

HEALTH ADVISORY



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

REGION IV PUBLIC HEALTH

Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum
counties and Cowlitz Tribe

To: Physicians and other health care providers

Please distribute a copy of this information to each provider in your organization.

Questions regarding this information may be directed to the following Region IV health officers:

Alan Melnick, MD, MPH, CPH

Clark County Public Health, 564.397.8182
Skamania County Community Health, 509.427.3850
Cowlitz County Health & Human Services, 360.414.5599
Wahkiakum County Health & Human Services, 360.795.6207

Steven Krager, MD, MPH

Clark County Public Health, 564.397.8182
Skamania County Community Health, 509.427.3850
Cowlitz County Health & Human Services, 360.414.5599
Wahkiakum County Health & Human Services, 360.795.6207

Alert categories:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.

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Pediatric multi-system inflammatory syndrome potentially associated with COVID-19 in children

Summary

In the United Kingdom and Europe, a possible link has been reported between COVID-19 and a serious inflammatory disease recently termed “Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome Temporally Associated with COVID-19.” One case has been reported in Washington State.

The majority of patients who have presented with this syndrome have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 or corresponding antibodies. Some tested positive on diagnostic, molecular testing for SARS-CoV-2, others were positive on serological testing for corresponding antibodies.

Cases of Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome Potentially Associated with COVID-19 should be immediately reported to your local health jurisdiction.

Requested actions

Providers should consider Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome Potentially Associated with COVID-19 in children who present with:

- Persistent fever
- Inflammation (e.g. neutrophilia, elevated C-reactive protein and lymphopenia)
- Evidence of single- or multi-organ dysfunction (shock, cardiac, respiratory, renal, gastrointestinal or neurological disorder)

This syndrome should be considered by providers, particularly when other microbial etiologies have not been identified.

Providers should take these additional actions:

- **Immediately report** cases of Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome Potentially Associated with COVID-19 in patients younger than 21 years old to their local health jurisdiction (contact information below).
- **Perform a PCR and serological test** to detect the present of SARS-COV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, or corresponding antibodies in the patient.
- Elicit any recent history of illness with COVID-19 or close contact with individuals who are known to have COVID-19 in children presenting with compatible symptoms.
- Use COVID-19 PPE and infection control precautions while patients are under evaluation for and if diagnosed with COVID-19.

Early recognition by pediatricians and prompt referral to an in-patient specialist, including to critical care, is essential.

Background

As of May 11, 2020, one suspected pediatric clinical case compatible with multi-system inflammatory syndrome associated with COVID-19 has been reported in a child in Washington State. As of May 5, 2020, 64 cases have been reported in children in New York State.

This syndrome has features which overlap with Kawasaki Disease and Toxic Shock Syndrome. Inflammatory markers may be elevated, and fever and abdominal symptoms may be prominent. Rash also may be present. Myocarditis and other cardiovascular changes may be seen. Additionally, some patients have developed cardiogenic or vasogenic shock and required intensive care. This inflammatory syndrome may occur days to weeks after acute COVID-19 illness.

The syndrome may include:

- A child presenting with persistent fever, inflammation (e.g., neutrophilia, elevated C-reactive protein, ferritin, and lymphopenia) and evidence of single or multi-organ dysfunction (shock, cardiac, respiratory, renal, gastrointestinal or neurological disorder). This may include children meeting full or partial criteria for Kawasaki disease.
- Exclusion of any other microbial cause, including bacterial sepsis, staphylococcal or streptococcal shock syndromes, and infections associated with myocarditis such as enterovirus. Clinicians should not delay seeking expert advice while waiting for results of these investigations.

Additional resources

- Lancet correspondence, May 6, 2020: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)31094-1/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31094-1/fulltext)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) COVID-19 Website](#)
- [Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health Guidance: Paediatric Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome Temporally Associated with COVID-19](#)

Thank you for your partnership.

Local health jurisdiction	Phone	Fax
Clark County Public Health	564.397.8182	564.397.8080
Cowlitz County Health Department	360.414.5599	360.425.7531
Skamania County Community Health	509.427.3850	509.427.0188
Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services	360.795.6207	360.795.6143

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