pressure and went against my own beliefs and thought I was doing the right thing. I literally thought the days leading to it "maybe it's all in my head and I'm reading into things" "it surely won't happen to me" I went against what I felt God didn't want me to do. I thought I was doing the right thing. I can't cook, I can't clean, I can't breathe from the crippling anxiety of not knowing how I'll wake up tomorrow or if I will at all. I don't have answers and I don't know where my help will come from or if there is anyone who can help me. I went from my absolute joy of being a mother and wife and doing everything for my husband and kids to literally having my husband help me to the toilet.

I am still coming to terms that this has happened. It's been 8 days since this and it's so scary All I'm asking is:

- 1. please share this to every church every prayer warrior and every person you know who knows the power or Jesus, please pray for us, especially for peace as we journey through this uncertain time
- 2. if anyone has any help or tips or any story's of hope for me please share.

Please if you can understand my letter from the hospital a little better could you message me with a easy understanding ..

MRI LUMBAR SPINE (PRE AND POST CONTRAST)

Indication

Progress of leg weakness bilaterally for 5 days, reflexes are spared, power 4/5 foot dorsiflexion, 4/5 knee flexion/extension, subjective sensory changes in feet, still has sharp sensation, vibration normal, proprioception is normal? GBS transverse myelitis

Technique

Pre and post contrast with multiplanar reconstruction of the lumbar spine

**Findings** 

The alignment of the lumbar spine is maintained, normal intervertebral disc spaces.

In the postcontrast images, there is subtle enhancement of the nerve roots anteriorly especially at the level of L3 and at the level of L5 anteriorly.

There is no enhancement of the conus medullaris.

No features of transverse myelitis or any abnormality within the distal caudal or coins medullaris.

The rest of the nerve roots are not enhancing

No disc disease or any compressive mass lesion. No significant facet joint arthropathy. No Sacroiliitis.

Conclusion

There is no localised collection

The appearance suggests minor enhancement of the anterior roots of the L3 as well as of the L5 and L4 levels and these are suggestive for minimal neural enhancement and may be early features of ascending neuropathy or neuritis (Guillain Barre syndrome) cannot be completely excluded.

There is however no involvement of the conus medullaris Lumbar puncture is advised for dedicated assessment. Urgent neurologist opinion suggested.

Alicia, F



Source; https://www.instagram.com/p/CYnS29PJPMb/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/beachy.a/

I was never against , all of my 4 kids are , I just didn't want the . I didn't believe in a that has had no long-term studies but due to the mainstream narrative, peer pressure and family, I was told that's what I have to do to keep my family safe.

So, on the 15 September I had my (Pe), by that night I had fl00 like symptoms which lasted 2 days, chills, fever etc. On the 17th of September, I started experiencing tremors in my left arm (the arm I had the (a)). It was fine if I was using my hand but if I was relaxed the tremors would be constant throughout the day and has not stopped ever since.

I rang the doctors and because I'm in a regional area I wasn't able to get in for weeks, they cancelled the 2nd eappointment so I could see the doctor first. On the day I was due for the (3 weeks after my 1st) I had my first seizure, I was conscious the whole time and partly responsive according to my partner, but I don't remember anything at all, just being I the hospital.

My partner was the one that rang the ambulance, and they came and took me to hospital, I was in emergency, they did bloods tests, blood pressure ECG and everything came back fine, they said it would be due to stress and anxiety. By this stage my whole body is in a tremor and even though I was in the condition I was in, they sent me home at 3am in the morning 30 minute's drive away from home, without a car because I couldn't drive and my husband at home stuck with 4 kids asleep and here was out on the street in a nighty, no shoes, just a phone. Luckily, I had a friend close by who could pick me up and I ended up staying at hers for the night.

For the entire next day, my whole body was in a tremor, I literally fell asleep that night rocking, I couldn't control myself. The next day which was the 8th October, my body was in a severe tremor, I had to get my friend to take me back to the hospital, I told them what had happened and why I was there, ((a)) the nurse said to me that she only sees this from girls who have been taking drugs at festivals. Implying that I wasn't legitimate. I argued, what about these people and showed her some of injured from Instagram. They had nothing to say except it was safe and handed me over to the doctor in charge.

The doctor ran some physical tests, how my muscles worked, walking etc and I mentioned that I thought it was from the expression on the said no no! It's definitely not that, the expression is safe. She then literally said to me.. "What do you want me to do" I said I want a CT and an MRI and a referral to a neurologist.

While waiting for the MRI the next day, I had a seizure in the waiting room, so they shifted me into emergency where I saw another patient with chest pain from the  $\triangle$ . The doctor who treated was so rude and unhelpful, every time I brought up the

he would cut me off and talk over the top of me. he said they were non epileptic seizures and I'm just stressed and need to hand the kids off to someone else for a while, take some Valium and just chill out. He then said that I couldn't have the MRI today because I had the dissociative seizure, they put me in a day ward for a couple hours and while I was in the bed, I called up the hospital I was in and put in a complaint for the way I was treated to find out he was the head doctor of the emergency for the hospital. I demanded them to give me an MRI, I said I wouldn't leave without it. So, they gave me an MRI, the results came back normal. They discharged me and the seizures continued daily for the next week.

I wasn't able to get into a neurologist, it was a 3 to 6 month wait in my area. I ended up having 8 seizures within half an hour, the ambulance came and they were just telling me to stop and I couldn't, they kept persisting and tried to make me walk, I just remember feeling like they were treating me so harshly, I was heartbroken. The next day we drove to Sydney where I was able to see a doctor who gave me a 6-month exemption for the 2nd , he referred me to a neurologist in the same week which cost me a few hundred dollars just for him to tell me It's all in my head.

So, I went back to the same doctor and he was quite helpful, and sent me to the Prince of Wales Hospital, they put me in the neurological ward for 5 days, they did a video EEG, which showed no epileptic form but it showed slow brain waves. They then kept me awake for 24 hours so I could do a sleep deprived EEG and I still had the same abnormality. They suggested I had a mild Encephalopathy.

They discharged with FND and mild Encephalopathy and said now that you know it's nothing serious, your symptoms should just stop. They told me to stop documenting and recording things because they said I was too focussed on it.

Since then, I have had increased symptoms, I like to call them exhaustion waves and what happens is my mind is racing but my body shuts down and almost goes to sleep due to exhaustion, kind of like shorting out an electric circuit. but I'm fully conscious. I have tremors daily and it varies from full body to just separate limbs, mainly my left arm, I still have tingly feelings and numbness, I have different types of dissociative seizures like focal aware, absent, and the one that looks like a tonic clonic seizures, I have bruises popping up all over my body, sore kidneys, sharp pains where my spine connects to the bottom of my skull and full on migraines, the veins on my temples are visibly swelling, I have sensory overload, so visually I have disturbances and I have to where sunglasses all the time, I can't handle a lot of noise, I can't deal with extreme temperatures hot or cold and I can't think properly, I couldn't even spell my name the other day and here's been times where I'm eating and forget that I'm eating, when I try and think about stuff too much, I have a seizure, My hand puffs up and gets really hot and covered in rashes. Heart palpitations, heavy chest pains, chronic fatigue...

The last time I was in hospital was on the 4th of January, things are increasingly getting worse they just told me it's my FND and completely dismiss any of my concerns.

Di, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYleN2vpFZk/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/dibailey1/

As an aged care worker of 30 years, was a pre- requisite of the job, this included hepatitis, tetanus and fl00 . When aged care workers were mandated by the prime minister and consent was requested this set the alarm bells off for me immediately, I researched but couldn't find information about this new and went to my GP for advice as I suffered adverse reactions to fl00 and have several other allergies which have been lifelong.



My GP dismissed any concerns and told me they were irrelevant and not important and best he could do was me, this was a concern in itself, so I found new GP who was less dismissive but same advice. My workplace asked every day about my status and despite making several appointments to have I cancelled all, the coercion and intimidation was constant and overwhelming, I did not meet the time frame to have had 1st and was not allowed to enter the workplace.

As my job was the only reliable source of income I finally succumbed and had 1st end on the 21st of September at 6pm. It was 1 hour later when I had build-up of pressure in my head, no pain though, tingling and cramps throughout my body and all I could do was lay down and sleep, I told my husband to check my breathing and I was out for several hours. When I woke the pressure had eased but head was foggy and felt like I was drunk or on something, cramps and tingling continued for several hours and next morning I felt a little better.

Day 3 was ok in morning but by afternoon things turned bad, heart PALPS, blood pressure 174/ 144, tingling, brain fog, and right arm started jerking uncontrollably, the ambulance was called, and I was taken to hospital, I was given anticonvulsant to stop tremors as they had been going for 5 hours, and this gave some relief. Testing began, pathology, heart, CT scan, MRI, and other tests, with everything coming back normal except for MRI. They found a mass in meninges, the protective layer between skull and brain and also white mass on both sides of brain. They assume it is small tumour but not sure but are definite seizures not caused by this as I have right arm seizures and mass is also on right side which is inconsistent. I was kept in and monitored overnight and sent home next day with nothing except advice to follow up with GP.

Two days later I was back in hospital, monitored, given Valium and referral to neurologist and neurosurgeon, prescribed Keppra for seizures and sent home. Anticonvulsant side effects were atrocious, I felt suicidal and unable to function at all. Visit to neurologist resulted in diagnosis of mental health issues, no neurological problems and no further follow up, advised to see neurosurgeon within 12 months.

My treating GP had a meltdown and screamed at me when I questioned why Doctors were dismissing my symptoms, ruling everything out but not addressing the symptoms which are obvious by my arm jerking around uncontrollably. I walked out of his rooms traumatised and 2 days later went back because I wasn't going to take this lying down, something very wrong here. It was only when I requested a service they provided that I was referred to another GP and this is where I found out that my injuries are elated, I have a brain trauma from build-up of pressure, and there is definitely neurological damage, this GP explained the results of my tests and exactly what is going on in the medical fraternity.

My injuries are a constant, but some days are worse than others, the right arm seizures have become more aggressive but not as frequent, the brain fog is either really bad or not all, the brain fog, neck pain are the first indicators of a bad episode and usually happens within a few minutes of pain.

My whole body feels as if every injury I've ever had is now back with a vengeance, and where prior to the  $\stackrel{\textcircled{\tiny 4}}{=}$  I took no regular medications I now am needing regular pain relief.

I can no longer safely drive, no longer work and life is very different for me now, I've learned how to deal with my seizures when they happen, but it doesn't get any less scary. I experience new symptoms often, but they clear away and then come back, however the more serious ones are everyday occurrences that are mild to full on, can last minutes or hours or all day.

I'm on a wait list to see neurosurgeon but am now afraid to be anywhere near medicos let alone under their care, and probably be lied to again anyway. I'm using CBD oil to help with seizures, as being given a medication with such horrendous side effects which was inappropriate for my condition leaves me no other choice. I placed myself under the care of a psychologist because I now do have issues with my mental and emotional health, these are poison, never about health and the fact that so many of us now live with injuries, these are crimes against humanity. The statistics of injuries needs to be exposed to the world and this is why I share my story.

Katrina, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYIPjHpJH5U/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/katrina\_lee\_nash/

On 18th November I had my first due to it being mandated for my workplace, I have always known I wasn't comfortable doing it but am a single mum to 3 boys and I was backed into a corner to provide for them. With my first lad no reaction just dead arm.

December 9th had second at 8:50am, I felt ok and confident I'll be ok but by 7:30pm I felt nauseous and started having cold chills while at my son's basketball training. I drove home, I was freezing, I couldn't stop shaking uncontrollably, my son helped me in the bath but nothing helped me, my back started aching badly, I got into bed wrapped myself up still shaking, my temp spiked causing me to have convulsions, my son absolutely scared thinking I was having seizures called family and ambulance, I was taken to hospital as my BP and heart rate were erratic, I was in so much pain in my back and shoulders then the chest pains started under my left boob. The only way I could stabilise heart rate was being on heavy pain killers; I spent the night in ED only to be released after scans and tests showing nothing and being told the was causing these "normal" reactions. Ever since, I've been lethargic and not able to be myself, every week without fail, I've caught something from work (day care) when I previously always had a great immune system.

Fast forward to January 1st I woke with a sore throat and fatigued, I took Panadol and went about my day, by that night my body aches were bad, I went to bed hoping it was just the many late nights over Christmas, but I was wrong, I woke worse, now I have tested positive January 2nd and been in isolation, it started as just a normal fl00 like cold, few days and I was better but I was wrong, I'm now on day 9 and I took turn for worse, my breathing wasn't good and I'm back to being lethargic and the cough won't budge.

My son again called ambulance, they told me I've most likely torn my chest muscles from this cough, and to be mindful of not breaking ribs, apparently this is what does. It comes in waves, and it can be months of recovery, yet they are forcing a booster upon me.

Funnily enough not one my 3 sons are and have been isolating with me and not one has caught it yet I'm suffering badly. Every day I never know how I will be, I'm still getting really short of breath if I talk for long periods or move about too quickly. How am I supposed to work like this? Let alone be a mum like this? Then I can't get any finical support too.

It all seems so unfair, and something doesn't add up to me.

Rhee, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYiPtpJJewh/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/rhee.jones.7/

Tuesday 30th November 2021, I had the Pea.



- Eyes went funny
- Dry mouth
- I had pain in the side of my left boob.
- Pins and needles and tingling in my feet, toes and legs started.

#### Wednesday 1st dec 2021

- Chest pain started. I ignored it because I'd been told it was a normal side effect.

#### Thursday 2nd Dec 2021

- Toes, feet, legs went numb.
- Chest Pain got worse. Stabbing into my heart.
- First time going to the Doctor. Sitting in the waiting room my thighs went numb
- Doctor wasn't concerned about me losing feeling.
- Did an ECG regarding Chest pain, told me it was fine and to go to the hospital to get further tests to make sure everything was 100% fine with my heart.
- Went to emergency. They also were not concerned about the numbness in my legs. They did another ECG and some bloods to rule out clots.
- ECG was fine, but my liver enzymes were raised. Told me I had Transaminitis.

