

APPENDIX C:

Paediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome- Temporally associated with SARS CoV-2 (PIMS-TS) / Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

Version 2. For updated document please see online version [here](#)

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Introduction:

In May 2020, a paediatric inflammatory multisystem syndrome was observed in association with CoVID-19. Clinical features varied between a Kawasaki-Disease (KD) like illness with both typical and atypical features and toxic shock syndrome presentations. Tables with the clinical features of these conditions are below. The full spectrum of disease is not known, and management not been studied prospectively. It may be difficult to distinguish this from typical KD (that may occur with an increased frequency) and incomplete KD and toxic shock due to gram positive infections.^{1,2,3} There are slight differences in the case definitions between the UK, WHO and USA but the principles of the diagnosis are similar and are highlighted in table 1.⁴⁻⁷

| Table 1: Essential components for the diagnosis of PIMS-TS /MIS-C ⁽⁴⁻⁷⁾ Please see Figure 1 as well | |
|--|---|
| | Description |
| 1. Child | In the USA this includes adolescents up to 21 years of age. |
| 2. Fever | > 38.5°C |
| 3. Single OR multiorgan dysfunction | Organ dysfunction includes: Shock, cardiac, respiratory, renal, gastrointestinal or neurological disorder Feature may include: Hypotension, tachycardia confusion, headache, syncope, conjunctivitis, respiratory symptoms including cough or supplemental oxygen requirement, sore throat, mucous membrane changes lymphadenopathy, neck swelling abdominal pain, diarrhoea, vomiting, rash, swollen hands and feet |
| 4. Clear evidence of inflammation (Not all test on all patients) | Laboratory parameters include features of an exaggerated inflammatory response and cytokine storm and include: Raised C-Reactive protein (CRP), erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), procalcitonin (PCT), fibrinogen, d-dimer, ferritin, lactic acid dehydrogenase (LDH), neutrophils, troponin T and Pro BNP. Reduced lymphocytes and low albumin |
| 5. No clear other cause | Consider: Bacterial sepsis, staphylococcal or streptococcal shock syndromes, infections associated with myocarditis such as enterovirus (waiting for results of these investigations should not delay seeking expert advice or management) |
| 6. SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing | may be positive or negative, if possible/available antibody test should be performed |

| Table 2: Principles of early general management and investigations of PIMS-TS /MIS-C | |
|---|--|
| Principle | Action |
| Discuss all cases with possible PIMS-TS /MIS-C with paediatric rheumatology (Rheum) and Infectious diseases (ID) as soon as you suspect it. | |
| 1. Treated as PUI for suspected COVID-19 | Cohort or isolate and do the SARS-COV-2 PCR |
| 2. Consider sepsis as a possibility | Early appropriate antibiotic that covers the clinical presentation and refer to local guidance with appropriate cover of <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> and group A streptococci, if toxic shock criteria are met clindamycin can be considered as an addition and if vasculitis present tick born illness should be considered. |
| 3. Monitor cardio-respiratory function closely. | Mild disease <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May only require supportive care. Moderate to severe disease <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early referral to intensive care or hospital with intensive care |
| 4. Laboratory investigations | In all suspected cases Blood culture FBC and differential diagnosis Electrolytes, urea and s-creatinine, AST and ALT CRP, PCT, ESR, ferritin Clotting profile, fibrinogen and d-dimers |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| | Other tests depending on the clinical presentation and after discussion e.g. Troponin T and pro BNP (Refer to appendix 1 – investigation checklist) ⁴ |
| 5. Other investigations | CXR, ECG, serial echocardiography |

Specific Treatment

The following treatment guidelines serve as an interim, local, consensus-based guidance as evidence-based guidelines do not currently exist. The guidance will be updated as evidence becomes available. Children that clearly meet the KD clinical definition AND are of a typical age for KD should be managed as KD and this guide does not aim to replace management guidelines for KD.

