December 21, 2020

Dear KD Parents,

We continue to be contacted by parents concerned about infection with the coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) in their child who has recovered from KD. There is no evidence that your child is at any increased risk of symptoms should they become infected. In general, most children who become infected have few to no symptoms, but unfortunately are capable of transmitting the virus to others. Children who have had KD are no different in this regard. In addition, the rare reaction to the coronavirus, Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) is unlikely to affect any children who previously had KD. Like KD, this syndrome is a reaction with fever and high levels of inflammation that can affect the heart. Current understanding is that this occurs in children born with a genetic susceptibility to make this unusual immunologic reaction after exposure to the coronavirus. Due to the flood of inquiries that we have been receiving regarding this topic, we have partnered with the KD Foundation and prepared a video addressing some of your questions and concerns. Although we would like to answer your questions directly, our current workload taking care of both KD and MIS-C patients means that we are unable to respond promptly to your emails and phone calls.

Please visit the KD Foundation’s “About Kawasaki Disease & COVID-19” info page at: https://kdfoundation.org/covid19/

- Video (FAQ) with Dr. Adriana Tremoulet, Associate Director of the Kawasaki Disease Research Center: https://kdfoundation.org/covid19faqs/

We are grateful to the KD Foundation for helping us disseminate this information and we hope the information will provide some reassurance. Please continue to visit the KD Foundation’s site for updates on this evolving situation.

If support for KD research is in your end-of-year giving plans, we are delighted to share that Rady Children’s is currently matching donations to KD Research. Donations may be made at: https://www.radyfoundation.org/donate/donate-to-kawasaki-disease-research

Please contact Amy Weeks, aweeks@rchsd.org, at Rady Children’s Hospital Foundation if you have questions or need additional information.

All of us at the KD Research Center wish you a safe and joyful holiday. Here’s hoping that 2021 brings a brighter future for all.

Sincerely,
Jane C. Burns, MD
Adriana H. Tremoulet, MD