



Recently, reports have begun to surface about a possible connection between COVID-19 and a rare but serious health condition in children called Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C). At the moment, the association between both the virus and the condition is not well understood, and we continue to watch this newly recognized syndrome very carefully.

While we're still learning more about MIS-C and how best to diagnose and treat it, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), very few children get severely ill from COVID-19. And, most diagnosed with MIS-C have recovered after receiving proper medical care.



Current MIS-C Data*

There have been 694 confirmed cases of MIS-C and 11 deaths reported in 42 states.

- Most cases are in children between the ages of one and 14
- Cases have occurred in children aged less than a year old up to 20 years old
- More than 70% of reported cases have occurred in children who are Hispanic/Latino (239 cases) or Non-Hispanic Black (197 cases)
- 99% of cases (687) tested positive for SARS CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The remaining 1% were around someone with COVID-19
- Most children developed MIS-C two to four weeks after infection with SARS-CoV-2
- Slightly more than half (55%) of reported cases were male

*According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as of 8/20/2020

SYMPTOMS OF MIS-C

Children with MIS-C have a fever and inflammation in their body that is confirmed by lab tests. While different, the condition shares some of the symptoms of other rare childhood conditions such as Kawasaki Disease. Contact your child's pediatrician right away if you notice any of these symptoms:

- a fever lasting more than three days
- abdominal pain, diarrhea or vomiting
- neck pain
- rash or changes in skin color
- bloodshot eyes
- seems extra tired
- trouble breathing
- pain or pressure in the chest that doesn't go away
- becoming confused
- unable to wake up or stay awake
- bluish lips or face

Be sure to let your pediatrician or emergency care providers know if your child has tested positive for COVID-19 or has been exposed to someone with the virus within the past four weeks. Your pediatrician will let you know if your child can be seen in the office or if you need to go to the emergency department or call 911.

PREVENTION

The best way to prevent MIS-C is to continue taking steps that help avoid exposure to COVID-19:

- Wash hands often using soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer for 20 seconds
- Practice proper social distancing (six feet) and avoid individuals who are sick
- Wear cloth face coverings (two years of age and older only)
- Clean and disinfect "high-touch" surfaces daily
- Wash laundry and plush toys as needed on the warmest setting advised and dry fully before use

If you have any concerns about your child's health, call your pediatrician and schedule an appointment. The health of you and your child is their primary concern, and offices are taking all possible precautions to ensure the safety of your family.