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**PHYSICIANS ADVISORY: 2022-02**

**MULTISYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME IN CHILDREN (MIS-C)  
ASSOCIATED WITH COVID-19**

Dear Physician/Provider:

As of October 4, 2021, Guam has had a physician-diagnosed case of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). All healthcare providers on Guam are urged to be on alert for possible cases of MIS-C and to report them to the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS).

Patients with MIS-C have presented with a persistent fever, stomach pain, diarrhea, vomiting, skin rash, blood shot eyes, dizziness or lightheadedness (signs of low blood pressure), fatigue, and a variety of signs and symptoms including multiorgan involvement, (e.g., cardiac, gastrointestinal, renal, hematologic, dermatologic, neurologic) and elevated inflammatory markers. Not all children will have the same signs and symptoms, and some children may have symptoms not listed here. MIS-C may begin weeks after a child is infected with SARS-CoV-2. The child may have been infected from an asymptomatic contact and, in some cases, the child and their caregivers may not even know they had been infected.

**Case Definition for Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)**

1. An individual aged <21 years presenting with fever  $\geq 38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$  for  $\geq 24$  hours, or report of subjective fever lasting  $\geq 24$  hours;
2. Laboratory evidence of inflammation, including, but not limited to, one or more of the following: an elevated C-reactive protein (CRP), erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), fibrinogen, procalcitonin, d-dimer, ferritin, lactic acid dehydrogenase (LDH), or interleukin 6 (IL-6), elevated neutrophils, reduced lymphocytes and low albumin;
3. Evidence of clinically severe illness requiring hospitalization, with multisystem ( $\geq 2$ ) organ involvement (cardiac, renal, respiratory, hematologic, gastrointestinal, dermatologic or neurological); **AND**
4. No alternative plausible diagnoses; **AND**
5. Positive for current or recent SARS-CoV-2 infection by RT-PCR, serology, or antigen test; or COVID-19 exposure within the 4 weeks prior to the onset of symptoms.

Additional Comments

- Some individuals may fulfill full or partial criteria for Kawasaki disease but should be reported if they meet the case definition for MIS-C;
- Consider MIS-C in any pediatric death with evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection.

Healthcare providers who have cared or are caring for patients younger than 21 years of age meeting MIS-C criteria should report suspected cases to DPHSS.

Information for healthcare providers regarding evaluation and treatment of MIS-C cases can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/mis-c/hcp/>.

If you have any questions, please contact Robert Leon Guerrero, MD, Interim Chief Medical Officer at [robert.leonguerrero@dphss.guam.gov](mailto:robert.leonguerrero@dphss.guam.gov).

APPROVED BY:



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