



Vannessa L. Dorantes  
Commissioner

**DEPARTMENT of CHILDREN and FAMILIES**  
*Making a Difference for Children, Families and Communities*



Ned Lamont  
Governor

## MEMORANDUM

To: All DCF Staff, Foster Parents and Congregate Care Providers

From: Commissioner Vannessa Dorantes LMSW

Date: May 20, 2020

Re: Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children

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As you have likely become aware, there is growing concern regarding a serious health related issue specific to children. The US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued a health alert that DCF Medical Director, Dr Nicole Taylor, has researched on behalf of the children in our custody.

The condition is called Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C). Associated with the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), it is an evolving inflammatory disorder in children associated with a past COVID-19 infection. MIS-C has been diagnosed in previously healthy children who present to medical care with Kawasaki disease-like symptoms.

The illness has been described in children both internationally and domestically. New York has identified over 100 cases and symptoms can present up to 4 to 6 weeks after exposure to or a diagnosis of COVID-19. Connecticut has less than 10 cases which are being treated and monitored. This message is for awareness and not intended to alarm.

Children and adolescents less than 21 years old are considered at risk. Further information can be learned from the CDC: <https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2020/han00432.asp>

Additional information from the WHO: <https://www.who.int/news-room/commentaries/detail/multisystem-inflammatory-syndrome-in-children-and-adolescents-with-covid-19>

The child's primary care provider is to be contacted immediately for further guidance and if necessary, treatment of this condition, if the following symptoms are noted resulting in possible complications:

### Possible Symptoms

- Persistent fever for more than 24 hours (Fever is the most common symptom)
- Rash
- Muco-cutaneous inflammation (red lips, tongue, palm and sole)
- Gastrointestinal symptoms including stomach pain, diarrhea and vomiting
- Conjunctivitis (red eyes)
- Feeling extra tired

### Possible complications

- Cardiac complications
- Bleeding disorder
- Kidney, respiratory and neurologic disorder

The caregiver should also notify the child's Social Worker and FASU Support worker to advise of the medical concern and recommendations made by the physician. These staff should consult their RRG Nurse to ensure an accurate account of any child who fits the criteria outlined above.

MIS-C is evolving, and early recognition and care could be lifesaving. Upon notification of symptoms, recommended surveillance may include the following:

- Monitoring children weekly for the above symptoms up to 6 weeks after COVID exposure or a positive test may assist with early diagnosis and treatment of symptoms.
- Prolonging isolation beyond the initial recommended isolation is not warranted.
- The child's primary care provider should be consulted for further guidance and if the child develops any of the above symptoms.

As always, we share this to keep you informed as information becomes known to us.

Thank you for your dedicated care and commitment to the children and families we serve.

We will get through this...TOGETHER.

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