# Monday 6th Dec 2021

- I went back to the Doctor to follow up about the raised liver enzymes, and to also ask about the numbness in my legs, that was spreading further up my thighs.
- The Doctor said that he will monitor my symptoms but can't do anything for me because "we don't know enough about these 🤐 to be able to know how to help, just wait it out and see if it goes away" "I believe that this is caused from the 🤐, but can't say for sure, but this has affected your whole nervous system, I do not know how to help you."
- I had the needle in my left arm. My right hand had started to go numb and tingly. I couldn't even close my right hand because I was too weak, but it felt like there was pressure, as if it was filled with fluid or something but didn't look swollen.

# Friday 10th Dec 2021

- My saddle region went numb 🥯



Yep, inside of my vagina was numb. I could not feel intimate interaction.

### Sunday 12th Dec 2021

- My right hand went freezing cold but hadn't changed colour.
- Went to emergency again. This time I stayed for 5 days admitted into hospital.
- They did so many blood tests, I spoke to so many different doctors.
- All bloods were normal
- Took an hour and a half to do an MRI on my brain and complete spine.
- Results: My brain was physically fine, no nerves in my back were compressed, nothing physical to cause these symptoms, abnormality in my lower spine which raised concerns for Guillain Barre Syndrome.

My legs got weaker, it spread to my throat. I was numb to swallow.

- But here's the catch, I could still speak and still walk (but a bit stumbly and walked funny due to pins and needles and numbness), at that point I could still hold my bladder and bowel, but couldn't feel it when I had a bowel motion. By Thursday 16th, I was completely numb from the waist down, my right hand was numb and was travelling up my right arm, along with my throat.

I had Chest pain and was on a heart monitor, they did 5 ECG tests in one night. All they could tell me was that my chest pain was from anxiety.

I was discharged and told to see my GP to be referred to physio and to a psychologist to do Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and referred to see the neuro team as an outpatient.

- The diagnosis: Possible functional neurological disorder, that the receptors in my brain have shut down to parts of my body, but that they're not 100% sure, as they wanted to do a lumber puncture to test for Guillain Barre Syndrome but were short of staff so didn't bother.

My hospital discharge letter states that concerns were raised for GBS and that a CSF needs to be looked into (the lumber puncture).

#### Tuesday 21st Dec 2021.

- I went and saw my GP. He told me that physio and therapy would not help me, to wait to see the neuro team and to ride it out. He gave me an exemption to not get any more • for the time being. He told me that he did not believe that I had FND.

Today, 8th of January 2022.

Nearly 6 weeks from having the 

.

4 weeks from being admitted into hospital.

I am now numb from my breasts down. Both hands and arms are tingly and go numb.

My stomach muscles contract.

I cannot hold my bladder or bowel.

I have not even been put on a wait list yet to see the neuro team.

I can't feel to wipe myself.

I can't shower or bath myself.

I struggle to pick my toddler up.

My legs give way at any time causing me to fall to the ground.

I struggle to dress myself.

I can't even cross my legs because my muscles are so tight that it hurts to stretch them to even just cross my legs. I'm the weakest that I have ever been.

(So technically can't be 100% sure, but I believe that I was, and I lost my baby.)

I have tightness in my chest, if I speak to much or do too much I become breathless.

I was Healthy, I was fit. I would play with my daughter every day, I had my own cleaning business, so was always active. I was studying, and now can't because I can't do work placement as I am at risk of falling just from standing, and struggle to type to be able to do assessments.

I now struggle to do basic normal things. I am now disabled, with no medical diagnoses, unfinished tests (failed to do the lumber puncture), which means I haven't been able to have any treatment, and my symptoms have progressed. If that CSF test was done, and GBS was confirmed, I could have had treatment and possibly been back to normal, 4 weeks ago. But I was told to go home and wait.

My whole life has been turned upside down, from a a said to protect me from a virus, that I probably would have survived from.

I would also like to add that, the first 3 days after having the (4), I was so out of it and my brain was foggy. I couldn't remember conversations I'd had literally 30 seconds beforehand; I still can't recall those conversations, I couldn't even remember the pin to my daughters Day care. I still get brain fog and have moments where I can't even speak properly because it's like my words are kind of mumbled or my brain is mashed.

Jackie, F Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYbHyTFJkZ4/

At the time I was working in foster care and the local government areas of concern couldn't leave their 5km radius, I was one of the last ones to get the each held off as long as possible.

I wasn't really aware of what was going on at that stage, I knew something was off with the segregation seeing what was happening in Bondi but at the time it wasn't very clear, and I ended up getting the due to the ever a mounting pressure of the government and its work mandates.

I got the Pea on the 12th of August and later that night I started experiencing heavy brain foggy/headaches which knocked me out for 3 days. I didn't really think anything of it after that and continued with life as it were, but I did notice I felt different and never the same ever since.

I Didn't want to get the 2nd (a), but my work mandated it and I wasn't in a position to be able to lose my job due to having a house and family to pay for.

I got my 2nd on September 16th, later that night I had the shakes and chills from a fever, heart palpitations, and sharp stabbing pains in my heart. I couldn't breathe and I was vomiting as well as body aches and pains.

The next morning, I called the ambulance and they came to my house, they did an ECG and my heart was okay, they gave me aspirin and calmed me down, I took a couple days to recover and then I was fine. I went on with life as usual again and found out that I was 8 weeks pregnant, later that week I started spotting, it was a bit unusual so I got my blood tests done which indicated I was pregnant, and my hormones were rising as they should have been.

On the 23rd of September I went to the woman's health clinic because I wouldn't stop bleeding, they did an ultrasound and the nurse told me they couldn't find the baby in the sack.

She told me 99% chance of miscarriage and 1% chance of ectopic pregnancy.

She said to me if that's the case it could be fatal so if I have any pain, I need to go straight to the hospital.

That night I started getting really sharp pains in the abdomen which would make me pass out and upon waking up I would start vomiting. My husband called the ambulance twice, both times, they said they couldn't pick me up because they were too busy with cases and I was living in an area of concern. They told my husband if I pass out and stop breathing, to call back, I couldn't believe it!

My husband put me in the car and drove me to Campbell town hospital passed out and unconscious.

I thought I'd died when I'd arrived at the hospital, they put me in a wheelchair and put me in the emergency department where I sat for 45 minutes to get any attention at all, literally screaming the whole time in pain, they gave me some morphine but the pain was so severe It was still persisting and I was passing in and out of consciousness and vomiting.

Finally, someone arrived and they said they could give me a routine ultrasound in the emergency but the diagnostic ultrasound would not be available until 1030am the next morning.



During the routine ultra sound they couldn't diagnose the ectopic pregnancy and 2 hours on I was still screaming in pain. I managed to get a bed in the ward and my husband wasn't allowed to come with me. I was literally dying and I was alone, hysterically crying and in severe pain not knowing what was about to happen to me.

They transferred me to another ward upstairs full of 20 people all separated by a curtain not even 1.5 apart, I was thinking to myself how is this safe?

I have private health and I asked if I could have my private room and the nurse laughed and said it was for the patients. I demanded to see a doctor! They gave me more morphine but the pain was getting worse and worse, I told her I know my body and it felt like something was going to explode inside me and I was fading away. I was literally dying.. I'll never forget.. without a care she told me I needed to wait till 1030am the next morning.

She left and I passed out. when I came back to consciousness again I was pressing the call button and no one was coming. I suddenly felt something explode in my abdomen, I managed to get myself up and open the curtain and in extreme pain I walked out screaming for a doctor to take me to emergency and open me up because I felt like something had exploded in me and I was dying.

They told me to stop screaming and that I was being nuisance and to get back in my bed, so defeated and with nothing left in me, I got back to bed and I waited in excruciating pain till 1030am in the morning, they finally took me to the Sonographer and I'll never forget the doctors face when he placed the ultrasound over my abdomen.

He looked at the nurse and he said "get the theatre ready quickly, take her now!

These were the notes:

An ultrasound was performed on the 24th of September, pithing increasing abdominal pain revealing left sided hematoma and free fluid in the pelvis, revealing left sided tubal abortion/ectopic pregnancy with 800ml of blood free flowing into the pelvis.

I was rushed to theatre and put under, When I woke, the doctor explained they had removed my left fallopian tube. Not being in severe pain and being able to think critically, I was furious at the doctors for the negligence I had experienced. I lost a Fallopian tube because of their sheer negligence, not only that, I was fatal, but I was told that patients were more important than my life even though I pay 450 a month on private health for my family and this is the treatment I received.

I asked if they could transfer me to another hospital due to the negligence, They said that all the other hospitals were full and discharged me from hospital that day, my haemoglobin levels were at 86.

At home I couldn't breathe for weeks. I was so fatigued I went and had a blood test weeks after where my haemoglobin levels were still low at 96. the doctor told me to take supplements and to come in and do an iron infusion that I was never able to get from any gp in the 4 weeks I tried.

4 weeks later is today and I've now got \*\* which to me feels like a synthetic flu, it's a long road to recovery but I'm getting through it fine, I've almost completed my iso just in time to hit the streets on Sunday for the save the children protest.

Val, 23yrs, F Sydney, NSW



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYYJOWFpOzr/

Contact: https://www.instagram.com/valsong22/

I was a healthy 23-year-old active musician/gym enthusiast. I had my first on the 15th of September 2021. I was terrified of needles and also did not want to get the straight away since it was fairly new and I was aware of some of the reactions people were having.

I had a big push from almost all my friends who were so important to me and who I still know to this day would not be my friend if I didn't have my and also my partner at the time (who I am no longer with) who said if I didn't get the we couldn't be together. This was my first relationship and looking back at it now it was the worst decision I ever made.

Three days after my first ! I started to experience heart palpitations, blurred vision, dizziness and light chest pain. I went to the hospital emergency room where they told me it was just anxiety and I was sent home to rest. The symptoms worsened especially at night where I couldn't breathe it felt like someone was sitting on my chest and some days like someone was stabbing a knife into my heart every time I would try to take a deep breath.

I went to a new GP who prescribed me Valium which I have never taken in my life and still have not taken. Throughout the experience I was dismissed so many times by a total of around 8 GPs until I was finally sent to a cardiologist who diagnosed me with costochondritis which is inflammation that was affecting my whole body some days even so bad I was unable to walk. I had to have five blood tests in the span of 3 months (this was the worst due to my needle phobia and also going through the experience alone), countless ECG testing, holter monitor, echocardiograms, chest X-ray, lung X-ray, and so many hours spent in GP/hospital emergency rooms.

Prior to having my first • I was active, I would exercise every day without fail and ensure my diet consisted of the appropriate amounts of protein/greens and fruit etc. I was social and would hang out regularly with friends to go on hikes or skateboard and now I am mostly bed ridden or confined to what my body will allow me to do without pain. I have had to front all of the medical costs from my own pocket (while not being able to work due to pain) and also endure the experience alone as I did not want to tell my family and stress them more than necessary.

On the 20th of December I was at the hospital emergency room where they ran further testing and noted I had abnormalities common with pericarditis, I was given further medication and have since been diagnosed properly with both costochondritis and pericarditis. It has now been almost over four months and some days I wake up in excruciating pain while others it is tolerable. I am unsure of what my recovery will be like and how much I will be able to recover but I am ready and comfortable to share my story and raise awareness for everyone who has gone through and is still going through this experience.

Anita, 45yrs, F Launceston, TAS



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYWDfBSpEZJ/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/anita\_web2/

I Worked in Mersey hospital as admin for the anti-natal clinic, I was one of the last ones who wasn't ... I'm not anti ..., I've had my fLoO ... every year, I just wasn't sure about the ..., the fact that there was no long term studies rang alarm bells but I wasn't able to afford to lose my job as a single parent of 2 children and needing to keep a roof over our heads and food on the table. So, it was required of me that I had to get the ...

I got the  $\bigcirc$  on the 19th of March 2021. A couple of days after, I had a pain in my foot which I thought was strange because I have a high pain threshold and brain fog which lasted a couple of days and I thought it was strange, I even texted my sister half-jokingly to say if I die in my sleep, I've had a bad pain in my foot and I had the  $\bigcirc$ .

I woke up the next and continued my life as I usually would and I was so busy I didn't really think anything of it. Apart from feeling a bit more fatigued than usual, this went on for the few weeks and then I was normal up until week 9.

On the 21st of May I went out for dinner with my family and I all of sudden was hit with a thunder clap headache and felt like I wanted to vomit, someone at the table gave me Panadol to take and I went straight home to sleep.

The next day I went to the hospital because it had returned but far worse, I had a really severe thunder clap head ache, which the doctors were dismissive of and telling me it's just a migraine.

I knew it wasn't and they ran blood tests and Blood pressure which came back 209/119 they also did a CT on my brain without the contrast which came back all clear.

I just knew something wasn't right, I can tell this difference between a headache, this was a pain that I've never experienced before and as I said earlier, I have a high pain threshold.

They sent me home medicated, I don't remember anything from that point and woke up the next day. The headaches got worse, and I apparently vomited 4 times according to what my daughter tells me but I cannot recall any of this.

I stayed home that day and that night I couldn't even feed my kids, I was basically just sitting there holding my head not knowing what to do with myself, my daughter asked me what can she do to help and I responded "I don't know" she responded asking "should I call an ambulance" and I Responded saying "I don't know" Luckily her intuition was right and she called the ambulance anyway.

The ambulance arrived and they took me lights and sirens to Launceston hospital, on the way there the paramedic was trying to keep me awake because my blood pressure kept dropping as I was going to sleep, in other words he thought I was going to die. I want to thank him, whoever the man is for the way he was directing everyone, it was him who was keeping me alive, the others were just saying it's a migraine.

When I arrived at the hospital, I overheard the man saying I was having a stroke and they had to treat me as a stroke patient.

I woke up one day after, I couldn't talk, I was paralysed, I had double vision and I couldn't open my eyes properly, I was in and out of consciousness, but I could hear what they were saying when I was able to, I even over heard the doctor telling my family it wasn't looking good as I had a stroke in the spinal column.

When they moved me from ICU back to the ward, I was in a room with 3 other people, I was hooked up to multiple monitors in This room, a day later I was moved into a single room and all monitors were removed and by that stage I couldn't talk but I could understand what everyone was saying. I was using basic sign language to communicate. The doctors would hardly come in to check on me.

