



Teton County Health Department

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For Immediate Release

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Press Release

First Montana MIS-C Case Confirmed

The Montana Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and the Teton County Health Department are confirming a case of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with COVID-19. The patient, a Teton County resident between the ages of 10 and 19, received treatment at Primary Children’s Hospital in Salt Lake City. The patient has been discharged from the hospital and is recovering from the illness. Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) criteria and the patient’s physician the individual is not infectious and does not need to further isolate.

This is the only case of MIS-C reported in Montana state residents to date. MIS-C is a rare but serious condition associated with COVID-19. Since reporting of MIS-C in the United States began in mid-May, over 40 states have reported at least one case of MIS-C to CDC. As of August 20, 2020, 694 confirmed cases have been reported nation-wide, with additional cases under investigation, according to the CDC website. Most states have ten or fewer reported cases.

In May, the CDC [issued a health advisory](#) following increased reports of previously healthy children presenting with a severe inflammatory syndrome with Kawasaki disease-like symptoms. Health care providers and parents are encouraged to be on the lookout for signs and symptoms that a child may be experiencing MIS-C. Identifying the syndrome early is important, because treatments are available for serious complications. In most cases, children developed MIS-C two to four weeks after infection with SARS-CoV-2. Since many children may have COVID-19 without having symptoms it is important for parents and healthcare providers to consider MIS-C in a child when no other alternative diagnosis is confirmed.

The current case definition includes the following:

- Under the age of 21, with a fever, laboratory evidence of inflammation, and severe illness involving more than two organs that requires hospitalization; AND
- No other plausible diagnoses; AND
- Positive COVID-19 test, or exposure to a confirmed case, within the four weeks prior to the onset of symptoms.

“MIS-C is very uncommon” says Melissa Moyer, Director of the Teton County Health Department, “but parents should call their primary care providers if their child is showing new or unusual symptoms including persistent fever, abdominal pain with or without vomiting or diarrhea, neck pain, rash, bloodshot eyes, feeling extra tired, or respiratory symptoms such as shortness of breath.”



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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The best way to decrease the risk of acquiring COVID19 is to limit the amount of disease that is in your community. “With kids going back to school, it is incredibly important that we all follow the simple public health guidance to prevent the spread of COVID19 in our schools and our communities,” says Dr. Greg Holzman, State Medical Officer. “While MIS-C is rare, if more and more children becoming infected with COVID19 we would expect to see more cases of this serious disease in our communities.”

“While the majority of children appear to have mild or asymptomatic infection, it is important to remember that some children can develop serious complications like these,” says Moyer. “We are so grateful that our young Teton County resident is recovered and back at home!”

For more information on COVID-19 or MIS-C visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov) website.