

LITHIUM mining for electric vehicles is incredibly destructive to the environment and about as far from “green” as you can imagine – NaturalNews.com



Electric vehicles are promoted as the solution for combating “climate change.” Governments are currently incentivizing the production of electric vehicles, while punishing the fossil fuel industry. However, lithium mining for electric vehicles is incredibly destructive to the environment, and is about as far from “green” as one could imagine. Not to mention, most of the [lithium-ion batteries produced today come from China](#) and require water-intensive mining operations that ravage natural environments throughout Australia, Argentina and Chile. The process depletes ground water, and leaves behind toxic wastewater that contaminates fields and harms wildlife. The mining process is not carbon dioxide free, either. The mining process releases 15,000 kilograms of carbon dioxide emissions for every ton of lithium that is extracted.

There are serious environmental risks to extracting lithium for the production of lithium-ion batteries

When lithium is extracted from salt mines, the miners must drill into the salt flats and pump out a salty, mineral-rich brine. The brine is placed in large pools, so the water can evaporate out. When the brine evaporates, it leaves behind a sludge of potassium, manganese, borax and lithium salts that must be filtered out further. The process pollutes nearby aquifers and lowers the water table, interfering with water sources in the local environment.

The lithium extraction process takes several months, displaces valuable water resources, and leaves behind a toxic trail of wastewater in the local environment. It takes approximately 500,000 gallons of water to produce one ton of lithium. When mining companies head into countries like Chile, [they use up a majority of the region’s water](#), unjustly affecting small communities.

According to the Institute of Energy Research, Chile’s Salar de Atacama is one of the driest places on Earth, yet the mining companies are allowed to use up 65% of the region’s water. After the brine is removed from the salt flats, the water table automatically falls, disrupting the natural flow of water that is needed for wells and agriculture. These large-scale disruptions can always be blamed on “[climate change](#)” as the lithium mining industry plunges ahead, with no regard for the environmental damage wrought in its wake.

Water quality, wildlife populations, and crops all adversely affected by lithium mining

The toxic chemicals that are used to extract the brine are ultimately discarded into the local environment, where they [contaminate streams, crops, wildlife and local ecosystems](#). The toxic chemicals, which include hydrochloric acid, leak from the evaporation pools and pollute the nearby water supply. Additionally, the large open pit mines displace arsenic into the nearby streams and rivers, where it will eventually deposit into agricultural land and be taken up by the crops. This downstream pollution is dangerous to wildlife, too. For example, in May of 2016, the Liqi River was [polluted by the Gangzihou Rongda Lithium mine](#). The river turned up with dead fish, yak and cows.

The lithium mining operation in Salar de Atacama displaces more than 1,700 liters of lithium-rich brine every second of operation. This causes the lakes to shrink, [killing off local flamingo populations](#) that depend on the basin to eat and breed. In Argentina, lithium mining caused [noticeable contamination of nearby streams](#) that were used to feed livestock and irrigate crops. The residents of Salar de Hombre Muerto noticed that the groundwater flow had changed, causing water resources to disappear. They also noticed that that freshwater was contaminated with salty brine, destabilizing the local ecosystems and negatively affecting bird migration and llama populations – which the indigenous communities depend upon for economic survival.

“Like any mining process, it is invasive, it scars the landscape, it destroys the water table and it pollutes the earth and the local wells,” said Guillermo Gonzales, [who spoke about the issues](#) with lithium from the University of Chile back in 2009. “This isn’t a green solution – it’s not a solution at all.”

Sources include:

[Pubs.usgs.gov](#) [PDF]



With all the focus on serious COVID-19 vaccine injuries and deaths, it is easy for less dramatic side effects to fly under the radar. However, many people who received these jabs are now contending with a host of chronic symptoms that affect their everyday lives in various ways. Now, a new study carried out by researchers from [Yale University](#) shows the most common chronic symptoms people are experiencing after getting the shots.

[The study](#), which was partly funded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health, looked at those “who report a severe, debilitating chronic condition following COVID-19 vaccination” that started shortly after they got the jab and continued for a year or longer. According to the study, patients reported experiencing a median of 22 symptoms; the highest number of symptoms experienced by an individual was 35.

The most common symptoms among those studied were brain fog, neuropathy, excessive fatigue, numbness and exercise intolerance. At least half of those studied reported experiencing symptoms such as burning sensations, insomnia, tinnitus, myalgia, headaches and palpitations.

When asked how bad their symptoms felt during their worst days, the study’s participants reported a median of 80 on a scale of 100. It also affected their mental health; more than 80 percent were fearful, 81 percent said they were overwhelmed by their worries, and 93 percent felt unease on at least one occasion in the week before they filled out the survey.