A couple days later when I started to recover the nurses and doctors were more active with me, the nurses were great, I felt so humiliated not being able to function at all, but they assured me they were used to it and I was truly thankful.

I had a catheter; a nasal gastric tube and I was on a drip for what was going to be the next 6 weeks when the nasal gastric tube was taken out and the catheter was taken out 4 weeks after that. I was in the hospital for a total of 16 weeks, and I had a number of bladder infections which meant I had to be on antibiotics in this time as well.

After the 16 weeks I went home to live with my mum which I have been there ever since (4 months on) I've been going to physio weekly. I'm able to walk a little bit with a walking stick but not too far. Every week I feel like I can do a little bit more but it's so frustrating because I've always been someone who's been independent and able.

I still get the odd headache; I have really bad fatigue and can't do much in a day. For a long time I had double vision and my right eye had a mind of its own which was frightening me, it took a while but my vision has improved, I've just lost my peripheral vision in my right eye. The left side of my body doesn't feel any hot or cold as I have nerve damage so swallowing food and drink is still difficult.

When I heard My long-time friend Rachel was injured by the , I just couldn't believe what I was hearing I knew how frightened she was to have it, especially after what she had seen happen to me, she even flew down to Tasmania to fight for me

in the hospital. What are the chances of this just being a coincidence? both of us have always been healthy active country people with no major underlying conditions previous to the ...

By sharing my story I'd like to say don't have the  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{}$  but let's just say, make an informed decision, don't do anything without all the information first and to listen to your body and use your intuition.

Rachel, F Sunshine Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYTBvmFMtic/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/rachychristie/

I feel silly for saying this, but I cannot believe that I am sitting here about to write my own injury story. I was so against getting the ...

My best friend got the (1994), ended up with blood cl0ts and stroke, wasn't expected to live.

Let me preface my story by saying that both of us are extremely healthy people.

We both grew up on the farm in Tasmania. We have always been hard workers, always been fit, active, healthy, and both 45 years old. We are both single mothers. We are both the type that would do anything for anyone, we care about the world we live in and have a huge love for people.

I have my daughter 100% of the time and I am the only parent in my daughter's life.

My daughter and I have had a very unfortunate life, and for many years lived in fear and danger. We have both had a lot of traumas to deal with, and we had to fight for our freedom for so many years, but our life was moving on. It was looking brighter. I have worked hard many years and sacrificed so that I could save to build a house for us. This year I was able to do that and my small home is currently being built.

I wasn't considering getting the after what had happened to my friend and I had heard so many other stories like hers. I was told that if I didn't get the the Government wouldn't allow me to work due to the MANDS, I was told that I wouldn't be able to visit my family. I was told that I wouldn't be able to visit my family, I felt so much pressure, so much stress. I am the only source of income for my daughter and I was building a house! My family mean the world to me. I was so upset that I had to get it, but I really felt at that point, my choice had been made for me and that I had no choice. I couldn't stop working, and because of the huge love I have for my family I couldn't imagine not being able to go visit them. I remember telling my 9-year-old daughter that I had to go get it, she screamed out NO MUM PLEASE DON'T GET IT.....she was so scared. She grabbed me, pleading with me not to go with such fear in her eyes, she was sobbing uncontrollably.

If only I had listened.

I got my first on 27/11. For the first 3 days I had headaches and extreme pain at the site of the ...

My whole arm hurt, and I couldn't lift it. I worked a few days and started getting brain fog. I was asked if I had completed a specific task at work and I could not recall if I had done it or not. That was so unlike me. I later found out through the post register, that I had in fact done that task, and posted it. Even when I found it in the register in my handwriting, I still couldn't recall completing it. I was very confused by this as I have never experienced this type of memory loss before. I worked that weekend as usual and felt really off. I am really busy on the weekends, and I just felt like my brain was not working properly or

as fast as usual. I felt like I couldn't react or speak as quickly as usual, I was having trouble saying what I was thinking, trouble forming words and sentences.... It's hard to explain.

Then Monday I worked all day. Lunchtime I started feeling weak all over and nauseated which was very unusual for me. I sat down (which I never do) and phoned a friend/co-worker. I told her I wasn't feeling well. (I also forgot that I had done this, until I was reminded by this friend after I left the hospital) Then a customer came in so I jumped up and just kicked back into work. I was busy all afternoon. I drove home and had a nice family BBQ, one of my brothers and his family were up visiting from Tassie. Had a great night, I felt fine, we were talking, laughing, reminiscing. I remember thinking before I went to sleep, that this was the nicest night I had had in a very long time.

I abruptly woke at 4am that morning 7/12. I immediately knew something was wrong. I had an extremely loud, high pitched ringing in my left ear, and I had lost hearing in that side. The whole room was spinning....I felt nauseated so sick to my stomach and extremely confused. I eventually got myself up and went to the bathroom, but I kept hitting into the walls and falling over. I fell back asleep and woke up an hour later so much worse. I was so scared.

The ringing was so loud and the spinning and nausea so much worse. I started throwing up. I got up and tried to walk, I just kept falling over. My daughter saw it all, she was trying to help me. I remember seeing her scared little face.

I ended up crawling to the main living area, my brother found me and called the ambulance.

The ED got me straight in for CT scan and CT with contrast. It all looked clear. The stroke team was called as I was also experiencing blurry and double vision. They admitted me to the stroke ward. While I didn't have any headache or pain when in the ED, that soon came, I was suffering now with migraine as well.

That afternoon I was taken for an MRI. At that stage they did not do it with contrast as they didn't feel it would tell any more to the story.

I spent 10 days in hospital, so very sick. My daughter struggled so much with this. I remember her crying and looking so scared....she asked me "Mum, what if Nana and Pop weren't here? Who would look after me then? My heart sank.

I was treated for all case scenarios as none of the test were conclusive as to what had happened. I told them that the only thing I had done differently was get the . They initially said, well it could have been from the as we have no definitive answers yet. As time went on though, they seemed to not want it to be related and before discharging me said that they think it was an infection, which was initially the first thing they didn't think it was, and there was still no evidence that it was infection. That really upset me because we all knew it wasn't that, I had no signs or symptoms pointing to an infection at all and even the neurologist who came to see me said he didn't believe it was that.

So, after relearning how to walk again, I left the hospital with complete loss of hearing in the left ear, tinnitus, vertigo and recurring headaches/migraines, unable to drive, work, or walk for long distances without supervision.

The day before I left, I got an MRI done with contrast. I was left a voicemail on my phone from the stroke team saying that they had meeting to go over my MRI results and they had found I had had a stroke in my inner ear, an intra labyrinth haemorrhage, a bleed.

I now have a long, slow journey back to recovery. I have rehab with physio, who are trying to help me regain my balance. However I have had to stop the balance exercise as they trigger migraines.

I have been to a vestibular specialist, he has told me that I will not get my hearing back, and that my left inner ear has absolutely no function. He told me that due to the blood supply being compromised, that neither of these will return. So now it's time to rehabilitate, and recalibrate my brain basically which he says takes a very long time. I will be out of work for who knows how long.

I'm so upset, stressed out, mad....so many emotions. The stress now of being half way though building a house.

I live pay check to pay check, that is gone. This was meant to be an exciting and happy time for my daughter and I. My reality now is the complete opposite. Most of the Dr's and specialists have been saying that they don't think its the ....but I know that it is.

I've been feeling so alone and pretty beaten down by the system and by the professionals involved. Feeling so sick and in pain for the last few weeks, it's hard to speak out and find my voice. I had been praying for strength and for the truth to come out.

Yesterday a miracle happened. I went to my first Ear Specialist appointment. The Dr was amazing, he wanted to go through exactly what had happened and how it had happened. I've had so many Dr's ask me questions like...were you lifting heavy weights? Did you fall? Did you sustain an injury to that ear/head? This Dr asked me if I was listening to loud music? My reply

was, "Dr the only thing I have done differently for the past 10 years is get the !" I told him that I felt certain that is what caused it. He stopped, looked up and asked me straight away when I got it and which dose. I told him. I let him know my symptoms post !. He then proceeded to look at my file, and told me that after the meeting the Dr's/specialists had regarding my MRI result, that they filed a report with the TGA stating possible ! reaction! I nearly fell out of my chair. It was like music to my ear...that works lol. I then started to wonder why the Dr's hadn't told me this? I also am yet to see the report. I know it's going to be a long process, I just hope the TGA do their job properly, and that it is reported properly.

I would like to finish my story by pleading with all who read, that if you feel in your gut you should not get the , please do not get it. Listen to your own intuition and follow it. My biggest regret is listening to all the noise around me, to buckling under the pressure and getting the ue to the government's MANDS and limitations on people who are not fully . It is my hope that by sharing my story, that I may prevent this experience from happening to someone else. Please, there is nothing more important than your life and your health.

If I had not made it, if my reaction had been worse, my daughter would be without any parents and that upsets me more than anything else in this world. I remember calling my boss distraught about the decision I was making to get the .... I literally said to her I felt like I was playing a game of Russian roulette......please don't play the game.

These reactions are happening far more than people realise, or that are being reported. You do have a choice, please chose yourself. I would like to thank all those who have shared their stories, and for all those who are assisting us. The depth of gratitude I feel for you is impossible to express. While I have witnessed so much darkness in this world, it's through these trying times that I am so humbled by the outpouring of support and love that so many amazing people give, many of whom are strangers. That brings me to tears and it fills me with hope. I would love to hear from anyone who can offer me guidance as to what I should do now and rom anyone who is suffering with similar conditions or experiences. Let us all stand together. Thank you for your time x

Tan, F Adelaide, SA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYP\_W7Cpy8g/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/tantan13m/

I didn't really want to get the (in the first place but from what I was hearing in the mainstream and with mandates being introduced into my workplace, I thought that it was the right thing to do. Not in a million years would I ever have thought I'd be sitting here telling you my story.

I got my first  $\bigcirc$  on the 6th of October, and as I sat down for the waiting period I immediately started experiencing an adverse reaction to the  $\bigcirc$ .

It started with a hot flush, my palms started sweating, I was light headed and I started hyper ventilating, I told them and they took me into the back room.

Where they did my blood pressure and my blood oxygen and told me I was fine and I can go home.

So I left, I felt nauseous and lack of appetite, I was very tired but I couldn't fall asleep that night, I had constant nightmares all night long and a splitting migraine which was to last another week after this point.



The next day I went to work, I was very fatigued all day long and not feeling well in general, later that day my period came. It was 1.5 weeks early and then what would become my cycle every 2 weeks for the next 3 months. (Today)

For the next week I started getting more adverse symptoms and I still wasn't able to make the connection that this was from the , GI/gastro, Bladder dysfunction, swollen lymph nodes, blurry vision, and it was in this moment I was driving to work and noticed I couldn't even remember what the road sign meant and realised I was also experiencing memory loss.

I started feeling a pressure in my head which feels like someone is squeezing either the left or the right Side of my brain, sometimes my whole brain and it feels like it's on fire and then I start to feel a painful pressure at the base of my skull on the back of my head where it connects to my spine.

When it happens I start to lose control of my bodily functions and cognition, I then go into seizure like state where my whole body doesn't stop spasming, While this is happening, it's like I want to escape my body, If you picture a rubber band being pulled out and snapping back in and you can kind of imagine my state of mind when this is happening.

At this point I still hadn't quite connected the dots and my condition continued to worsen, I started experiencing heart palpitations and chest pains and I knew it was time to go to the hospital, They ran blood tests and asked me if I had a history of anxiety and I replied yes but explained what was happening to me was different.

They didn't take me seriously and they gave me Valium and sent me home. I felt humiliated and defeated.

Long story short, I took the next couple of days off trying to get into any GP I could to try and figure out what was going on with me but everyone was booked out. So I went to my mums house and I haven't left since.

Eventually I managed to get into a clinic where I was given Xanax and started acupuncture because I couldn't sleep, I was starting to be unable to hold a conversation, I wasn't able to prepare food or eat it and I lost 15kg in a short period of time, all of my symptoms were still increasing and it wasn't long before I had another seizure like episode. This one was the worst.

I was afraid of going to the hospital and being admitted as a mental health patient because of the way they treated me previously and wouldn't listen to what I was saying so the next week, I went to the doctors again where I Had an MRI on my brain and was given anti-depressants, I was given the all clear on the brain scan and I took the anti-depressants for a few days for me to then end up in urgent mental health care due to the anti-depressants giving me Akathisia.

**Akathisia** is a movement disorder characterised by a subjective feeling of inner restlessness accompanied by mental distress and an inability to sit still. Usually, the legs are most prominently affected. Those affected may fidget, rock back and forth, or pace, while some may just have an uneasy feeling in their body. The most severe cases may result in aggression, violence or suicidal thoughts

Out of this whole ordeal there was one nurse who I want to thank for pulling me aside to acknowledge that everything I was going through was from the and assured me I wasn't going crazy.

Still to this day I have not been officially diagnosed with anything that has been correlated to the and I was lucky to have found a doctor that has given me some relief and helped me improve my symptoms by 30% but as we speak I'm going through another flare up and sitting at about 15% of my normal self.

I'm currently using alternative methods on top of everything to try and heal but nothing is really working for me right now.

Jasmine, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYELrz9pp1o/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/jasmine\_hrodwulf /

For the last 2 years I've been training heavily in Muay Thai, I've always been a physically active person for the most part of my life, so prior the to the  $\bigcirc$  I was always fit and healthy.

I got my first due to the MANDS on the 1st of December, I didn't train for 2 days as I was advised not to by the nurse.

When I returned back to training, within 5 minutes I noticed tightening of the chest, I thought it might have been a panic attack and I took it easy for the rest of the session, as I was leaving I noticed my right ankle was swollen and I wasn't sure why.

The next day I went to the doctors and I was told it was just a swollen ankle and I need to ice it, I took his advice and iced it for three days and it still wouldn't go away, so I went to another doctor who then told me I had just rolled my ankle and I needed to elevate and ice it.

I told him that I had just seen another doctor and I hadn't rolled my ankle, he responded "you might have done it and just not remembered" I was dumbfounded and told him I know what it feels like to roll my ankle, but he still continued on the same narrative.

I was feeling a defeated so I went home and 4 days later the pain started increasing and spreading up my leg, I took Panadeine forte for a couple days until I woke up in the morning to 8 out of 10 pain in my right leg going all the way from my ankle to my thigh. I also had a pounding migraine and I was sweating with a fever and feeling Nauseous.

