



The Royal College of Emergency Medicine

Clinical Brief

June 2020

COVID-19

CHILDREN & COVID-19



Paediatric multisystem inflammatory syndrome associated with SARS-CoV2

A rare syndrome sharing common features with other paediatric inflammatory conditions: sepsis, Kawasaki disease & toxic shock syndromes.

How to recognize and manage it?

- Consider in children with **fever, inflammation** (including full/partial criteria for Kawasaki disease) and **evidence of organ dysfunction**
- Respiratory failure is **less common**
- **Shock** is the commonest presenting feature
- Shock may be **refractory** to volume resuscitation
- Acute abdominal and **GI symptoms** may be seen
- **Early senior review**; standard APLS resuscitation & empirical antibiotics
- **Early referral to Paediatric Intensive Care** using local pathways

References:

<https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/COVID-19-Paediatric-multisystem-%20inflammatory%20syndrome-20200501.pdf>

<https://picsociety.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/PIMS-TS-Critical-Care-Clinical-Guidance-v4.pdf>

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www.rcem.ac.uk/SafetyAlerts