

“There’s no picture where she’s not smiling. None. None.

“Look.

“There’s no picture.”

“What a shock.

Yes, this is from her birthday.”

“Yes, I think I will wake up from this nightmare and she will be here with us.”

Nofar, the sister of Shir-el (may her memory be for a blessing), and Shir-el’s partner, Eyal, can’t believe that she’s not coming back.

“She always prepared her pajamas like this.

“We haven’t touched it. It’s stayed like this.

“It’s simply empty here without her.”

It all started a little over a week ago, when Shir-el, 22, complained to her sister, a nurse by profession, that she didn’t feel well.

“Two weeks ago she got her second Covid vaccine.

“She told me that she sometimes gets, you know, muscle pain, side effects that are common after a vaccine.

“I told her, ‘Take Norofin. If it doesn’t help, go to the doctor in the morning.’

But the situation only got worse and Shir-el had trouble breathing and chest pains.

“I came to her house to take her, and she says, I simply can’t breathe, my chest hurts. I can’t breathe, talk to me, I’m weak, I’m weak.

“I didn’t think twice. I drove her straight to Ziv hospital in Tzfat.

“They took an x-ray and blood tests and immediately found an infection in the heart muscles.

“I asked the doctor, what does this mean?

“He told us it’s similar to an infection in the shoulder,

“It’s viral, it’ll go away.

“So then I was happy.

“I said, fine, you mean three or four days?

“Do I have to be with her a week?

“However long it takes. As long as everything will be okay.”

This isn’t the first case in Israel of an infection in the muscle of the heart after the second vaccine against Corona.

It’s just that until today all the people who got sick recovered and were sent home.

Even people who were brought to the hospital in much more serious condition than Shir-el.

“When Shir-el arrived at the emergency room Thursday afternoon, they found a very high level of Troponin in the blood.

“The level of Troponin was higher than 10,000.

“Just to give you an idea, a level of Troponin between 13 and 50, Depending on the type of test, is considered a high level.

“When the enzyme troponin is spread in the blood, it means there’s damage in the heart.

Shir-el was transferred to cardiac intensive care, under supervision with people after heart surgery.

A department like its name, intensive care.

Where patients are supposed to be under intense supervision

And every few hours they check the patients thoroughly.

But, in this case, this wasn’t done.

“I went there and I saw she was a shadow of herself in her bed.

“I looked at the monitor, I saw her breathing.

“30 breaths a minute.

“Her pulse was 120, 130, 140.

“The monitor was beeping. Whenever it’s that high, the monitor beeps.

“And no one came.”

Saturday morning, less than 48 hours after she was admitted,

She collapsed.

“I went quickly and I said, I’ll see if there’s anything I can do,

Maybe I can I save her.

“And five minutes later they called me to tell me she died.

“It was so sudden.

“I had just seen her a few hours before, Friday at 2 pm.

“Who imagined that this could happen? That I’ll come Saturday morning at 9:30,  
and I see that she’s not with me.

“She collapsed in front of their eyes, and no one, no one, didn’t even lift a hand.

“From all the shifts,

no one lifted their hand and said, she’s not being treated.

“For something like this you simply have to stop working for a second,

and ask, what happened? What did we miss?

“If you only smile your whole life, that’s all that I ask.”

“We were together almost three years.

“We made plans for her to move in with me. I have a private apartment under my  
parents’ house.

“She went to the hospital on Thursday. The day before, Wednesday, we had already  
bought everything.

“We wanted so much that after the holiday everything would be ready, in place.

“We had so many plans.

“That girl was my whole life.”

The deceased was admitted to the hospital with chest pains, overall weakness, and fever.

The last day in the hospital her condition deteriorated, new complications arose in the heart that did not respond to treatment, and after attempts to revive her, she was declared dead. We share in the family’s sorrow over this tragic loss.

I have to say the hospital reported to the Health Ministry as is required in unusual cases. We inquired at the Health Ministry and they said the first they heard of this is from us.