I went straight down to the doctors, (a different one) and started telling him my symptoms, the first thing he asked was if I had the  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{\omega}$ .

He took my blood pressure which came back elevated. I have always been on the lower side. He had a feel of my leg and sent me off for blood tests and an emergency ultrasound on my leg to check for blood CLOT\$

I called the clinic and although it was an emergency, I wasn't able to get in until the next day, the receptionist said if my condition deteriorated I was to go to straight to the hospital because it could be a blood CLOT.

Later that day I started feeling worse and I vomited a number of times, after 5 or 6 times I had nothing to throw up so I was just dry reaching.

I drove myself to the ER where I waited a total 3 hours and as soon as I started speaking to the nurse they were unhelpful and dismissive, by the end they told me they wouldn't be able to help because they didn't have the equipment, so I had no choice but to wait till the next day to get the ultrasound. "They made me feel like I was just a crazy lunatic who was just over reacting"

So I left, and drove to my mums house throwing up on myself all the way there.

I was then driven to another hospital, we then waited a further 3.5 hours where I was put through a rapid test clinic and they told me they didn't think it was a blood CLOT or anything serious. They told me that I would've done it during training and I had just forgotten about it and sent me home with Panadol.

The next day, exhausted and unwell I went to my ultrasound appointment, the nurse pretty much hinted on the spot that it wasn't good and told me to go straight to my doctor where it was then confirmed I had a blood CLOT in my right thigh.

He explained the blood CLOT started In my ankle when I "injured myself training" and it then detached from the ankle and travelled up to my thigh.

I was thinking to myself, "I've been kicked in the ankle by a full grown man and I was perfectly fine"

He gave me prescription for blood thinners and told me to take them for the next 10 days and to book up a follow appointment, 5 days in.

A couple days in I started to feel a little bit better but then the pain started to ramp up again, I went back and seen him and he said "well, you're on the blood thinners, what more do you want me to do".

You should have seen my face.. ODays passed and I finished the blood thinners.

A massive bruise appeared where the blood CLOT was and it was extremely painful.

I waited another couple of days and I was starting to get the same feelings again from when it all started. I tried to get into a GP but couldn't because of the holidays so I went back to the hospital again and I got the same results which were they didn't have the right equipment for her to test. (I don't know why I bothered after the first visit I had)

The doctor gave me some pain relief and a referral to go and get an MRI and another ultrasound for both legs and said to follow up with GP and get scans done as soon as possible.

As I speak This is where I'm at and I have no idea what to do or what is happening and I'm unable to see anyone until the 4th of January. I now have my work asking me to get the 2nd which I won't be getting! and I have a son to feed too. Stressful is an understatement.

Tan, 54yrs, F Sunshine Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYDBSBMvc3I/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/tansmithphotography/

I'm 54 as of yesterday, was totally healthy before the apart from the odd migraine and needing to care for my kidneys from a faulty valve since birth (my mum took thalidomide) ... but no kidney issues because I'm vegetarian and drink loads of water and do natural health.

My first and only (29) was on 24 August.

At the 15 minute check out the lady asked if I was ok, I said I think so, I feel a bit tingly.

I handed her my card and saw my hands, I asked is that normal? She called the nurse.

My hands were swelling and red and the veins huge. They made me sit down for about 10 min and breathe, they were closing for the day so told me to go home as it was probably anxiety.

I went home, took Panadol and went to bed because my head was pounding. Woke up at 2am bright red and itching and swollen all over, I called the line and they put me to 13 health, they asked questions but said because I was breathing ok to just go to my own doctor within 12 hours. I did as soon as they opened and he said I've had an allergic reaction to the and gave me Phenergan.

Next 2 days I slept, the itching and swelling subsided a little but the burning continued. I went another 3 times over the next few days with swollen lymph nodes, burning and my 27 year old Caesarean scar swollen and painful, I had kidney pain and what felt like they were shutting down. He ordered blood tests but nothing else, said it's all allergies. I've never had allergies in my life. Blood showed my vitamins were wiped out, he gave me a script for 5000IUD vitamin D.



4th September went to hospital emergency with chest pain and a numb left arm, kidneys struggling. They asked if I was allergic to anything, I said yes penicillin and P, then they left me sitting in the waiting room for 3 and a half hours. The Phenergan was making it hard to sit up, I went to the desk to say I needed to lie down, they said there were 8 people ahead of me and whoever else came in. I said ok I'll go home, then they said oh but you might be having a attack, I said "I doubt you would have left me sitting here this long if that's what you thought"

Numerous doctor visits, calls to 13health and ongoing issues left me treated so badly that I gave up. I got to the stage of when my chest hurt I would just go to bed and hope I didn't wake up.

It normally passed. 11th September it didn't so I went to the minor injuries clinic and asked could I get my blood pressure checked, they asked why and I said I was having chest pain that normally passed but it wasn't today. They took me straight through and did ECG and troponin. This was the first doctor that treated me like a person and it turned out her nephew had a similar reaction to me. She gave me a bit of hope that I'd probably feel better in about 3 months. I've been seeing her since.

My first doctor of 15 years didn't even report my reaction until I asked him to explain in writing as to why. Then he reported.

My new doctor organised Echocardiogram and other tests, once she matched my ECG with my first blood she said I'd had PERI but it's settled, no permanent damage, ECO was good.

It's now 4 months, I'm still tired but working because I have to and work has been amazing. I still have inflammation flare ups and ongoing swelling on my left leg and lymph nodes, brain fog, blurred vision and a crunching in my ear.

Mostly I'm doing natural health to address the inflammation. On the waiting list for cardiologist and now they are looking at the possibility of diabetes and inflammation markers for cancer.

They have admitted it's from because my health history before was perfect, I visited the doctor once a year for a vitamin check because I'm vegetarian. I never had the FLOO and twice prescribed antibiotics in 14 years for kidney infection but couldn't take them because they made me worse. Cured it myself both times with herbal medicine.

I was walking 4 to 5km every morning up to the day of the , up some very steep hills, now I'm puffed walking up stairs. I had it so I could get to Victoria to see my parents. In case they needed me. The financial burden of getting well is just an added insult to the fact that they are still forcing this on people when the evidence was clear well before I lined up.

Now the taskforce, QLD health and the immunologist have all said I have to have the second and I!! They said I can check into hospital to have it because of the anaphylactic reaction and they believe I may stop breathing next time because the second can be worse. I still have trouble reconciling that in my head, that they can even suggest it, like I'm a thing and not someone's mother, daughter, sister and friend. I told the immunologist I would rather not be here than go through this again. Yes I know that sounds ridiculous but honestly I just can't make it through another, it's destroyed my life. Her response was, that's your choice Tania.

I walked out on her and left her with some choice words to think about.

Not holding out any more hope for the cardiologist but really just going through the motions now and hoping that the people responsible for this will be tried and convicted because the research I've done since this happened is beyond anything I could have ever imagined, it's deliberate force with no care for human life, it's callous, cruel and soul destroying.

Joel, M Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYCvp8RvOJR/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/jmurray.91/

I was neither for or against the  $\stackrel{\bigcirc}{=}$  but wanted the world to get on with it and saw the writing in the wall that premier McGowan

MAND it. I had my first  $\bigcirc$  in august with no symptoms besides a sore arm. I had my second  $\bigcirc$  on the 6th of October.

I had no symptoms the day of the and woke up the next morning with a swollen lymph node under my arm that had the lew back to work and had no symptoms for two days. Then the PALPS started. I brushed them off hoping they would subside and they weren't frequent. I got the odd chest pain over the next couple of days as well but nothing serious.

Day 4 post ! I was climbing some stairs I would do 10 plus times a shift and I felt as if I'd just run a 100m sprint, I was spent. I went to the medics as the chest pains and PALPS were worsening.

I was flown off site that night by the RFDS to the closest hospital. Being discharged that night saying I was fine and see my GP. I had a CT on my heart and it came back clear. They said it wouldn't be due to the but oddly enough one of the paramedics Told me while waiting for the plane to land he bet his colleague 20 dollars I'd recently had the as my symptoms presented with what they had dealt with numerous times before.

I returned to Perth the next day and went into my GP my regular doctor wasn't in and the GP I saw was arrogant and brushed me off.

I'm 30 years old fit and healthy with no prior medical history besides a couple of broken bones and muscle strains from sporting injuries. My wife took me to hospital as my symptoms of chest pain palpitations and shortness of breath where worsening. Again I was discharged with an outpatient referral for an echocardiogram. The echo also came back clear.

I returned to my GP and finally my regular GP was in and while in the appointment she rang a cardiologist who based off my symptoms told her to prescribe me COLCH and IBUP 600mg 3 times daily until I could see him.

Once in with the cardiologist I was diagnosed with PERI due to the ... He said straight away it's a known side effect. He was

brilliant and I couldn't be happier with how he's looked after me. In that time if been hospitalised another 4 times, had dizzy spells and unsteadiness that lasted over two weeks pins and needles in my face and blurred vision episodes.

My cardiologist has said until the antibodies in my system die off I'll continue to have the inflammation.

Since this time, our premier has now mandated boosters based off god knows what health advice. I could see this coming but it absolutely broke me I have a young family to support and now most likely able to get a temporary exemption from the 3<sup>rd</sup>

I'm 12 weeks post 2nd  $\stackrel{\text{de}}{=}$  and still suffering symptoms, I've only just returned to work and now this. My mental health has suffered massively since this and it's taken it's toll on my marriage and my family life.

Sheree, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYBLNQxJlqf/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/\_sheree\_s/

I have been really hesitant to share my story or even speak to anyone about how debilitating and scary this whole situation has been, I'm not great at opening up when times get tough. However, I want others to know that they are not alone and I feel it's important to bring awareness to these very real injuries.

Straight up I was hesitant to get the as I was already getting treated for a heart arrhythmia (was getting episodes of a fast heart rate sporadically). I told my GP that I was concerned and scared of potential side effects on my heart but also wanted to see my family, keep my job and live a normal life again, he advised to get it done now and that there are no risks with arrhythmias, he said it's far better off then catching.

He then administered the on the spot and didn't make me wait the 15mins for any potential reactions which I thought was wrong... I felt okay after the first slight chest pain a couple days after which I went and got checked for and was told it's costochondritis and side effects are after the second but 'rare'...The pain went away and I then got my second on the 10th Nov, trusting the word of 'specialists' that told me side effects are 'rare'... I straight away felt a warmth over my chest as the was administered which was weird and I was tired for the rest of the day. A couple days later I started to get the chest pains again and was very short of breath and dizzy when I would walk around.

About a week later I was shopping with my partner when I couldn't take a full breath in, my chest was tight and heart started racing, my body went weak and I nearly passed out. Called an ambulance and had ALL THE TESTS and was told everything was fine. The next 2 weeks I was bed ridden, super fatigued, heart PALPS when walking, had exercise intolerance, dizziness and my RHR went from 60-70 to 90-110 and 120+ when standing up and walking around. I had multiple trips to emergency with similar episodes. Every doctor would say the same thing 1.have you had your eccently and 2. We have seen many people coming in for the same issues 3. We can't see anything wrong.

Tried for 2 weeks to get onto my cardiologist with no luck or calls back so my GP has referred me to someone new to get further tests done in Jan...

Still experiencing - chest pains, shortness of breath, exercise intolerance, PALPS, numbness in my feet at night, random adrenaline rushes? And dizziness when walking.. I still have absolutely no answers or direction to why this is happening or how to treat it...

From going to the gym 5 days a week, to not being able to walk 200meters without my heart going nuts and being short of breath, I can honestly say this is one of the hardest things I have ever gone through but trying to remain positive and pray I get some answers soon..

I encourage anyone who believes there is something wrong to push for tests and answers because you know your body better than anyone else!

## Leanne, 58yrs, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CYAxnESJYw0/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/leanne\_lucy/

I was pro choice and was NOT going to get the , However I went against my gut for the very first time in my life and now I'm paying for it, I'm so angry with myself..... The day of my 1st I had a full on panic attack in the clinic and they ripped off my mask, handed me some water and then me basically throwing it in my arm like a dart.

I immediately felt hot and quite off... I waited and suffered for 7 days before seeing a doctor as I felt they'd dismiss it as anxiety. Told her my symptoms and she immediately said "well it's not anxiety, you've had a reaction to the V.

She sent me home with some pain relief medication and told me to attend local hospital if I didn't improve.

Things didn't improve so I returned to the hospital, they ran Blood tests, Chest X-ray, ECG etc and discharged me after 10 hrs. My white cell count came back elevated for viral & bacterial infections.

On 3rd hospital trip a day before 2nd lad a young doctor diagnose me with severe to moderate COPD (lung disease) and told me there's no treatment or cure and that my lifespan could be between 2 to 10 yrs and that all my symptoms are basically anxiety related & normal, they sent me home. I was in tears thinking my life was coming to an end.

I went to see another GP and told them of the COPD diagnosis, I was told it can't be determined through an X-ray alone so I was given proper test and the conclusion is I do not have COPD.

I've now had echocardiogram, cardiac perfusion tests, ultrasound and awaiting results.

This whole situation is BS.... I just want my life back.... I want to feel ok..... I am about Pro-choice and I know I chose to get it but I just wanted to see my children and grand children interstate, this isn't fair and my heart goes out to all.

Forgive me if my story is a tad muddled but my ability to think clearly seems to have been impacted also. I no longer seek help nor really trust anyone in the medical field and am dealing with it myself and alone.

This all needs to stop!

1st 25/10
Doctor 2/11 (reaction)
Hospital 4/11
Hospital 14/11
Dr 16/11
Hospital 18/11

Symptoms after 1st Page

Pain in arm... feels like it's burning, Heart palpitations, Gripping chest pain, Pain behind breast, Upper back pain, Shoulder pain, Jaw pain, Chills/ fever, Pins and needles, Calf pain, Migraine like headaches, Sore bones, Nerve like zaps, Feeling short of breath, Numbness in extremities, face and lips, Weakness, Dizzy, light headed, Severe brain fog, Lethargy, Insomnia, Vomiting, Blurred vision, Sore glands in throat/neck, Whole left side is effected.

