



This is an official
DHEC Health Update

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Prevention and Management of Pediatric COVID-19 cases, and Reporting of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with COVID-19

Summary

Cases of COVID-19 are surging dramatically among children, adolescents, and young adults. Over 96% of diagnostic samples sequenced in South Carolina are due to the highly transmissible Delta variant. Those who remain unvaccinated are at greatest risk of contracting COVID-19, particularly children as most remain unvaccinated. This HAN emphasizes options to prevent and treat COVID-19 among children and reviews information regarding the need to report MIS-C cases.

Prevent COVID-19

- Vaccinate children 12 years of age and older with Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty).
- Encourage face mask usage while in school and other indoor settings.

Treat COVID-19

- Consider monoclonal antibody and/or Remdesivir options for qualifying children 12 years of age and older.

Report MIS-C cases

- Report suspected MIS-C cases among patients younger than 21 years of age to the regional health department in which the patient resides.

Background

Prevention

The mainstay of COVID-19 infection prevention remains vaccination. At this time, [FDA](#) has given full approval for use of Comirnaty in individuals 16 years of age and older. The vaccine also continues to be available under emergency use authorization (EUA) for individuals age 12 to 15. The vaccine can be administered with other routine immunizations and [stored in a refrigerator](#) before mixing for up to one month (31 days). Requests to become a COVID-19 vaccine provider can be sent to covidproviderenrollment@dhec.sc.gov.

Face masks also remain an effective strategy to reduce transmission of COVID-19 among individuals in indoor settings and are a critical means of protection for those children who are not yet eligible to be vaccinated. Given current rates of disease, [epidemiologic modeling](#) indicates that around 50% of COVID-19 infections in school could be prevented with consistent and correct face mask usage. Reduced transmission in the school could also serve to protect family members of children and staff outside of the school setting. A recent report in [JAMA Pediatrics](#) found that when children were the first/index case of COVID-19 in a home about 27% of the children spread the infection to household members.

Treatment

There are many non-specific modalities to consider for the treatment of COVID-19, including steroids and ventilation. However, pediatric providers should consider whether their patients age 12 and older might benefit from either Remdesivir or monoclonal antibodies for. Monoclonal antibody treatment sites in South Carolina may be found on the [DHEC website](#).

DHEC strongly encourages clinicians and health system administrators to regularly consult the general [COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines](#) and [Special Considerations in Children](#).

Report MIS-C cases

Healthcare providers should remain vigilant for MIS-C that occurs in some children with no prior symptoms of COVID-19. Suspected MIS-C cases among patients younger than 21 years of age meeting the MIS-C criteria should be reported to the regional health department in which the patient resides. Further information regarding the clinical presentation of MIS-C and the MIS-C case definition can be found in a [previous SCDHEC HAN](#) and on the [CDC website](#). For contact information for the regional health departments, please see the table below.

After an MIS-C case has been reported, DHEC will work with the healthcare provider to complete a [MIS-C case report form](#) (CRF) for each patient meeting the MIS-C case definition.

When classifying MIS-C cases for billing purposes, use the ICD-10 code, M35.81. For additional questions about how to report, please contact DHEC at MISC@dhec.sc.gov.

Resources for Additional Information

MIS-C Case Report Form

- Fillable PDF version of MIS-C Case Report Form
<https://www.cdc.gov/mis-c/pdfs/hcp/mis-cform-fillable.pdf>
- Printable PDF version of MIS-C Case Report Form
<https://www.cdc.gov/mis-c/pdfs/hcp/mis-cform-printable.pdf>
- Instructions for the MIS-C Case Report Form
<https://www.cdc.gov/mis-c/pdfs/hcp/mis-c-forminstructions.pdf>
 - Note: DHEC will enter the information for the CDC MIS ID, health department ID, and CDC NCOV ID.

CDC Information for Healthcare Providers about MIS-C

- <https://www.cdc.gov/mis/hcp/index.html>

DHEC contact information for reportable diseases and reporting requirements

Reporting of **COVID-19** cases and deaths and MIS-C cases are consistent with South Carolina Law requiring the reporting of diseases and conditions to your state or local public health department. (State Law # 44-29-10 and Regulation # 61-20) as per the DHEC 2021 List of Reportable Conditions available at:

<https://www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/CR-009025.pdf>

Federal HIPAA legislation allows disclosure of protected health information, without consent of the individual, to public health authorities to collect and receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease. (HIPAA 45 CFR §164.512).

Regional Public Health Offices – 2021

Mail or call reports to the Epidemiology Office in each Public Health Region

MAIL TO:

<p style="text-align: center;">Lowcountry</p> <p>4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600 N. Charleston, SC 29405 Fax: (843) 953-0051</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Midlands</p> <p>2000 Hampton Street Columbia, SC 29204 Fax: (803) 576-2993</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Pee Dee</p> <p>1931 Industrial Park Road Conway, SC 29526 Fax: (843) 915-6506</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Upstate</p> <p>200 University Ridge Greenville, SC 29602 Fax: (864) 282-4373</p>
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CALL TO:

<p style="text-align: center;">Lowcountry</p> <p>Allendale, Bamberg, Beaufort, Berkeley, Calhoun, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton, Jasper, Orangeburg</p> <p>Office: (843) 441-1091 Nights/Weekends: (843) 441-1091</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Midlands</p> <p>Aiken, Barnwell, Chester, Edgefield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, Newberry, Richland, Saluda, York</p> <p>Office: (888) 801-1046 Nights/Weekends: (888) 801-1046</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Pee Dee</p> <p>Clarendon, Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Sumter, Williamsburg</p> <p>Office: (843) 915-8886 Nights/Weekends: (843) 409-0695</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Upstate</p> <p>Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, Union</p> <p>Office: (864) 372-3133 Nights/Weekends: (864) 423-6648</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">For information on reportable conditions, see https://www.scdhec.gov/ReportableConditions</p>	<p><u>DHEC Bureau of Communicable Disease Prevention & Control</u> Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology 2100 Bull St • Columbia, SC 29201 Phone: (803) 898-0861 • Fax: (803) 898-0897 Nights / Weekends: 1-888-847-0902</p>
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Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert	Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Health Advisory	Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
Health Update	Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.
Info Service	Provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.