

Because COVID-19 is so new, we are learning every day about its effect on both adult and pediatric patients. Children from around the world have been experiencing symptoms of a rare disease that was recently named *Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)* by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The new definition for this syndrome allows it to be tracked worldwide in a consistent way.

## What we know about MIS-C

Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) is a condition where different body parts can become inflamed, including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs. We do not yet know what causes MIS-C. However, we know that many children with MIS-C had the virus that causes COVID-19 or had been around someone with COVID-19. MIS-C can be serious, but most children who were diagnosed with this condition have gotten better with medical care.

## Symptoms

Parents and caregivers should watch for the following symptoms of MIS-C:

- Persistent fever
- Rash or changes in skin color
- Red eyes or conjunctivitis
- Abdominal (stomach) pain
- Swollen lymph nodes (glands)

Note: Children with MIS-C do not always show respiratory (breathing) symptoms.

If your child is experiencing any of these symptoms, please contact their primary care provider immediately to prevent more serious problems.

## Ongoing Monitoring

The Health Department and Vermont's pediatric medical community including pediatric infectious disease physicians and epidemiologists are regularly monitoring new information published about this disease and the syndrome. *Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)* seems to share some features with well-known illnesses such as Kawasaki Disease and toxic shock syndrome.

The new syndrome appears to be rare both worldwide and, in the U.S., and most children with this syndrome have responded well to supportive treatment.

## For More Information

Visit the [CDC's Website](#) on this topic.