



To: Provincial NMCSS Coordinators; Provincial CDC Coordinators **Date:** 8 September 2020
From: Notifiable Medical Conditions Surveillance System
Re: Guidelines on the notification of cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

There are reports of a multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) associated with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) globally, and more recently in South Africa. Although this is a rare syndrome, these children may be very unwell, and about half may require admission to the intensive care unit (ICU). Widespread awareness and early recognition is crucial. With the ongoing pandemic, we expect to see more cases over the next few months throughout the country.

MIS-C has been defined as a notifiable condition and we encourage all clinicians to notify these cases to the Notifiable Medical Conditions Surveillance System (NMCSS). MIS-C has been added as a standalone condition to the NMCSS to facilitate this reporting. A group of paediatricians and other experts has been created to collate and analyse data on MIS-C cases reported through the NMCSS, and disseminate regular reports to the Department of Health and other relevant stakeholders. The data will assist the department to know the true burden of MIS-C in the country, and to inform decisions on the clinical and epidemiological management of this condition.

It is important to remember that the majority of these children test negative for SARS-CoV2 by PCR. Early referral and discussion with a specialist paediatrician is important. A group of paediatricians is available to offer centralised clinical support at southafricamisc@gmail.com.

I have attached the following documents to guide users on how to report MIS-C to the NMCSS:

1. MIS-C case definition
2. SOP for reporting MIS-C
3. Case Report Form for MIS-C

We have posted these documents on the NICD website: <https://www.nicd.ac.za/nmc-covid-19-documents/>.

Please disseminate this information to all healthcare facilities in your provinces.

Regards

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