2020 Health Advisory #16: Updated Reporting Requirements for Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children Associated with COVID-19 (Formerly Pediatric Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome)

- Maintain vigilance for Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) and refer patients to specialty care promptly, including to critical care if warranted.
- Immediately report cases of possible MIS-C to the New York City Health Department’s Provider Access Line: 866-692-3641.

May 18, 2020
Dear Colleagues,

The New York City Health Department requests your assistance investigating multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) associated with COVID-19. This syndrome, previously referred to as pediatric multisystem inflammatory syndrome or PMIS, was first reported by the NYC Health Department on May 4 in Health Alert #13. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued Health Alert 432 on May 14, naming the syndrome MIS-C and providing a case definition. As of May 17, 2020, 145 patients meeting criteria for suspected MIS-C have been reported in New York City. Patients ranged in age from 0-21 years. One death has been reported. The NYC Health Department is investigating each report to determine if the patient meets full criteria for MIS-C.

Please immediately report all cases of suspected MIS-C to the NYC Health Department by calling the Provider Access Line (PAL) at (866) 692-3641. The NYC reporting criteria, which are aligned with New York State’s reporting criteria for MIS-C, are listed below. Providers must report all suspected cases, regardless of laboratory evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection. The NYC Health Department asks that providers conduct molecular and serologic testing for SARS-CoV-2 for all suspected cases.

Reporting suspected cases of MIS-C to the NYC Health Department is mandated by the New York State Sanitary Code, which requires reporting of “Pediatric Multi-system Inflammatory Syndrome, or any other complication suspected of being associated with SARS-CoV-2 infection,” and by Article 11 of the NYC Health Code. Reporting to the NYC Health Department is required in addition to reporting to New York State via Health Electronic Response Data System (HERDS) or otherwise.

The outbreak of COVID-19 is evolving rapidly. Providers should regularly check the NYC Health Department COVID-19 provider webpage, which includes patient management and clinical laboratory guidance, and the CDC website, for updated information.

Thank you for your continued partnership as we respond to this newly reported syndrome.

Sincerely,

Demetre C. Daskalakis, MD, MPH
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Disease Control
New York City Reporting Criteria for Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children

Note: These criteria are a subset of the New York State Department of Health’s interim reporting criteria announced on May 13, 2020. The NYC reporting criteria differ from the State’s in not explicitly including epidemiologic evidence of possible SARS-CoV-2 exposure. As NYC is experiencing sustained, ongoing community transmission of SARS-CoV-2, all NYC patients meet the epidemiologic criteria outlined in the NYS criteria. Providers should report to the NYC Health Department all suspected cases, regardless of laboratory evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection.

An individual aged < 21 years who meets the following clinical and general laboratory criteria and does not have another diagnosis that may account for the illness (e.g., bacterial sepsis):

Clinical Criteria
1. At least 1 day of subjective OR measured fever (≥ 100.4°F/38°C) AND
2. Hospitalization AND
3. Either:
   o At least 1 of the following:
     ▪ Hypotension or shock (cardiogenic or vasogenic)
     ▪ Features of severe cardiac illness, including myocarditis, pericarditis, valvulitis, significantly elevated troponin/pro-BNP, or coronary artery abnormalities
     ▪ Other severe end-organ involvement, including but not limited to neurological or renal disease (but excluding isolated severe respiratory disease)
   OR
   o At least 2 of the following:
     ▪ Maculopapular rash
     ▪ Bilateral non-purulent conjunctivitis
     ▪ Mucocutaneous inflammatory signs (mouth, hands, or feet)
     ▪ Acute gastrointestinal symptoms (diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain);

General Laboratory Criteria
At least 2 of the following
   o Neutrophilia
   o Lymphopenia
   o Thrombocytopenia
   o Hypoalbuminemia
   o Elevated C-reactive protein (CRP)
   o Elevated erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)
   o Elevated fibrinogen
   o Elevated d-dimer
   o Elevated ferritin
   o Elevated lactic acid dehydrogenase (LDH)
   o Elevated interleukin 6 (IL-6)
   o Elevated procalcitonin

The NYC Health Department may change recommendations as the situation evolves.