| Table 3. Suggested initial targeted therapy | | |
|--|-------------------|---|
| INITIAL therapy | | |
| Review the diagnosis and particularly in the case of children with TSS ensure that a source on infection was not overlooked | | |
| *Kawasaki criteria met and typical age stable and not shocked Child less than 4 with incomplete KD and stable | IVIG** | 2g/kg over 12-48 hours |
| | /Anti-coagulation | Aspirin: 3-5mg/kg/day Heparin/LMWH*** if evidence of thrombosis or if large coronary artery aneurysm (Discuss with cardiology) Avoid Aspirin if platelets below 80 000 |
| | Steroids | Oral prednisone 2mg/kg/day per os for 5 days if Kobayashi risk score ≥ 4 for children of Asian descent and ≥5 for other children. Tapering of oral steroids should be discussed and depends on the clinical response. D/W Rheum |
| Kawasaki-like illness but in PICU with shock OR MAS (particularly consider the age of the child) | IVIG** | 2g/kg over 12-24 hours |
| | /Anti-coagulation | Aspirin: 3-5mg/kg/day Heparin/LMWH*** if evidence of thrombosis or if large coronary artery aneurysm or if EF < 30% (Discuss with cardiology) Avoid Aspirin if platelets below 80 000 |
| | Steroids | IVI methylprednisolone 10mg /kg/day pulse 3 days followed by an oral tapering |
| Toxic shock like illness(definition) with out MAS (definition) and not Catecholamine resistant | IVIG** | 2g/kg over 12-24 hours |
| | /Anticoagulation | Heparin/LMWH*** if evidence of thrombosis or if large coronary artery aneurysm or if EF < 30% (Discuss with cardiology/ICU) |
| | Steroids | Only after review |
| Toxic shock-like illness with Catecholamine resistant shock AND / OR MAS | IVIG** | 2g/kg over 12-24 hours |
| | Aspirin | Heparin/LMWH*** if evidence of thrombosis or if large coronary artery aneurysm or if EF < 30% (Discuss with cardiology/ICU) |
| | Steroids | IVI methylprednisolone 10 mg/kg/day pulse 3 days followed by oral tapering |
| *Follow established KD guidelines for diagnosis and management | | |

| Table 4. Suggested management of IVIG failure | | |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| THERAPY FOR INITIAL FAILURE of IVIG | | |
| Failure of initial therapy should be considered with if continued fever after 36 hours post initial therapy and increasingly raised or poorly responding inflammatory markers (note that ESR should not be used after IVIG Discuss ALL children with paediatric rheumatology Review the diagnosis and particularly in the case of children with TSS ensure that a source on infection was not overlooked Consider additional investigations as indicated and repeat ECHO | | |
| Typical Kawasaki with IVIG resistance and not shocked and initial treatment did NOT include any steroids | IVIG repeat** | 2g/kg over 12-24 hours |
| | Aspirin/Anticoagulation | 3-5mg/kg/day |
| | Steroids | IVI methylprednisolone 10-30mg/kg pulse/day (max 800mg) plus 3 days oral taper with oral prednisone 2m/kg/day(do not exceed 60 mg) and wean further as discussed with Rheumatologist |