In addition, 91 percent of participants reported sleep problems, while almost everyone experienced feeling rundown. Half of the participants said that despite the symptoms, they were in good, very good or excellent condition; the rest were poor, fair or unknown. Many people involved in the study reported receiving a new diagnosis after getting the jab, such as gastrointestinal problems, neurological conditions and anxiety.

When it comes to how long it took for these effects to be felt, the median time of onset was just three days.

Alleviating negative vaccine effects

According to the study, many people tried a variety of treatments to address their symptoms. Some of the most frequently reported treatments were probiotics, vitamins and supplements. Vitamins B12, D and C were often mentioned.

Most patients also turned to anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen to deal with their symptoms, while around half of them took oral steroids such as dexamethasone.

Many people suffering side effects also tried to get relief from lifestyle changes. For example, 51 percent tried to limit their exertion or exercise, while 44 percent reduced their salt intake and 44 percent eliminated caffeine or alcohol. Roughly 40 percent overall changed their diet in some way.

Researchers say it’s important to recognize some people were harmed by vaccines

The study used data from Yale’s Listen to Immune, Symptom and Treatment Experiences Now (LISTEN), which is research that looked at both long COVID and vaccine side effects. It began in May 2022, and patients had a median age of 46. Roughly 88 percent of them reside in the U.S.

The researchers acknowledged that they did not determine a direct cause-and-effect relationship and that the symptoms could have occurred by chance. However, they conceded that the clustering of symptoms following vaccines does suggest there is a potential relationship between them.

One of the study’s authors, Dr. Harlan Krumholz, said: “These people were not political and not anti-vaccination – they had all been vaccinated – but seemed to have symptoms that were persistent and debilitating.”

He noted that many of them felt like [their symptoms were dismissed by doctors](#) because conventional tests did not find a cause. He said that while he believes vaccines have saved millions of lives, it is important to recognize that some [people were harmed](#).

“What is absolutely clear is that people are suffering. These are people whose lives have unraveled. These people deserve our sympathy, and our help.”

Sources for this article include:



The Florida State Surgeon General, Dr. Joseph Ladapo, has called for the use of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines to be stopped in light of concerns about possible [plasmid DNA contamination](#).

In a post on X, the state’s top physician noted: “The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have always played it fast and loose with COVID-19 vaccine safety, but their failure to test for DNA integration with the human genome – as their own guidelines dictate – when the vaccines are known to be contaminated with foreign DNA is intolerable.”

His post on the social media platform provided a link to [a bulletin explaining the rationale](#) behind his call to put a halt to the use of mRNA vaccines. He also vowed to continue researching the dangers of the vaccines and keep Floridians updated on his findings.

He added: “As always, Florida will put scientific integrity and the safety of our citizens above profit-fueled agendas.”

Dr. Ladapo has been a vocal critic of many COVID-19 health measures

Dr. Ladapo has been vocal about his opposition to mask mandates, lockdowns and vaccine mandates. His latest move was prompted by a response he received from the FDA to a letter he sent them in December expressing his reservations about “the recent discovery of host cell DNA fragments within the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 mRNA vaccines.”

In October, a study was released that identified “plasmid DNA” in “significant levels” in the jabs, which is something the researchers thought could be connected to the adverse events so many people are experiencing from the vaccines.

Dr. Ladapo pointed to guidance from the FDA itself back in 2007 that “DNA integration could theoretically impact a human’s oncogenes – the genes which can transform a healthy cell into a cancerous cell.”

He said the guidance explains how this type of DNA integration can impact numerous areas of the body, including the heart, brain, bone marrow, liver, kidneys, lymph nodes, male and female reproductive organs and blood.

In their reply to his concerns, the FDA did not supply data showing that any of the DNA integration assessments they have recommended were actually carried out. They provided a [general statement](#) expressing their confidence in the safety of the jabs but pointed to genotoxicity studies, which Dr. Ladapo said are not sufficient for determining the risk of DNA integration.

He suggested that non-mRNA COVID-19 vaccines and treatments were better choices for healthcare providers worried about the risks of COVID-19 in their patients before taking the opportunity to call on the FDA to carry out its official duties.

“It is my hope that, in regard to COVID-19, the FDA will one day seriously consider its regulatory responsibility to protect human health, including the integrity of the human genome,” he wrote.

Dr. Ladapo has clashed with the FDA and CDC numerous times

Dr. Ladapo, who was appointed by Florida Governor Ron DeSantis in 2021, has had disagreements with the FDA and CDC in the past. In March, they accused him of misleading the public about the side effects of COVID-19 vaccines after he drew attention to some of their adverse events. In September, he recommended that Florida residents under the age of 65 avoid the latest COVID-19 vaccines. He also drew the agencies’ ire when he recommended against giving healthy children the vaccines in 2022.

According to CDC estimates, around 11 percent of adults and 6 percent of children in Florida have received [the latest COVID-19 vaccines](#).

Sources for this article include: