

# Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

Information for parents



## About MIS-C

Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) is a **rare, but serious** condition that occurs in children.

MIS-C can cause **inflammation** of the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs.

## What causes MIS-C?

We are still learning about what causes MIS-C. We know that children who get MIS-C, either **had COVID-19** or were in **close contact** with someone with COVID-19.

MIS-C is serious, but children who are diagnosed will recover with **timely medical care**.

## If you think your child is sick with MIS-C

If your child is having symptoms of MIS-C, contact their doctor or health care provider. If they don't have a doctor or health care provider, contact 211 at [211wisconsin.communityos.org](https://211wisconsin.communityos.org) to be connected with resources that can help.

## Symptoms of MIS-C

- Abdominal pain
- Tiredness
- Fever
- Vomiting
- Rash
- Diarrhea
- Neck pain
- Blood shot eyes



**Call 911 or go to the emergency room immediately if your child shows any of the following emergency warning signs:**

- Trouble breathing
- Pain or pressure in chest that doesn't go away
- Discolored lips or face
- Inability to wake up or stay awake
- New confusion
- Severe abdominal pain

## Diagnosing and treating MIS-C

Your child's doctor or health care provider may do different **tests to look for inflammation** such as:

- Abdominal ultrasound
- Blood tests
- Chest x-ray
- Echocardiogram (heart ultrasound)

Children with MIS-C will need to **get treatment in a hospital and may be admitted to the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU).**

Doctors may give your child **medicine or fluids** to make them feel better and treat inflammation.

## Protect your child from COVID-19

We are still learning about why some children get MIS-C while others do not. We do know that the best way to **prevent MIS-C** is to take steps to **protect your child from COVID-19**. We recognize that some people may not have the privileges or resources that allow them to engage in some prevention practices.

### Follow these prevention practices as much as you are able to protect your child from COVID-19:

- Help your child **wear a mask** when in public and around people they don't live with if they are 2 or more years old.
- Make sure your child **washes their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds**. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Keep your child **at least 6 feet away from others who don't live with them and those who are sick**. Limit in-person playtime and connect virtually with other children if that option is available to you.
- **Get your child tested if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or if they come in close contact** with someone who has COVID-19. Find a testing site at: [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/testing.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/testing.htm)



## Learn more

- Visit the DHS website at: [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/mis-c.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/mis-c.htm)
- Visit the CDC website at: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children/mis-c.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children/mis-c.html)