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|---|
| IVIG resistant Kawasaki disease and not shocked but initial treatment DID include oral steroids | IVIG repeat** | 2g/kg over 12-24 hours |
| | Aspirin/anticoagulation | Aspirin: 3-5mg/kg/day Heparin/LMWH*** if evidence of thrombosis or if large coronary artery aneurysm (Discuss with cardiology) Avoid Aspirin if platelets below 80 000 |
| | Steroids | Escalate to IVI methylprednisolone 10-30mg/kg/day (max 800mg) pulse 3 days and taper with oral prednisone 2m/kg/day (do not exceed 60 mg) and wean further as discussed with Rheumatologist |
| | Biologics | Consider infliximab after consultation with Rheumatologist |
| Kawasaki like illness but in PICU with shock OR MAS (particularly consider the age of the child) | IVIG** | 2g/kg over 12-24 hours |
| | Aspirin/Anticoagulation | Aspirin: 3-5mg/kg/day Heparin/LMWH*** if evidence of thrombosis or if large coronary artery aneurysm (Discuss with cardiologists) Avoid Aspirin if platelets below 80 000 |
| | Steroids | Consider escalation to IVI methyl prednisolone 10-30mg/kg pulse and then taper with oral prednisone 2m/kg/day (do not exceed 60 mg) and wean further as discussed with Rheumatologist . |
| | Biologics | Disease process more typical of KD consider tocilizumab, infliximab or anakinra* after consultation with Rheumatologist |
| Toxic shock like illness initially treated with only IVIG | IVIG** | Consider repeating BUT discuss with rheumatolog |
| | Aspirin/Anticoagulation | Heparin/LMWH*** if evidence of thrombosis or if large coronary artery aneurysm (Discuss with cardiology) |
| | Steroid | IVI methyl prednisolone 10mg/kg/d pulse for 3 days followed by oral tapering of 2m/kg/day (do not exceed 60 mg) and wean further as discussed with Rheumatologist . |
| | Biologics | Consider tocilizumab after discussion with rheumatology. In case use of tocilizumab contraindicated, Anakinra* may be considered. |
| Toxic shock like illness Catecholamine resistant shock OR MAS on steroid pulse | IVIG** | Consider repeating BUT discuss with rheumatology |
| | Aspirin/Anticoagulation | Heparin/LMWH*** if evidence of thrombosis or if large coronary artery aneurysm (Discuss with cardiology) |
| | Steroid | Complete 3 day IVI pulse and continue to oral tapering starting at 2mg/kg/day oral prednisone (do not exceed 60 mg) and wean further) as discussed with Rheumatologist |
| | Biologics | Consider tocilizumab after discussion with rheumatologist. In case use of tocilizumab contraindicated, Anakinra* may be considered. |

Follow up: If criteria for KD are met children should be followed up as per KD guidelines.

Case Reporting: As this is an evolving disease, patients should all be offered recruitment into a paediatric data registry and clinical data. Were additional biomarker studies can be done of if clinical studies are available on research protocol patients should be offered enrolment

Table 5: DIAGNOSTIC GUIDE TO KAWASAKI DISEASE - Adapted from 8 and 9**KAWASAKI DISEASE "TYPICAL" presentation"**

Fever persisting for at least 5 days, PLUS 4 of the 5 criteria:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. Conjunctivitis | Typically Bilateral, "dry" or non-purulent, painless and in the bulbar distribution. |
| 2. Lymphadenopathy | Cervical, most commonly unilateral, tender. At least one node >1.5cm. |
| 3. Rash | Polymorphous; without vesicles, bullae or crusts; occurring in the first few days, involves the trunk and extremities. Variable presentations such as urticarial, morbilliform, maculopapular, or resembling scarlet fever |
| 4. Lips and mucosa | Intense hyperaemia of lips leading to redness and cracking and/or diffuse erythema of oropharynx. Strawberry tongue. |
| 5. Extremities | Hyperaemia and painful oedema of hands and feet that progresses to desquamation in the convalescent stage. Perineal desquamation frequently associated. |

Consider the following as well

- Typically KD is an illness affecting children younger than 4 years of age
- Irritability is very frequently present, although not included as a diagnostic criterion.
- Diagnostic features may present sequentially.
- Common findings outside the diagnostic criteria include arthritis, aseptic meningitis, sterile pyuria and dysuria
- Diagnosis in children less than 6 months may be more difficult

KAWASAKI DISEASE "INCOMPLETE presentation"

Fever for ≥5 days plus two or three of the aforementioned clinical criteria.

