

Because COVID-19 is relatively 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 condition that has been 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:

- Fever
- Abdominal pain
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Neck pain
- Rash
- Bloodshot eyes
- Feeling extra tired

Note: Children with MIS-C do not always show respiratory (breathing) symptoms. Also, not all children with MIS-C will have all of these symptoms.

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

Seek emergency care right away if your child is showing any of these emergency warning signs of MIS-C or other concerning signs:

- Trouble breathing
- Pain or pressure in the chest that does not go away
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

- Severe abdominal pain

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. MIS-C 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](https://www.cdc.gov) on this topic.