



Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children

Why in News

Recently, doctors in the United States have reported **neurological symptoms in children with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)**.

Key Points

▪ Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C):

- MIS-C is a rare but severe **hyperinflammatory condition in children and adolescents** that typically **occurs 2-6 weeks after a [Covid-19](#) infection**.
- It is **a potentially deadly condition** where **different body parts can become inflamed**, including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs.
- Children with MIS-C **may have a fever and various symptoms**, including abdominal (gut) pain, vomiting, diarrhea, neck pain, rash, bloodshot eyes, or feeling extra tired.

▪ MIS-C with Neurological Complications:

- In a recent study, **young people with the MIS-C syndrome have shown neurological issues** which were life-threatening such as strokes or severe encephalopathy (any brain disease that alters brain function or structure).
- Neurological symptoms include hallucinations, confusion, speech impairments, and problems with balance and coordination.
- The new findings **strengthen the theory** that the syndrome is related to a surge of inflammation triggered by an immune response to the virus.

▪ Causes of MIS-C:

- As the Syndrome is less researched, there are varied theories as to what causes MIS-C.
- While some researchers believe that MIS-C is **a delayed response to the coronavirus** which in turn causes massive inflammation in the body and as a result damages organs.
- Some believe that it **can also be a result of the children's immune response making antibodies against the virus**.
- There **may be a genetic component as not every child develops MIS-C** and the presenting symptoms are so varied.

▪ Treatment:

- It **involves symptomatic relief such as supportive care** or use of various medicines to treat inflammation.

[Source: IE](#)

