

# NEWS

## For Immediate Release

October 30, 2020

## First Ada County case of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS-C) confirmed in child

**ADA COUNTY, ID** – Central District Health confirms a case of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS-C) in an Ada County child. The child was hospitalized for illness related to MIS-C.

The child never tested positive for COVID-19 nor was considered a probable case, though had been around other household members who were sick with COVID-19. The child was likely asymptotically infected, meaning they did not have symptoms of COVID-19. To protect the privacy of the child and family, no other patient information will be released at this time.

MIS-C is a rare health condition that has affected some children and teenagers who have contracted COVID-19. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), children with MIS-C may experience inflammation in several areas of the body including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs.

While the specific cause of this syndrome remains unknown, many children with MIS-C had the SARS-CoV2 virus that causes [COVID-19](#), or had been around someone with COVID-19. According to the CDC, MIS-C can be serious, even deadly, but most children who have been diagnosed with this condition have gotten better with medical care.

"Unfortunately, we expect to continue to see these very severe cases of MIS-C. We are fortunate in Idaho to have all the necessary expertise to treat these patients at St. Luke's Children's. We would like to hope we won't have to, but are prepared for that hard reality as our case numbers grow," said Dr. Kenny Bramwell, Medical Director for St. Luke's Children's.

MIS-C was first reported in the United States in May, 2020. Idaho's first suspected case was reported in August, and later confirmed.

"Because we know this condition can be severe, but still don't know why one child over another who has had COVID-19 becomes sick with MIS-C, it really drives home the importance of our entire community being committed to protecting one another. Follow the orders in place for your community. Be consistently vigilant. It costs us little to nothing to wear a mask, wash our hands, and keep our distance. We need to make this about keeping all generations in our community as healthy as possible to get through this pandemic," said Russ Duke, District Director for Central District Health.

CDH continues to urge residents to follow public health orders in place in [Ada](#) and [Valley](#) Counties, and the [statewide modified stage 3 order](#) in place for all Idaho counties.

- Keep six feet away from people you don't live with.
- Wear a mask when you interact with people outside your home, especially in public areas like grocery stores and when you cannot physically distance.
- Stay home when you are sick or if you have been exposed to COVID-19.
- Wash your hands well and regularly, especially immediately after returning home.
- Get a flu shot to help protect against seasonal flu

Symptoms of MIS-C include fever, abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhea, neck pain, rash, bloodshot eyes, and feeling extra tired. CDH recommends all parents learn and watch for the signs of this condition in their children.

Seek emergency care immediately if they have trouble breathing, pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, are unable to wake or stay awake, have bluish lips or face, have severe abdominal pain.

Learn more about MIS-C on the CDC's website, at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children/mis-c.html>

Please refer to <https://www.cdh.idaho.gov/covid> for the latest local COVID-19 numbers, information, and resources for the community. Visit <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/> for statewide information and guidance.

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