COVID-19 & Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Tribal Children

Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children, or MIS-C, is a rare health condition that causes different organs and body parts in children to become inflamed, including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs. The official cause is still unknown; however, many children diagnosed with MIS-C had COVID-19 or been around somebody with COVID-19. It is a severe disease and can be deadly. Most of the children who were diagnosed with this health condition responded well to medical care.

What are the symptoms of MIS-C?

- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Rash
- Abdominal pain
- Fever
- Bloodshot eyes
- Neck pain
- Feeling extra tired

If your child is showing any of these emergency signs of MIS-C or other concerning signs:

- Trouble breathing
- Severe abdominal pain
- Pale, gray, or blue colored skin, lips, or nails beds, depending on skin tone
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- New confusion
- Pain or pressure in the chest that does not go away

How can we prevent Tribal Children from developing MIS-C?

The best way to protect Tribal children from developing MIS-C is to protect them from getting COVID-19. AI/AN children six-months and older are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. For children ages five-years and older, they are eligible to get their booster after completing their COVID-19 vaccine primary series. Children who have already recovered from COVID-19 should also get vaccinated and/or get their booster shot. Talk to your child’s IHS or Tribal health system provider to learn more about protecting them with a COVID-19 vaccination. Please visit the CDC website, for more information about the benefits of getting your child the COVID-19 vaccine.

How are Tribal Children treated for MIS-C?

What doctors at IHS Clinics or Tribal Health Facilities can provide to AI/AN children:

- Urgent or emergency treatment of severe symptoms
- Supportive care for mild symptoms (medicine and/or fluids to make your child feel better)
- Various medicines to treat inflammation

For more information about MIS-C associated with COVID-19, visit the CDC website:


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Find a COVID-19 Vaccine: Search vaccines.gov, text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you in the U.S.