In these children consider the following laboratory criteria

Anaemia for age

Platelet count ≥450,000 after the seventh day of fever

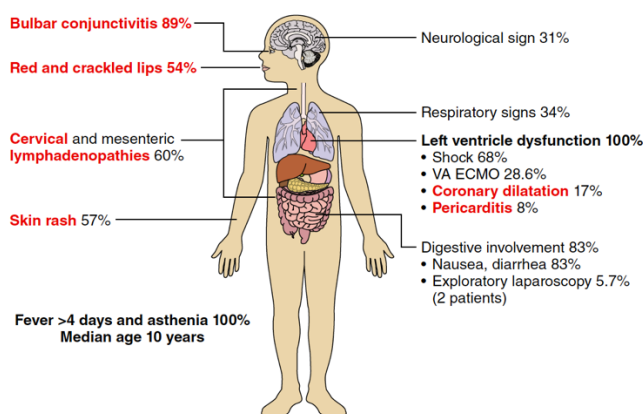
Albumin ≤30 g/L

Elevated ALT level

WBC count ≥15,000/mm³

≥10 WBC/hpf on urinalysis

Also look at the ECHO

SARS-COV-2 related multisystem inflammation

| Table 6 KOBAYSHI SCORE ^{10\$} | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------|
| Variable | Definition | Points |
| Sodium | ≤133 mmol/l | 2 |
| Days of illness at time of initial treatment | ≤4 | 2 |
| AST | ≥100IU/L | 2 |
| %neutrophils | ≥80% | 2 |
| CRP | ≥100mg/L | 1 |
| Age | ≤12 months | 1 |
| Platelets | ≤300x10 ⁹ /L | 1 |

\$. Note this score has not been validated in children who are not of Japanese ethnicity. It is included here as a guide to features of severity and likely IVIG failure.

| Table 7 Diagnostic criteria for Group A streptococcal and staphylococcal toxic shock ^{Adapted from 11,12} | |
|--|---|
| A] Hypotension. systolic blood pressure <5 th percentile for age in children <16 years) | |
| Group A Streptococcal toxic shock <small>Infection can be at any site but most often occurs in association with infection of a cutaneous lesion. Signs of toxicity and a rapidly progressive clinical course are characteristic</small> | Staphylococcal toxic shock diagnostic criteria |
| CLINICAL CRITERIA | |
| Hypotension. systolic blood pressure <5 th percentile for age in children <16 years) AND | Hypotension. systolic blood pressure <5 th percentile for age in children <16 years) |
| | Fever: greater than or equal to 38.9°C) |
| | Rash: diffuse macular erythroderma |
| | Desquamation: 1-2 weeks after onset of rash |
| Multi system disease with 2 or more of the following: | Multi system disease with 3 or more of the following |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renal involvement: Creatinine greater than or equal to twice the upper limit of normal for age | Renal involvement: Urea or Creatinine greater than or equal to twice the upper limit of normal for age OR pyuria (>5 leukocytes/high-power field) in the absence of urinary tract infection |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coagulopathy: Platelets less than or equal to 100,000/mm³ (less than or equal to 100 x 10⁶/L) or disseminated intravascular coagulation, defined by prolonged clotting times, low fibrinogen level, and the presence of fibrin degradation products | Coagulopathy: Platelets less than or equal to 100,000/mm ³ |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liver involvement: Alanine aminotransferase, aspartate aminotransferase, or total bilirubin levels greater than or equal to twice the upper limit of normal for the patient's age | Liver involvement: Alanine aminotransferase, aspartate aminotransferase, levels greater than or equal to twice the upper limit of normal for the patient's age |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute respiratory distress syndrome: defined by acute onset of diffuse pulmonary infiltrates and hypoxemia in the absence of cardiac failure or by evidence of diffuse capillary leak manifested by acute onset of generalised oedema, or pleural or peritoneal effusions with hypoalbuminemia | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A generalized erythematous macular rash that may desquamate. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soft-tissue necrosis, including necrotizing fasciitis or myositis, or gangrene. | |
| | Gastrointestinal: Vomiting or diarrhoea at onset of illness |
| | Muscular: Severe myalgia or creatine phosphokinase elevation >2 times the upper limit of normal |
| | Mucous membranes: Vaginal, oropharyngeal, or conjunctival hyperaemia |
| | Central nervous system: Disorientation or alterations in consciousness without focal neurologic signs when fever and hypotension are absent |

