

CYS Health & Wellness

Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children Associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (MIS-C)

Since 26 April 2020, health authorities in the United States, United Kingdom, and other countries have reported over 100 children with a severe Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), which may present with Kawasaki Disease like features.

MIS-C has been described as an inflammation (swelling) across multiple body systems, potentially including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes and gastrointestinal organs.

Patients under the age of 21 years old have presented the following symptoms to include persistent fever, hypotension (low blood pressure), irritability or sluggishness, abdominal pain without other explanation, diarrhea, vomiting, rash, conjunctivitis (pink eye), enlarged cervical lymph nodes, red, cracked lips and/or “strawberry” (red swollen bumpy) tongue, and/or edematous (swollen) hands and feet. While rare, this condition may be life-threatening and require intensive care. Not all children will have the same symptoms.

If your child has any of these symptoms or other concerning signs, contact your pediatrician. If your child is showing any emergency warning signs including trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, bluish lips or face, severe abdominal pain, or other concerning signs, seek emergency care right away.

Per the Center for Disease Control (CDC), there is currently limited information available regarding risk factors, origination, clinical course, or treatment for MIS-C. It is also unknown if this inflammatory syndrome is specific to children, or if it also occurs in adults.

The CDC is working with state and local health departments to learn more about this syndrome, including how common it is and who is at risk. As new information becomes available, we will continue to provide information for parents and caregivers. You can also obtain up-to-date information by visiting the CDC website at:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children.html>

