

Q: Write a factcheck of the following claim using the scientific publications. Mention these publications in the factcheck when you give arguments, percentages or estimates, and also list the same sources below the factcheck under "Sources". For writing style follow a similar layout of the factcheck given in Style Example 2: headline, lead (80 words summary), claim, verdict, source of verdict, why is this true / not true, conclusion, sources. Give a balanced perspective of the evidence, instead of just saying the claim is true or false. Start the evaluation of the evidence with a brief and simple account of the mechanisms and molecules that are supposed to be at play. Be concise but use easy to understand language. This is the claim [Blood clots taken from veins during embalming are the result of covid19 vaccinations]

Claude:

Here is a draft factcheck of the claim "Blood clots taken from veins during embalming are the result of covid19 vaccinations":

No evidence that embalming blood clots are due to COVID-19 vaccines

While rare blood clots have occurred after COVID-19 vaccination, no evidence suggests this is causing embalming blood clots. Blood coagulates naturally after death regardless of vaccination status.

Claim:

Blood clots taken from veins during embalming are the result of covid19 vaccinations

Verdict:

False

Evaluation of the evidence:

Blood clotting is a normal part of the coagulation cascade that occurs in the body. When a blood vessel is injured, platelets rush to the site of injury and aggregate. They release chemicals that activate coagulation factors, resulting in the production of thrombin. Thrombin converts fibrinogen to fibrin, creating a mesh that traps blood cells and forms a clot. This process stops bleeding from an injury.

After death, the coagulation cascade is activated throughout the vascular system as blood stops moving. This leads to widespread clot formation, which is normal. During embalming, these clots are flushed out of the veins as formaldehyde-based fluids replace the blood. The presence of blood clots taken from veins during embalming does not indicate an abnormal clotting problem before death.

While very rare blood clots like cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST) and thrombocytopenia have occurred after COVID-19 vaccination, studies show the risk is much higher after SARS-CoV-2 infection compared to vaccination. One study found about 4 excess CVST events per million people after the ChAdOx1 vaccine compared to about 39 excess events per million after SARS-CoV-2 infection. The risk of clots overall is low.

No evidence suggests that COVID-19 vaccination is causing the normal blood clots that form after death and are removed during embalming. The claim that embalming blood clots result from vaccination is false.

Sources:

- Malas et al, Thromboembolism risk of COVID-19 is high and associated with a higher risk of mortality: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *EClinicalMedicine* 2020.
- Hippisley-Cox et al, Risk of thrombocytopenia and thromboembolism after covid-19 vaccination and SARS-CoV-2 positive testing: self-controlled case series study. *BMJ* 2021.
- Taquest et al, Cerebral venous thrombosis and portal vein thrombosis: a retrospective cohort study of 537 913 COVID-19 cases. 2021.

Let me know if you would like me to modify or expand this draft factcheck. I'm happy to revise it based on your feedback.