19/11 Pee #2 despite saying I was there under duress!

Calf pain, Chest/Shoulder/Back Pain, Palpitations, Zaps, Pins and needles, Tingling and numbness In face, Extreme lethargy, Am unable to put any pressure or lie on my left side, hand etc seizes up, Brain fog and confusion.

Anonymous, 19yrs, M



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CX97ACOpo\_Z/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/bigmamakarlz/

My 19yr old son got his second on 9/11. On 11/11 he had heart palpitations but didn't tell me. On 12/11 he was woken early morning by chest pains, shortness of breath and dead arm.

Hospital performed chest X-ray, ECG, Echocardiogram and bloods. My son was diagnosed with "peri myocarditis". The Doctor admitted it was caused by the and explained it to him by saying "the anti bodies are attacking his heart but it'll sort itself out". He was however worried about him and kept him in till 15/11 attached to a machine monitoring his heart. His heart rate went up when he'd stand, laugh or walk a short distance to the toilet. They administered nurofen and Colchicine.

They discharged him and advised him to see our GP for a referral to a cardiologist and an echocardiogram which he had a few days later and was apparently all good. He took the Colchicine for 6 weeks. Our GP says it's mild but yeah as a mother it's scary and it shouldn't have happened. He's still not 100% and suffering from chest pains with no end in sight yet.

Dragos, M Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CX9v3dVPwBX/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/dragoskhan/

I Had the 1st on the 27/10/21. I Was very sceptical about having it but needed it for work. About 5 days post , I was at work walking up some stairs and noticed I had trouble catching my breath. This was unusual as I am very fit. I noticed when I was training my heart rate was through the roof. I had heart palpitations and felt like I was near on heart attack. I used the heart-rate monitor on the peloton bike and my heart-rate was sitting around 130rpm, 90 seconds into light cardio.

I Finally got around to going to the doctors when I got back to Perth, had a heartbeat scan and was sent away saying it's all good, get the 2nd immediately. A week later I went to another doctor and got a blood test.. I got the results and was told to go to ER immediately. They hooked me up to the machine and noticed my heartbeat rhythm was abnormal, it was also resting



very low, dipping into the high 120s. They did X-rays and an ultrasound saying I had a 2nd degree heart blockage and needed to see a cardiologist and was sent on my way.

I seen the cardiologist about a week later and had another ultrasound.

She wouldn't give me any information and told me I needed to speak with my doctor. I seen my doctor about a week later and wasn't really told what was happening.

I wasn't given any medication or advice and handed a medical certificate for January 2022. It wasn't sufficient so I went back to the doctor to ask for a proper exemption.

He struggled communicating with the hospital and the cardiologist. On one of the phone calls the cardiologist told the doctor I definitely have pericarditis.

I am currently waiting for a holter monitor which is booked for the 5th of January. To this day I still haven't received treatment, medication or advice on how to fix this.

I can't ant even get a proper diagnosis as I don't think they want it on paper.

They said I should wait 3 months and get the 2nd . My doctor suggested that I get the . instead of the . for my second

Scott, M



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CX7143qJUJN/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/aussietank/

ENOUGH! I want to make this point very very clear....FACT: I just left my umpteenth doctor's appointment in the last few months due to the ongoing heart problems I've experienced as a direct result from taking the Pa and this is now the 3rd doctor that's told me they have been sending an unprecedented number of healthy young people on a daily basis to the ER with heart conditions from the . This is NOT and I repeat NOT a "rare" adverse reaction. This is much more common than we are being led to believe and I've personally heard it from multi doctor's mouths now and I think it's my duty to speak up. Not because I'm an anti- (clearly as I took the ), because these extremely rushed are harming young people in droves. This is not something I would lie about nor do I have time or energy to waste on this subject if I didn't feel absolutely obliged to get my story out there. So here are the facts of my journey (so far):

Early September I had 4 #1. About 10 days later, I started to experience chest pains. The pain can be described as a very heavy dull pain, like as if someone is standing on your chest constantly.

Over the course of the next 3 weeks, I had multi visits to the GP, X-rays, ECG's and other scans (doctors originally thought it may have been a blood clot due to my history of these) but my condition remained undiagnosed all while the chest pains remained.

Early October I had #2. Shortly after J number 2 the pains in the chest got a lot worse and I then found myself very short of breath and unable to even complete 20 mins of exercise without feeling like I was having a heart attack. I was (and still am) having to put an ice pack on my chest every few hours to numb the pain throughout the day and I am unable to do much else but focus on the pain in my chest.

Now at this stage the GP finally referred me to the cardiologist who performed a cardiac ultrasound and found that I have pericarditis.

Pericarditis is inflammation of the pericardium, a sac-like structure with two thin layers of tissue that surround the heart to hold it in place and help it work. This was the first instance that I was informed that this diagnosis among healthy young people was happening at an alarming rate. I will quote the doctor from that day "You are the 4th young healthy person I've seen today with this condition". I was put on medication and told that if it got worse to present at ER.

Well, it got a lot worse and as many of you are aware, I ended up in Westmead hospital last week where I was admitted and treated. In the hospital, and speaking to the cardiologist there was the second time I was informed that this diagnosis has been unprecedentedly common for healthy young adults due to the ...

I left hospital on a new treatment plan of heavy pain killers and colchicine for the inflammation and was advised if no improvement to revisit the GP for further review.

So that brings me to today, I was back at the GP this morning and I now have to start steroid treatment (prednisone) and I'll be back with the cardiologist later in the week. This was a different GP than I seen originally and hence the 3rd doctor that's informed me of the unprecedented adverse reactions in young people due to the . The doctor I seen today is concerned of the long term affects this may have on my heart given the lengthy and ongoing medical issues I'm experiencing.

Kristen, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CX3PAyuJ-PX/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/kristenashleymc08/

I had my first each on the 26th Nov, I wasn't overly happy about getting it but the hospital made me feel like I had to get it to be able to come to my antenatal appointments, I am currently 29 weeks pregnant with my third baby.

The Doctors called the ambulance within 11 minutes of this starting.

I was receiving massive adrenaline, oxygen, fentanyl, Ventolin and a whole list of other things. My body was convulsing for 2 hours in total. Paramedics took around an hour to get me stable to transport me to hospital.

When I got into hospital the Doctors tried to play it off as a panic attack at first, then they tried to play it off that I had come into contact with one of the things I'm allergic to, then a whole list of other excuses came out of their mouths.

I have 5 kids, none of which will be receiving the  $\bigcirc$ , I hope that by sharing my story I can spread awareness and let pregnant women out there know that it's not worth the risk.

Troy, 14yrs, M



Source: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CX0nJ2jpbGT/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CX0nJ2jpbGT/</a> Contact: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/elinleasmith/">https://www.instagram.com/elinleasmith/</a>

My name is Maria and this is my son Troy.

Troy is 14 years old with no underlying health conditions and on Monday 22/11/2021 had his second . He had all the normal side effects that they tell us are normal and to treat with nurofen. He was experiencing sore arm and headaches that we treated and on the fifth day he woke up with chest pain and an irregular heartbeat. We were going to go see his GP but instead decided to go straight to the Hospital.

He had an ECG and a chest x-ray that came back clear but the blood test for his troponin levels were not good at all. Troponin is a protein found in the heart muscle and a normal level is 20, whereas Troy's level was 2,300.

We were told that his heart was inflamed. We were then taken to the Monash Children's Hospital by ambulance. He was in hospital for four days being closely monitored, medicated and under strict bed rest. On the Monday he had an MRI and echo ultrasound of the heart and then was discharged as his troponin levels had gone back to normal.

He was diagnosed with acute myocarditis and during his time in hospital he did have a test which came back negative. We have a letter from the hospital which states that 'Troy has been diagnosed as having developed post who myocarditis'. During our time at the hospital, everyone I spoke to the nurses, the doctors, the cardiologist, the guy doing the MRI have all said that they are seeing a growing number of young boys presenting with the same symptoms. This is not a rare side effect but an all-too-common side effect in adolescent boys.

For the next two weeks at home, he was under strict bed rest. He wasn't allowed to go to school and missed out on camp and seeing out his school year with his friends. He isn't allowed to run, go up any stairs, do any sports as physical activity or exerting himself could be fatal. He is not allowed to do any sports for three months and during the 3 months gradually and painstakingly slowly build up his level of activity.

This is his road to short term recovery but unfortunately as the cardiologist stated himself, they do not know what this means long term for him as the research is not there due to myocarditis caused by the . Three weeks later we are still awaiting on a full report of his MRI.

Last Friday he had another echo ultrasound and ECG and during our consultation with the cardiologist he told us that there is significant scarring to his heart muscle (25%) He told my son that this is very serious and to look out for feeling faint, dizzy, chest pain, irregular heartbeat and go straight to hospital. Obviously, this is extremely hard for a 14-year-old to know that he could potentially die.

We were due to get our daughter her second vaccination but after what has happened to our son, I was not willing to take that risk. My children will never get another again. Please do not get your children and do not get them any so that save have learned the hard way.

My children and I saw that all their friends got the and nothing happened to them and therefore had a sense of false security that it was safe. The research is there of other children being injured by but unless it affects you personally you don't really look. My regret will always eat away at me and I will carry this guilt forever but I cannot let that consume me right now, as I need to focus all my energy and strength in getting my son the best possible outcome in living a risk free and long and healthy life.

We didn't get our children because we didn't love them, we did it because we do love them and just wanted to protect them. There are many reasons that people have gotten their children and themselves . Children everywhere have had enough of lockdown especially in Victoria and the rise of mental health and suicide is a major concern for us all. The pressure being put on us by the government to get was insurmountable. We were mandated to our children so they could enjoy the freedoms that were rightly theirs and should never have been taken away from them.

I wanted to share our story because it pains me that the media and government are still telling us that it is safe to give this expectation to children as young as 5. Apparently, this is meant to prevent serious illness caused by but instead it is causing the same illness it's meant to protect them from.

It breaks my soul that my son cannot be a carefree young teenager and just enjoy the normal things in life. His quality of life has suffered and he, along with us all have been traumatised by this. I wished I was strong enough and didn't follow the narrative that it was the right thing to do. The right thing to do ended up being the worst thing any parent could ever possibly do to their child. In trying to protect his mental health, I have managed to do the opposite and more. Troy is happy for me to share his story, but he asked that I do not publicly publish a photo of his face. The attached photo is him in his hospital bed in the Monash.

### Anonymous



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CX0CHqXpqUO/ Contact: https://www.instagram.com/plumdog\_millionare/

I got first en the 24th of November. I had zero symptoms and felt fine until 10pm Thursday the 9th of December I woke up with stabbing chest pains and felt off so I called an ambulance and they rushed me straight to emergency as they were not sure if I was having a heart attack.

Once I was in the ED the first thing they asked me was if I had the east and I said yes. They then ran a blood test and ECG and first round of bloods showed my troponin levels where 15 (normal is 11) troponin is a chemical that is released into the body when there has been damage to Your heart.

They then ran another blood test and levels had spiked to 30, I then had an ultrasound of my heart and was then admitted to the cardio icu and awaited to see the cardiologist. The cardiologist confirmed I had both pericarditis (inflammation of the sac around the heart) and myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) secondary to having the Pe. I was in the cardiac icu wing for 4 days On a 24/7 ECG with my troponin levels continuing to spike up to 375.

I was allowed to go home once my levels had down trended and was given advice to take 3 months of strong anti inflammatory medications, 4 weeks of no exercise and no getting my heart rate above 100, strict low fat diet, no caffeine and no alcohol and to see my cardiologist in 4 weeks time. They say as my case was "mild" that I should make a full recovery in 3 months time as long as I rest and take the recommended medications.

They have said I am eligible for a temporary deferral (3-6 months) on future but said they recommend I get for my next one. I am 31 years old, healthy weight (had previously been doing F45 sessions 5 days a week), non smoker and non drinker and I now can't even walk to the front door without my heart rate spiking above 100.

I never expected this to happen In a million years and what is even more scary is that my cardiologist said I was his 10th patient in there 30s with the same Issue in the last 4 weeks!! I'm getting married in March so I'm hoping to have a full recovery by then.

Jade, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXz0yXfJ 3Z/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/jademariezane/

I was hesitant to get the because I was seeing what was happening.

I felt pressured from my work. 10 days after I received my second I started getting chest pains. They were sharp and worsened throughout the day.

It was also positional. I spoke to my doctor who told me to go straight to the hospital. While I was there the pain was getting worse and I was admitted, after investigation I was told I had pericarditis post V.

The hospitals were so busy with patients reacting to the V. It was scary.

I was discharged and told to take colchicine and nurofen. I was referred to a cardiologist who did multiple tests and said it should resolve within 3 months.

It's been 8 weeks of constant drs appointments and chest pains.

I can't walk more than 10 minutes without needing to sit and I'm exhausted.

They have now said I have something called salvo ventricular which is a heart arrhythmia. I'm having a 4 week heart bug now to see what exactly is going on and how to fix this. They think I had myocarditis and it was diagnosed at the beginning.

Chanelle, F Gold Coast, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXzuKCOpPJ8/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/channys\_adventures/

# Jab injuries australia

I was hesitant to get the J in the first place, due to my own research and information I was receiving from friends, nurses and the like. Unfortunately due to my work mandates, I felt I had no other choice but to get the V to keep an income and a roof over my head. On the 28th of November I got my first . The next day a prior condition of pleurisy returned, I had severe memory loss, extreme brain fog and nausea, which then I took off a few days from work because I was struggling to breathe.

I went back to work as normal after that and my next was supposed to be December 8, that didn't happen because they'd closed the clinic, I started joking around with my colleagues that this was a sign and I wasn't supposed to get it.

I had a bit of anxiety over not rebooking it because I had a cut off date which was the 15th of December and then I would be terminated by my job if I didn't comply.

So I got my second (and within about 30 minutes I started noticing a stiffness in my body especially my legs, I can't explain it, I was still mobile but they were weak and I was not able to walk the way I would normally walk.

The next day I woke up as usual, and I noticed my legs still felt strange but I continued on and drove to work. It was every time the I put on my heels that I could feel how heavy my legs were.

I got inside the office and told my colleagues I wasn't feeling to well and that's where my legs started shaking uncontrollably like I'd hit a nerve.

They put me on the bed (in my workplace) and the shaking started getting worse, It wasn't just my legs anymore but my entire lower body.

It took 45 minutes for the ambulance to arrive and they ran ECG and sugar tests at my work place, they came back fine.

They took me to the hospital and sat me in a wheelchair in a room, they then shifted me to the corridor because of another guy that they thought had C and then they shifted me into the emergency waiting which then I waited 6 hours whilst, shaking uncontrollably the whole time. No one would help me other than a random man who noticed I was there all day and gave me a sandwich.

It wasn't until my boss callee the hospital that I was then seen 10 minutes later.

I got moved to tier 3 C ward, with the big glass doors, they didn't take bloods just a C test, and I was sick of the treatment I was receiving and I just demanded to leave.

They gave me Valium and discharged me, stating that this was a post V injury on the discharge papers.

I went home, I rested and I returned to the gp the next day, he prescribed me Valium and said I needed to get a neurologist appointment. In the last week I have been seeing a natural therapist which has been helping my neurological issues. In his words 30% improvement.

I'm still currently dealing with full body tremors and have been since I got out of hospital, It feels like all the muscles in my body keep seizing up, I am often tired, forgetful and my pleurisy is starting up again.

I hope that by sharing my story, I can spread awareness and for anyone considering the next J to thing again. To say that you will be fine until it happens to you is wrong because the risk of this happening to you is more common than you think.





Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXyPS7UJN36/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/anickica/

<u>#1</u>: 000002A

<u>#2</u>: 000031A

Hi, my name is Ana and this is my story. I had my 1st M, 2hrs after I was short of breath when going upstairs. Over the next 3 days things worsened with heart rate 130, heart palpitations and chest pain.

1st trip to ER dismissed as "anxiety or gastritis". Few days after things get worse, constant heart rate above 130 while laying down, nauseous, feeling like heart attack, gasping for air while resting.

I also have muscle twitching all over my body.

2nd trip to ER, tests are normal, but I'm unable to breathe and have stabbing and burning chest pain. Referred to cardiologist. His referral stated my condition was "a combination of simple side effects and anxiety". I asked for exemption because I still didn't feel 100% but he refused and said I should take the 2nd 🚾

He also wrote in the letter that I was able to resume normal activities which is not true because I was still on medical leave because even sitting in a chair working from home was making me exhausted. I was also having fever during this entire month. During my visit, he alluded to me that I might having postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (POTS)-like symptoms, but didn't put anything in writing.

After 4 weeks of recovery (bed-ridden for the most part), as soon as I started feeling a little bit better I had to take the 2nd M. This time is even worse, after 12 hours my body started twitching violently all over, it was frightening and I couldn't stop it. I had very fast heart rate and palpitations for 3 days straight, constant 24/7, nothing was relieving it, it felt like heart attack the entire 3 days.

My face & arm felt numb, constant ringing in ears, temperature fluctuation (my two fingers were super cold, others hot), my fasting blood sugar became borderline diabetic (no previous diabetes, healthy lifestyle, I grow my own veggies), feeling like being pumped by adrenaline.

All this time I've been on heavy aspirin usage to mute the immune response - I can only imagine that without aspirin I'd be in ICU. After 3 weeks, I stopped with aspirin and this is where things take a turn for the worse. I slowly started going to malls and shops, and gradually my symptoms worsened. Then, a new onset of sharp, stabbing chest pain that was radiating into my shoulder & arm, alternating with burning hot pressure-like chest pain. I couldn't walk for a few metres without my heart pounding so hard that it would jump out of my chest. I was breathless trying to walk from car to Coles.

I was supposed to travel to my home country to see my dad after 3 years, already packed but had to cancel 8 hours before departure because my chest pain was so bad I couldn't stand and my veins got very swollen and painful. The vein was pulsating on my forehead, neck and palm and you could see it pounding with a naked eye. The day after I cancelled the trip, I went straight to my GP who referred me to cardiologist for another echocardiogram and 24hour holter monitor.

The original appointment was late in January, so I decided to go privately and see a private clinic. They scheduled my appt in 2 days and I did my tests.

During the test, my echocardiogram was normal but I was informed that this is pericarditis and that I shouldn't be flying. The next day they booked me in with a cardiologist who has told me that I unfortunately have a chronic (recurrent) pericarditis and that I shouldn't have taken the second at all because it did me more harm than good. The cardiologist was so kind, professional and understanding that I nearly started crying - other than my GP, this was a first doctor who acknowledged my injury and said the road in front is long but he will help me recover.

He put me on colchicine and ivabradine (to lower my crazy heart rate and be more comfortable), and ordered MRI. He is also giving me exemption from all future or said I should never take another mRNA again. He said that tests don't always show pericarditis but that doesn't mean that I don't have one - and was concerned that I have a recurring one which is harder to treat now that it wasn't properly healed the first time.

If I didn't have luck to stumble across this cardiologist, I'd be walking around with undiagnosed chronic pericarditis and who knows what could've happened in the air above ocean on my flight without medical help... Without trying to be dramatic, this doctor perhaps saved my life and I'll be forever grateful to him. For other doctors and nurses, who poo-pooed off my pericarditis with anxiety and gastritis, I have nothing than pure disgust - they're truly breaking Hippocrates oath of "do no harm" and I don't think such people should be allowed to practise medicine after this ever again.

## Alyce, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXyLBcmpZmq/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/alycekloot/

I have been questioning whether or not I should send in my story, I am not anti V but I am not pro V. I don't know what the answer is, and I don't want to scare people but also I feel like people need to know that these "rare adverse reactions" aren't rare at all. Everyday fit and healthy people are suffering because they are doing what they have been told to do. I've had people try and tell me it's okay and that I am far better off having this reaction to the J than getting C. And that it's only temporary. It's so frustrating.

Background - I am 33 year old school teacher and mumma to a busy 2.5 year old boy.

1st - 1/11/21 2nd - 4/12/21

I never wanted to get the it, I got it so I could see my nan, I got it so I could travel across the border and hopefully one day back overseas and see my family and friends again.

Everyone kept telling me to get it. I didn't want to do it. I was anxious. I was nervous.

I even cried, Both times. I nearly wasn't going to get the second one, I kept putting it off until it was mandated to keep my job but I did it and was told I had done the right thing by the nurses.

But two days after my second J on 6/12 I started getting weird chest pains that would come and go. I tired to ignore it for a few more days until it got so bad I knew something wasn't right.

On 11/12 I woke up and felt like I was having a heart attack. I was so scared my heart was racing. I had severe chest pain that was penetrating through to my back. Pins and needles all down my arms and legs. A dry mouth. Felt my heart beating through my chest. Shaky and hazy. Cold and sweating at the same time.

The next morning it was still there I was so worried and scared so I went to local private hospital because I didn't want to have to wait around in the public system. And after an EGC, heart ultrasound, bloods, my d-dimer came back slightly elevated so they did a chest CT scan to check for clots. But I was told it was all normal. Relieved but confused. They told me they think it could be an inflammatory response to the J but also said they can't 100% say it was. I questioned them, but still left confused as to why I was still in so much pain and when and how will it go away? They said the pain was likely from inflammation around my heart and chest but they acted so causal about it like it wasn't a big deal. They said go home and take Panadol and nurofen and take it easy. Come back if I need but give it a few days.

I took pain killers for 3 days, not that they did anything at all to help. On 15/12 I couldn't take it anymore it felt like it was getting worse and had been 10 days since my second J and 8 days of chest pains which had now extended all the way down my arm, feeling exhausted, foggy, tingly, and just weird it's so hard to put it into words. I know something isn't right and it's not getting any better.

So I went back to a different hospital this time the public system, and this time more bloods, ECG - everything looks normal. The nurse who checked me in said it sounded a lot like I was having anxiety and was very dismissive. The Doctor said this is a

common side affect they are seeing. Prescribed me steroids for five days, said it should help. But pains could last up to four weeks. Said that's "normal" there is nothing more they can do I just have to wait it out.

So yesterday 16/12 I went to see my regular gp today who I have a great long relationship with and trust 100%. I had seen him previously after the first J about two random occasions of heart palpitations and pins and needles. Although at the time I didn't connect it to the J. He mentioned it but also said he wasn't sure and said go ahead and get the 2nd. More tests and he finally diagnosed me with pericarditis. Which is what I have felt in my gut all along. Said he doesn't know why the hospitals are not saying it and aren't linking it. He said the steroids I've been prescribed by the hospital won't do anything for pericarditis. He said he has seen a quite a few patients with this and usually starts to see improvements after a couple of weeks. I am booked in to go back in a week if no improvements and he will send me off to a cardiologist.

Today is 17/12. Still having the chest pains, I couldn't sleep last night because my heart was racing. It's day 12 of living like this pretending it's "normal" to have constant chest pains, losing my breath after walking a short distance. Trying to stay positive that it's going to start getting better but at the same time I can barely lift my 2 year old son, my heart randomly racing then dropping back down to normal. I've been told I can't exercise, not even take the dog for a walk. I'm meant to be on school holidays from work but I've barely left the house. But after reading others stories I feel like maybe I am a lucky one as I could be far worse off? But If this is so common why is nobody talking about it? It's baffling!

Evette, F VIC



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXISd0osGkh/

13th December 2021

This is my story. I hope this helps someone to make an informed decision. I never intended to get the V but did because of relocation. I am currently living in Victoria and was planning to move back home to Darwin in September.

12 hours before my flight, my area became a hotspot and NT closed borders.

Then NT has stated, as of November if coming from a red or orange zone that un people would be banned. So on the 1st October I had the first M-V. I have done some seriously stupid things in my life, but this decision tops them all.

Day 1 & 2 fevers, chills, shaking, teeth chattering but I was okay because I expected some sort of immune response. Day 3 felt better. Day 4 woke up and knew something was very wrong. I was lying in bed and felt like I had been hit by a truck. I walked to the kitchen and my heart was pounding and I was out of breath.

Within a few hours I had intense chest and heart pain. It felt like someone sitting on my chest squeezing my heart and ribcage. I called nurses online and they phoned an ambulance. They started treating me for a heart attack and giving me too many drugs which were making black out and vomit.

Once at the hospital had blood test, ECGs and X-ray. The doctor says that the M had affected the muscles through my chest and to see my GP if continues.

Once home during the first week I thought I was going to die. I was fainting every day. The extreme chest and heart pain continued, my heart felt swollen. I would wake during the night like my lungs were on fire. Many times I wanted to call an ambulance. I was so weak, beyond fatigued and out of breath.



Following weeks the pain (muscular & joint) everywhere started, hands, feet, eyes, spleen, and stomach. Nausea, affected vision, headaches, brain-fog, loss feeling in left side of my face and left side of my body at times. It hurt to walk and use my hands. I couldn't raise my arms to hang washing on the clothesline because of sore ribs.

Week 5 the fevers & chills came back for a week, my neck and glands started to swell. I did a 36 hour zero calorie electrolyte fast which helped somewhat at the time. I am taking 20 different supplements every day to detox. I saw my GP and she won't give me an exemption. She says my chest pain is anxiety.

I am a naturopath so I requested a whole heap of blood tests and they are showing several abnormalities, indicating an autoimmune condition so my body is now attacking itself. The doctor has referred me to a Rheumatologist next year in March.

Week 8 I got up and felt fine, did some stuff on the computer, then started having severe stabbing pains in my heart. Pain that felt different from the ongoing pressure across my chest. I went to get up and collapsed, I was blacking out. I managed to grab my phone and call an ambulance. Tested for troponin, d-dimer, ECG and x-ray. All results normal. I am on a waiting list to have a heart ultrasound.

Week 9 I got up and was walking into the lounge room when I looked down at my legs and they were considerably swollen. I literally started to freak out and faint. This time I called a friend to take me to the hospital. Again all my tests were normal. And again the nurse says it may be anxiety or an underlying issue. She also mentioned that I needed to get the second V.

The doctor said that the swelling could be related to the autoimmune problem. Importantly, while I was in there for the day, the guy on my left was admitted for chest pain after the V and the woman on my right was also admitted for chest pain after the V.

I have not worked this whole time. I still can't travel because of the risk of clot or heart attack being in a plane. I struggle every day. This morning I walked my dog on the beach and I walked into the water up to my knees, within a few minutes my body was going into shock from the cold water.

There is something profoundly wrong with what is going on here, and globally. I understand that if someone were to catch C it is unknown how mild to severe they would be affected. But this dangerous alternative that the government is pushing, is not the answer nor a safe solution. Most importantly should never have been mandated, but be a choice.

beats) all before this I was perfectly healthy not one problem. I haven't been able to work or look after my 3 year old daughter it's been a living nightmare.

If I had the chance I'd go back in time and NEVER have the V.

Anonymous, 15yrs F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXkLbHAJuds/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/jodesta77/

My 15 year old healthy daughter had her on the 6th December because she felt she had to keep her job. She fainted about 10 seconds after. They said it was normal and put her in the pharmacy waiting room after she felt better to wait 15 minutes. At the 13th minute she fainted again. The pharmacist said this was "normal". Saturday 11th December, I drove her to work. She suddenly said she had pains in her chest. I asked if she has ever had them before. She answered no. I asked if she wanted me to take her to get checked. She said no as it didn't last long. Last night, 15th December, my husband took her and our 9 year old to the movies (last time we can go as we aren't getting the J). While she was there she got really bad chest pains and racing heart. She had to lay on the floor. It came and went a few times but then eventually that pain stayed. They left the movies and while waiting outside of the shopping centre for the uber it happened bad again and she had to lay on the ground.

She got home and I called 13HEALTH as she didn't want me to call an ambulance.

I took her straight up to the hospital.

As we walked in she was grey in colour.

She said mum feel my heart. I could feel it beating like it was about to jump out of her chest. Her heart rate was 145bpm. They did all the usual test you read in previous posts and all came back "clear". My daughter kept asking "Am I going to die from this Mum?" How is this right? The doctor came back to me and said it was "clear" of anything sinister. They said it's just pleurisy. She is my number 2 out of 4 children and rarely gets sick let alone chest pains. It all started from the  $\red{1}$ .

Next day: My daughter has been so clingy to me all day today. When she has done anything remotely physical, her heart starts racing.

She is absolutely devastated that she couldn't work tonight. She loves her job.

The discharge letter said her heart rate was 120 standing. I actually saw it was 145bpm and the triage nurse called in two doctors and another nurse. She was labelled a category 2

Sarah, 28yrs, F



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXfHqgkJvr0/

Contact: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/scbxx/">https://www.instagram.com/scbxx/</a>

My name is Sarah I'm a healthy 28 year old mother.

Got my first (200) in late October.

Only got this V to keep my nursing job.

Thought I was going to be fine with it but after 2 days I noticed my legs started to get very tingly and very numb it started to move up into my arms then to my fingers.

I started to have panic attacks as I felt like there was something seriously wrong with me, I then started to get sharp chest pains as well as heart palpitations.

I went to hospital they monitored my heart, all was fine so they sent me home.

The numbness lasted a couple of days then started to ware off leading to my arms and legs being weaker than normal. A couple days later my legs, arms and fingers went numb AGAIN and this time was 100 times worse then the first time as I could hardly use my fingers to write a txt and It was very hard to walk with very numb legs. I called the ambulance they made me stay over night did some blood tests, all came back normal.

Doctors told me this could be anxiety and stress. And that its not a common side affect that can happen from the Pe. Nor that it is related to the V. And advised me that I should still get the second V.

Reece, M



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXfCVirJhew/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/reecefm/

I work for out door Ed, Sport, Cricket and AFL umpire I also have been involved with media so I know how one sided it can get. On Friday I had the Az 1st 12pm at the pharmacy I had it 12.10pm I threw up and for the next hour was nausea Went to cricket felt dizzy light headed and weak, I then started getting hot and cold and dead arm followed by chest pains. I then went into the hospital to have an ECG, X-ray and blood tests done, I stayed over night, the first nurse who saw me was rude and kept saying stop making up story's about what actually happened and then said are you an anti V which has nothing to do with what I was saying, I said I was fine up until the needle.

I still can't run and have been walking slowly, can't sleep on my side and my arm still is throbbing in the spot and chest pains come and go. Thankfully another doctor did say this is a reaction from the V, they say blood clotting can occur within 4-5 days.

If they know about that why is it mandated?

I have been given 3-4 days off work for taking it, I know there has been people worse off than me, I just wish there could be exemptions somehow for those who can't take it. My next one is booked for February for the 2nd but if I am still having issues and have had this reaction even after telling doctors I would I am not sure how I'll handle the 2nd.

Jason, 31yrs, M Brisbane, QLD



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXe9M4nvpVe/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/deerlightful/

I'm a healthy 31 year old guy with no current medical conditions / diagnosis / etc. I exercise weekly and felt the best I've ever felt prior to everything.

I had my first back on Sep 15th. After 2 days or so, I started waking up in the morning with heavy af palpitations and breathing.

Days later it felt like I had been hit by a truck. I felt incapacitated, like my heart wasn't getting enough oxygen, It got to a point where even standing up and walking around was nearly impossible.

My job is not physical at all but I couldn't work so I took several days off to try and recover.

When I returned to work I started experiencing chest pains, tightness and major shortness of breath. I went to ED the same day where they ran a number of tests on me like troponin, d dimer, x-rays, etc.

Fortunately and to my amazement everything came back negative for anything like a heart attack, clots, etc.

Two days later I re-admit myself to hospital. I can barely breathe and my heart is beating furiously. I remember getting to ER and was tearing up. I was writing to family members telling them I loved them just in case.

All tests came back negative again for anything serious like a heart attack. The doctors there told me it must be "anxiety" - wow, nice diagnosis doc! Original too!

They gave me another few days off work to recover and I slowly got better over the coming 2-3 weeks to about  $\sim$ 95%

I honestly didn't even think any of this was connected to the V. I thought it might just be a legitimate pre-existing heart condition or some other mystery - that's how much I trusted the V.

I had my 2nd (Pee) on October 3rd. The symptoms I listed above came back again but probably twice as bad. A few days later I went to my mum's house (who's a nurse) so she could check my pulse because I felt exhausted and couldn't walk. I was just standing in her kitchen and was gasping for air - my pulse was 180bpm!...

The next day I re-admit myself to hospital. This time a much better one in Brisbane. They run a number of tests on me and insist I'm healthy.

They tried multiple times to discharge me, but I refused. I told them I wouldn't even make it to the front door and that this is no way to live.

I made them check my heart rate while standing and when I did their jaws dropped. In a matter of seconds it went from ~80bpm to 170bpm and maintained itself there.

This happened over and over until they finally realised something was wrong. I was incapacitated and unable to walk for another 6 days - I couldn't even stand up to piss.

I was in a room with 4 other men and there was a guy in his 40's beside me diagnosed with myocarditis - he had had his M-V just days prior. I overheard the doctors admit to him this was in fact the cause but it only happens in a "small" number of people, mainly men.

I wish I was making all of this up. I have no agenda here other than to share my experience and most importantly the truth.

By day 8 I was well enough to walk short distances and be discharged. They diagnosed me with Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS) but refused to comment on the cause of this sudden mystery diagnosis.

This condition is rare in men and not documented as one of the side effects of the V. A simple search shows a lot of men and women now reporting POTS symptoms post V.

It's about 2 months post 2nd (29) and I am starting to feel normal again. My exercise tolerance is still greatly reduced but I can stand and walk without issues.

I have researched on whether or not I qualify for an exemption moving forward but apparently I do not as POTS is not listed as a potential response to the V.

If anyone information surrounding this that may be helpful I would love to know.

Love you all and stay safe xox

Josh, 35yrs, M

Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXYBVU6pFtZ/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/josh primetime/

My name is Josh I'm 35 healthy non drinker non smoker regular gym goer.

On the 30th of November I received my first @ of C-V-M.

I had zero reaction or arm pain until the morning of the 3rd of December when working on nightshift in the mines. My first reaction was one of extreme heart fluttering, tightness across my left side of my chest and an inability to get a full breath of air. This lasted for approx. 10 minutes with what felt like and irregular heart beat during this time. After two hours and still feeling abnormal I called my shift boss and requested to see the medic. Once the medic was onsite he tested my blood pressure and blood oxygen levels, my blood pressure was at 140/110 and my oxygen levels were normal. He asked if anything was new in my routine and I mentioned I had the M first recently. He gave me aspirin to rectify the blood pressure and a heart burn tablet as he was of the belief I had heart burn.

He advised I go back to work and I'd be fine. Following his advice I went back to work with my chest still feeling tight and uncomfortable at this point I had two hours left of my shift. Upon waking on the 4th of December at approx. 12pm I instantly felt some fluttering again in my chest again and called the medic again. He came and got me and tested blood pressure, oxygen levels and put me on an ECG machine. Everything was normal except a small abnormality on the ECG. The site on call doctor was called and his first question after hearing my symptoms was what V I'd had and when did I have it. After telling him he advised he believed I was having a reaction of inflammation around or on my heart and prescribed Voltaren 50 3 times a day for 2 days and to go to work and gym like normal.

I skipped the gym that day also skipped any caffeine intake I went to work and felt the chest tightness but nothing else worrying. The following day I went to the gym and monitored myself but felt ok and proceeded to go to work on the night of the 5th of December at approx. midnight I was doing some light manual labour unloading the work ute when I had another fluttering episode shortness of breath and odd heart beat. I called the shift boss and the medic came to site again did the original tests and found them to all be ok this time and suggested I had anxiety and I would be fine to go back to work. I felt I was at risk if I went back to work so I opted to return to my room at camp and asked to be sent home to get checked by a doctor.

Upon arrival in Perth my wife took me straight to Joondalup emergency ward. After an initial long wait we finally got to see a nurse and 2 doctors I was hooked up to ECG and bloods taken and later diagnosed with pericarditis. I was given a script for colchicine twice a day, pantoprazole once a day and 3 ibuprofen 4 times a day for the first week. I also have been booked in for and echo cardiogram in the coming days. During this whole time all doctors and nurses seemed to understand exactly what was going on but we're all pushing for me to get the next V and just to choose a different one and I'd be ok regardless of my concerns at my reaction I was currently experiencing. I even asked one doctor if this was common as everything she had said rolled off the tongue almost prescripted and she said she had seen it a lot but it wasn't common and she doesn't see the thousands of people who don't have any issues.

### Barclay, M



Source: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CXX7awGpcq-/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CXX7awGpcq-/</a>

Contact: claymcgain@hotmail.com

FACT: As a result of my second C-J, I now have a serious heart condition called Myopericarditis.

I have never had any kind of issue with my heart in the past, I do not have any pre-existing conditions and I haven't had any kind of adverse reaction to any other V in my life.

I've never used recreational drugs, never smoked or vaped and I consume alcohol only in moderation.

I got my second at the RBWH on Thursday the 2nd of December at around 4:00pm, 22 days after my first .

Immediately after, I felt completely fine, but the next morning I woke up feeling incredibly drowsy, figuring this was a normal and regular side effect.

On Saturday, I woke up feeling god awful, worst I've ever felt. My chest felt like someone had just done intense CPR, my head felt like I'd just tried to hold my breath for a minute straight and was super light headed. I was in a complete sweat, but also cold (fever) and just felt quite weak overall.

The biggest thing though was shortness of breath. I went to the fridge to get breakfast and I was exhausted and gasping. I managed to drive to the doctor and he said it's signs of myocarditis, sent me home and said to report to the doctor in 24 hours if conditions hadn't bettered or if they got worse.

Within a few hours, I was literally gasping for air and was soon admitted to the Mater Emergency Department in South Brisbane.

They then conducted a heap of tests on my blood etc and all the metrics were raised or inflamed.

They put me into the coronary ward and informed me that had I waited another 24 hours at home I could've gone into cardiac arrest or fainted

They then analysed my heartbeat and fluid around the heart to determine whether I had Myocarditis (inflammation of the heart) or Pericarditis (inflammation of the sack that holds the heart) and on Sunday morning the tests came back positive for both conditions.

Over the next three days, I had 10 wires hooked up to me and had to be checked up on every 30 mins by different people so I barely got sleep.

I also had compression bands on my arms and legs to prevent potential blood clots.

On the bright side, I am now feeling much better and I can move around moderately which I hope will get better with time. I will however be out of playing cricket for some time which is devastating and I'm on three types of medication for the next three months: Ibuprofen, Pantoprazole and Colchicine. I am awaiting further MRI scans to see whether or not there is scar tissue damage which will determine if this condition will effect me in the long term.

I didn't share this news at the time because I have just gotten out of a Facebook ban for "inciting violence and harassment" by ironically sharing a tweet that asked for people to beat me up. So yes, I was banned from Facebook for inciting violence against myself.

I acknowledge that what happened to me is uncommon, but it is nowhere near as rare as the data suggests. I'm led to believe by the TGA that this adverse reaction only occurs in 40 per million cases for my demographic (males without pre-existing conditions under the age of 30). However, some nurses and doctors at the Mater are adamant that there is gross underreporting on the due to the unreasonably high evidentiary standard needed to prove causation. Despite this, they determined causation in my case and have stated that I am not to take any boos - J.

The thing I've learnt most from this ordeal is that those who have taken the option to not be V should not be demonised and segregated from society. Especially in younger age groups who are at an incredibly low risk of suffering from the virus itself, it is simply a choice between two paths, both of which have the capacity to do them great harm as I have experienced.

I am also appalled that there is yet still no compensation scheme in place for victims of adverse reactions to C V, many of which who are suffering far worse than me, especially when the government were all too happy to give \$1,500 to people who were feeling completely fine and had simply come within 100 metres of another person with the virus.

I do not mean to come across as hysterical or alarmist, as I have no doubt the V have saved many lives, but it is incredibly difficult for myself and my family to go from being an active 21 year-old with no medical history to now having issues with my heart that has a very real likelihood of effecting me later in life exclusively due to a government V.

Thank you for all the well wishes and prayers over the past week, my family and I appreciate it.

#### Anonymous, F



Source: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CXXlgy4p1zT/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CXXlgy4p1zT/</a>

This story is a bit of a long one and I apologise in advance - I have left some details out to make it shorter.

I honestly was going to hold off on getting the J, the only reason I got it was so I was able to go home to visit my family for Christmas.

I am a fit, healthy 24 year old who exercises daily, eats well, always happy and is studying to be a personal trainer.

I had my first on the 26th of October at 1pm, approx 5 hours later I had significant pain in my chest that was like a stabbing sensation, I had a burning sensation across my whole chest and back and my heart rate was at 150. I rang my Dr and she told me it was "too soon for it to be related to the J".

For two weeks, I struggled with severe chest pains, a resting HR of a minimum of 120, unable to complete simple tasks and just completely not myself. I finally went back and complained about it again (right before my second (a)). They ran some bloods and an ECG and found nothing.

I then had my second on the 16th of November, the next day I had the same sharp chest pains and difficultly breathing, and was physically unable to catch a proper breath. I went to hospital and they told me they had found slight abnormalities on my chest X-ray and sent me home to have Panadol, rest and no exercise. (mind you this is almost impossible with my studies)

Following this I went and saw my regular dr about what happened at the hospital and she ran some more blood tests and referred me for an echocardiogram.

During this period of time, I'd become very tired, unable to walk up the stairs of my house or hang my clothes up without fatiguing, I was having severe dizzy spells and unable to work.

The blood tests came back normal.

Fast forward a week to this Monday I ended up in emergency with a high fever, high heart rate, chest pains, disorientated, tingling like pins and needles in my legs and difficulty breathing.

They re ran some tests and the CRP levels were elevated at 100 and my D dimer test came back positive which indicates clotting. I was admitted in hospital and treated for clots until further testing in the morning. (I had an AMAZING dr. He was a fantastic help and wanted to get to the bottom of this)

The following day I had scans to check for pulmonary embolism, the scans came back clear and I was discharged 10 minutes later by a different dr and told to take Panadol and rest, despite my d dimer levels being positive?? CRP levels being at 100?? Might I add when I was discharged I had blue lips, blue hands, no colour in my skin and I was extremely disorientated. They discharged me and told me because I appear 'clinically well' they don't need to treat me further despite the elevated levels.