| | |
|--|--|
| MICROBIOLOGICAL | |
| Culture POSITIVE only for Group A Streptococcus or NEGATIVE with no aetiology identified | Cultures (blood or cerebrospinal fluid) negative for alternative pathogens (blood cultures may be positive for <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>) |
| Probable diagnosis: Meet the above clinical criteria (in the absence of another identified aetiology for the illness) with isolation of GAS from a nonsterile site Confirmed diagnosis: Meet the above clinical criteria, with isolation of GAS from a normally sterile site | Probable case: A case which meets the laboratory criteria and four of the five clinical criteria Confirmed case: A case which meets the laboratory criteria and all five of the clinical criteria, including desquamation |

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|---|
| Table 8: Ravelli diagnostic criteria for macrophage activation syndrome ¹³ (Developed for rheumatological disorders) |
| Fever AND Ferritin >684ng/mL AND |
| 2 or more of the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platelet count $\leq 181 \times 10^9/L$; • Aspartate aminotransferase >48 units/L; • Triglycerides >156 mg/dL; or fibrinogen ≤ 360 mg/dL. |

| Appendix 1 Investigation checklist ⁴(Discuss with Rheumatology ID team) | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Initial investigations | KD Classic | KD- Associated SARS-COVID 2 | PIMS TS | Result |
| Blood culture | All | All | All | |
| FBC and Film | All | All | All | |
| ESR | All | All | All | |
| CRP | All | All | All | |
| PCT | Local policy Discuss with ID | Local policy Discuss with ID | Local policy Discuss with ID | |
| U+E | Sodium for all and rest as needed | Sodium for all and rest as needed | All | |
| AST, ALT, Albumin | All | All | All | |
| Blood gas with lactate | Clinical indication | Clinical indication | All | |
| Coagulation + fibrinogen+ D-Dimer | MAS/Shock | MAS/Shock | All | |
| LDH | MAS/Shock | MAS/Shock | All | |
| CK | If shocked | If shocked | All | |
| Triglycerides | If MAS suspected | If MAS suspected | All | |
| Ferritin | If MAS suspected | If MAS suspected | All | |
| Troponin | OR Abn ECG Shock | OR Abn ECG Shock | OR Abn ECG Shock | |
| Pro-BNP | (after discussion with Cardiology) | (after discussion with Cardiology) | (after discussion with Cardiology) | |
| LP | Clinical need | Clinical need | Clinical need | |
| ECHO | All | All | All | |
| RV16 respiratory testing | If diagnosis unsure | If diagnosis unsure | All | |
| SARS-CoV-2 PCR respiratory test | All | All | All | |
| Throat swab | If scarlet fever concerning | If scarlet fever concerning | If scarlet fever concerning | |
| ASOT/Anti-DNASE B | If scarlet fever concerning | If scarlet fever concerning | All | |
| SARS-COV2 serology | If possible or store | If possible or store | If possible or store | |
| Stool for enterovirus | If shocked Guided by ID | If shocked Guided by ID | If shocked Guided by ID | |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------|-----------|--|
| Urinalysis an urine dipsticks | All | All | All | |
| Assessment for rickettsia | Only of diagnosis in doubt and after d/w Micro and ID should not prevent therapy if tick bite suspected | | | |
| Other testing for infections | D/w ID | | | |
| Save EDTA and serum for PCR and | WITH CONSENT AND AS PART OF A RESEARCH PROJECT | | | |
| CXR | All | All | All | |
| ECG | All | All | All | |
| Ultrasound Abdomen | As needed | As needed | As needed | |
| | | | | |

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