I was scared, 24, all alone, no family, no one listening or taking me seriously. One minute I'm being treated for clots the next I'm pushed out the door and told to take Panadol with no treatment for the clots.

I went and saw another dr and spoke with him about all of this, I told him to disregard the heart stuff as I have a dr already looking into this, but focus on the clots. And he informed me my levels wouldn't have came back positive if their wasn't a clot he explained it's good that pulmonary embolisms were ruled out, but he believes there is clotting somewhere in my body and that my CRP levels were extremely high.

I am now on blood thinners and having a holter monitor put in place on Monday to further investigate my heart. So we are finally getting somewhere, despite my quality of life currently been taken away, unable to do the things I enjoy and bed ridden most days after completing half a task, we are on the right track to recovery.

Luisa, Anonymous, F

Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXXhgZip1ya/

My name is Luisa and prefer not to use my full name when sharing my story. Below is my story - It has taken a lot of thought and courage to write this post, mainly because of what people might think. But then I realise by staying silent I'm doing the exact same thing that the Government are doing...staying silent and gagging the media and medical staff to stay quiet. This post isn't political as I have never been into politics and never really had any strong views on anything political. This post is personal and it's about awareness.

It is personal because I am telling you what my experience has been after having my first end of the end in July. This will give insight to the majority of people who have not had a reaction to the V what it is like for someone like me who has. If I didn't have an adverse reaction then like most people who haven't had a reaction I would've been completely oblivious to what is actually happening in the medical field and with mainstream media.

I am experiencing first hand the gaslighting by doctors (luckily not all) and realising that the media never talks about the many people like myself who have reactions. What angers me the most is actually knowing that people like me are insignificant to the Government. Their plan is to vaccinate as many people as possible and anyone who may cause any doubt or hesitancy which may potentially affect their plan by speaking out about their reaction to the V is a threat to their plan. What the Government doesn't realise is that they have betrayed us. They told us and the media has told us and Doctors have told us that the V are SAFE and EFFECTIVE. What they have failed to say is that they are NOT safe and effective for EVERYONE.

Because of this threat we pose to the Government I and many others like me have not been taken seriously when presenting symptoms to Doctors

As V rates were quite low when I got my first of the Doctor I was seeing was telling me that my symptoms are not related to the V and that I was having anxiety or that I may be experiencing menopause symptoms. I was having heart palpitations, fatigue, muscle weakness in my legs, loss of appetite, feelings of disassociation and when I would get heart palpitations or fatigue I would also feel a wave of heat come over my body. I told my Dr that before the V wasn't feeling any of these symptoms and that apart from vertigo I was perfectly healthy. I wasn't on any medication and was leading a pretty healthy and very busy life. But the V changed everything.

By the 3rd week post V things just got worse. I was so afraid as I have never felt anything like this before. The muscle weakness in my legs got worse. There were days where I thought I may not be able to walk. My legs felt like spaghetti. I also developed muscle weakness in my arms. I continued to have no appetite, I would force myself to eat as I knew I had to eat. I couldn't eat or drink anything, I had to eat very plain food. I would get the most unbearable and debilitating chest pain that would last up to 3 hours. I would then get an hour or so of relief before I get another episode that could last another few hours.



I would feel this heaviness in my chest like an elephant was sitting on my chest and I would feel breathless, it felt like I couldn't breathe. These episodes could also last up to a few hours. I would feel this pain in my arms that felt like a rubber band was squeezing tight around my muscles. I had a few episodes of leg tremors and internal tremors around my abdomen area. I had adrenaline surges, that felt like butterflies

In your stomach type feeling that I would also feel in my chest. It was like my body was in a fight or flight response but would come on randomly through the day and episode.

could last up to 2 or 3 hours. It honestly felt like something was eating away at me from the inside and that I was slowly deteriorating. I lost 7kgs in 2 months due to no appetite. My fatigue was so bad at times I felt like I was near fainting. I would also feel this horrible burning sensation under my skin in my arms, back, chest, abdomen area and legs. At times I would also get random muscle twitches on my face, hands, arms and legs.

During the days and weeks of pain and suffering I had never felt so alone and abandoned by our medical Doctors. No pain meds could relieve the pain and over time as more people were getting V Doctors were seeing more people with similar symptoms post V. So in the beginning I was being told my symptoms are not related to the V but later I'm told I'm having a strong immune response to the V and that they can't help me and that it could take weeks or months for my body to heal. What made things worse was all the blood tests and chest x-rays, heart ultrasound, echocardiogram, MRI's were all unremarkable. Just like people with long C, people who had a reaction to the V were not showing any signs of inflammation or abnormal results in our tests.

I had to turn to Functional Medicine Doctors, Chinese Medicine Doctors and Naturopaths to help me with my symptoms. I was taking a cocktail of supplements and herbal teas. I also found a group of other people suffering with the same symptoms as me and found it provided a lot of much needed support. I discovered from others, whose Doctors were more helpful, that our symptoms were related to our Nervous System and that our body's immune response was to attack our Nervous System. I told my Doctor that I needed something for my nerve pain and he put me on Endep (amitriptyline) which is an antidepressant but is prescribed off label to treat nerve pain. This helped with some of the pain but it also helped me sleep at night as I wasn't sleeping well due to the pain. I also told my Doctor that my resting heart rate is elevated so he put me on propranolol which is a Beta Blocker. This helped lower my heart rate.

I went from a healthy 47 year old busy Mum to someone who was now taking 2 types of prescription meds and was unable to go to work and unable to look after her family. Doctors couldn't help me and the Government has turned it's back on me. All the while I'm being told I can't get a medical exemption so I then face the possibility of losing my job. I never felt so alone and abandoned by our health care system. I felt like I was left to suffer.

It has now been almost 5 months post V and although I feel 95% better I'm still not back to my normal health. I still have an elevated heart rate and continue to take Propranolol. I am now taking Mirtazapine to control the adrenaline surges. One of the side effects of Mirtazapine is that it increases appetite so my weight has returned to baseline since taking it. I still get relapses as recovery from the V, just like recovery from long C isn't linear. This V affected me physically and mentally and although I still want to be fully V but I just can't go through with the risk of going through the same reaction.

The Government needs to provide better support to people like me. They should compensate us for the loss of income from being out of work and for all the medical costs. The current V claims scheme criteria is very limited as to who can make a claim. We should also be granted exemptions from having another up due to the adverse reaction. The fact that I am being told to get a second is inhumane, a lack of care and an act of negligence. If I had a reaction to any other medication I would be told to stop taking it. If several people were getting sick from a new medication the Government would normally recall the product. Why is this any different??

Anonymous, F Perth, WA



Source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CXOICEQpiYm/Contact: https://www.instagram.com/rikap78/

I'm sending you my sister in law's story as she's not on Instagram. I'll call her K. She wants her story out there but would like to remain anonymous due to where/who she works for and an ongoing worker's comp claim that is 'under investigation'. Pics I send through, if you can do your best to blur her face or something I'd appreciate it. We are in Perth.

She is not an anti-, in fact she thought my views on the whole situation were ridiculous and didn't think the government would do anything to harm its constituents. She didn't want it however as she felt it was too soon and only had it due to workplace mandates and needing to work as she's a single mum. Prior to this, she was a healthy, happy 36yr old woman to a 9yr old daughter. Now she can't have her majority of the time due to what's happened.

She had her 2nd on 7/10/21. Reaction happened within 15mins, heart pounding, felt sick and then a wave of she said what felt like slowness come over her. She said her heart felt like it was beating out of her chest and she had trouble swallowing and breathing. A med call code blue was initiated. She was then transferred by ambulance to ED. This happened at her work's onsite clinic for staff during her shift.

She was seen in ED, obs taken, ECG done - all fine apparently. I wasn't with her at this stage. Told she'd get over it. When she asked what might've caused this, is there an ingredient that is a known reactive etc she got told that they don't know any ingredients or how they will react to anybody and that she's part of the trial. She was gobsmacked. They released her and she got told to get some rest and gave her a doc note for that day and the next day of work. A friend stayed with her that same night as she didn't feel comfortable staying alone.

She ended up going back to ED around midnight due to her heart beating so much that she couldn't sleep. Another set of obs, another you'll be right. She did have another ECG done but this time the doc said out loud 'oh I better check with senior before I do this in case they want to cover tracks' before putting the pads on. Again, she was gobsmacked. ECG all normal again apparently. Released 2hrs later. All weekend she didn't feel right, her heart plus neuro symptoms such as brain fog, delayed speech.

On Sunday night she called us (her brother/my husband and I) and asked if one of us could take her to hospital. When I got to her house to pick her up, her walking was affected - limping and shuffling, her left side was sloppy and her face was droopy. Her speech was affected and she was talking slowly and had some trouble getting the right words. She was taken back and assessed. Bloods taken (what for don't know as they wouldn't disclose and we are yet to receive FOI request).

CT Scan ordered for morning. As soon as staff heard it was post 2nd, demeanour changed. They became dismissive, some downright disrespectful. She couldn't walk unaided by this stage so I would take her to the toilet in a wheelchair and help her in the toilet. When she was assessed, she told them all her symptoms including a massive pressure in her head, not a headache, she said, like something was pressing on her brain and she was unable to open her eyes. She also had muscle weakness down the left side. A stroke or TIA was suspected at first. Monday morning, she was admitted after we spent the night in ED. We overheard 3 reactions on Sunday night and 3 different reactions on Monday morning to the V in the cubicles around us. Before we went up to ward, she went for an MRI. What should've been quite routine and quick turned into a horrifying situation. We had been waiting some time when K called out.

Her eyes were still closed as she physically couldn't open them no matter how hard she tried. She said I don't feel right, I fell hot and cold and my heart and brain and she wasn't making much sense. I touched her cheeks and her left side was burning hot and had a rash all down her face/neck/shoulder and her right side was ice cold. She said her throat and she started to slur her words badly and couldn't swallow again. I called for a nurse or doc but could I find one, no. I ran around radiology looking for anyone to help. Finally, someone did but by this stage her whole left side was spasming uncontrollably. A code blue was called. I honestly thought I was losing my sister in law in that moment. They did whatever they did to her as I was kind of pushed to the side and back so didn't really see much and as soon as she was stable enough they took her in to MRI to see what was going on in her brain.

MRI turned out fine, no physical signs of stroke or TIA. Her neuro symptoms were transient in hospital and she would get one or all lasting from a few minutes to hours or all day. There was no rhyme or reason to any of it. The attending was so rude and walked out on me mid asking a question and treated K with such attitude that as soon as we have his name we'll be placing a complaint. She was gaslighted, told it was in her head, it was anxiety, she was making it up etc. Told they spoke to Neurology. They hadn't as this hospital doesn't have a Neuro dept. We went in on Sunday 10/10 and he was discharged on Thurs 14/10 and told that same day she has FND (Functional Neurological Disorder)

She was at home for a few days with friends and family staying over to help etc. On the Monday 18th, my sister was with K and she took her to the main hospital, where there is a Cardiac and Neuro dept, after a weekend of non-stop cardiac and neuro symptoms. She was admitted to a ward and observed and hooked up to cardiac monitoring for 24hrs. The attending that oversaw her linked her cardiac issues to the V and said this is a known issue. They labelled it as Tachycardia with ventricular ectopics and palpitations and a reactions post V and reported to TGA. The neuro was noted down as non-specific possibly secondary to V. Released Tues night 19/10. At home again with support from us and friends.

Friday 22/10 she called us in the evening and said she was feeling really horrible could we take her. My husband was at work and I was home with our kids so couldn't leave them. She called one of our cousins who was able to take her. Halfway to the main hospital, our cousin was really worried as K's condition was deteriorating rapidly. She had slowed and slurred speech, eyes closed, droopy face, paralysis on right hand side and spasming on left. She pulled over and called an ambulance and K was transferred by ambulance the rest of way to hospital. She recounts she was treated poorly by paramedics. They were telling her to stop faking. Doc in ED said similar and told her if she didn't stop faking and co-operate they wouldn't assess or treat her. By this stage, K said she couldn't move anything apart from her head and her left arm. They admitted her though as clearly she was in no state to be discharged. She said again they were telling her it's anxiety, in her head etc.

She called me at midnight in tears after getting a nurse to dial and hold the phone. She didn't know what was happening, what time/day it was (remember her eyes aren't opening), she said no one was telling her anything. She couldn't move with the paralysis and she was scared begging me to come down. I couldn't as hubby was at work still and I had kids home plus I spoke to the nurse and she said I wouldn't be allowed in anyway. I promised someone would be there the next day. She was in this state from onset to her being able to move again for 36hrs. She was transferred from Gen med to neuro and was in hospital for 6 days. Again, treated like shit, gaslighted, they tried telling her she'd had breakfast one day but just didn't remember when she wasn't allowed anything as she was nil by mouth due to inability to swallow. FND was confirmed as diagnosis. Not given much information, told very individual, pushed to see a psychiatrist and psychologist.

Made to feel all in her head and she was controlling the physical symptoms. The first stay at main hospital, at nurse change over, the new nurses said oh yes we're seeing lots of these reactions post as did the social worker. At her first hospital stay when I was able to stay with her, the lady in the room next to her, we overheard she was there due to pericarditis post

Almost 9wks on, K can't drive, can't go back to work. I take her to appointments; she documents as much as she can on vid and pics and notes. She never knows when a neuro attack is going to happen and when it does she doesn't know what kind of symptoms she will get. Her heart is still giving her grief and does random drops in HR to like 40. Her resting HR pre V was around 70-75 she said, now it's 100bpm. She can't have her daughter without help as again, doesn't know when an attack could occur and how severe. Her daughter is currently mainly with her dad but it was the other way around.

She can't plan for anything, workers comp is taking what feels like forever to make an assessment and the financial stress is taking a toll too. The treatment in hospital was the hardest. What I witnessed and her accounts. No one should be treated like she was. From the first hospital, her discharge summary was also missing information including the code blue she had at Radiology/MRI. Hence the FIO requests we've done to make sure nothing else has been missed or altered.

To add, they had put her on anti-depressants. No answers as to how long recovery, if at all. other than it's individual. Which is not a lot of help to someone who just wants this nightmare to end. Nothing has been said or done about her cardiac issues. They put her on an anti-psychotic while she was admitted on neuro ward, which she promptly stopped once she realised what it was.