

Kawasaki Disease (PIP)

WAHT-TP-062	
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9 th March 2024	Document reviewed and amendments included from updated PiP guideline 2022-2024	Paediatric Governance Meeting

The following guidance is taken from the Partners In Paediatrics (PIP)



Kawasaki 2022–24

KAWASAKI DISEASE

Early treatment reduces mortality from coronary artery aneurysms

RECOGNITION AND ASSESSMENT

Symptoms and signs

• Fever ≥5 days and 4 of the following:

Feature	Details
conjunctivitis	bilateral, bulbar, non-exudative
oral changes	red lips/pharynx/tongue
peripheral oedema	erythema palms and soles, followed by desquamation fingertips 10–15
	days after onset of fever
rash	polymorphous (no vesicles or crusts)
lymph nodes	acutely enlarged cervical nodes >1.5 cm diameter

- Evidence of an infectious trigger does not exclude Kawasaki disease
- Presence of a coronary artery aneurysm with any 1 of the above features is diagnostic

Other features

- Most common in children aged <5 yr, peak 18–24 months
- Atypical cases may not fulfil all the above criteria
- if fever <5 days but 4 signs above
- persistent raised CRP and no other diagnosis and suspicion of Kawasaki disease (KD)
- fever usually precedes the other signs, unresponsive to antipyretics
- common features: irritability, erythema of BCG site
- other features include aseptic meningitis, uveitis, cough, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, urethritis, arthralgia and arthritis
 - examine for aneurysms in other areas e.g. axillary

High risk features

- Already failed IVIG
- Aged <1 yr
- Severe inflammation (persistently raised CRP despite IVIG, liver dysfunction, hypoalbuminaemia, anaemia)
- Features of haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (persistent fever, hepatosplenomegaly, cytopenia >2 cell lines, hypertriglycideridaemia, hypofibrinogenaemia, increased D-dimers, hyperferritinaemia, failing ESR)
- Shock
- Evolving coronary or peripheral aneurysms
- Kobayashi risk score >5

Parameter	Score
Na ≤133 mmol/L	2
≤4 days of illness	2
ALT ≥100 iu/L	1
platelets ≤300 x 10 ⁹ /L	1
CRP ≥100 mg/L	1
aged ≤1 yr	1
≥80% neutrophils	2

Investigations

None is diagnostic

- FBC: neutrophilia and thrombocytopenia early
- ESR and CRP elevated
- LFTs: raised bilirubin, ALT, low albumin
- Urine: sterile pyuria (proteinuria is suggestive of an alternative diagnosis)
- CSF: lymphocytes



- ECG: ST depression, T wave inversion, heart block
- Echo: do not delay therapy before echocardiogram
- Throat swab for Group A strep
- Anti-streptolysin O titre (ASOT) or anti-DNase B for evidence of streptococcal infection
- Blood culture
- Urinalysis, microscopy and culture
- If rash present, serology for enterovirus, parvovirus, EBV, CMV; if features of measles, urine or throat swab in viral transport medium for PCR

Incomplete Kawasaki disease

- Children with fever ≥5 days and 2 or 3 compatible clinical criteria or
- Infants with fever ≥7 days with other explanation
- CRP <30 mg/L and ESR <40 mm/hr
- if fever persists, serial clinical and laboratory re-evaluation
- if typical peeling develops, echocardiogram
- CRP ≥30 mg/L and/or ESR ≥40 mm/hr treat if:
- anaemia for age
- platelets ≥450 x 10⁹/L after 7th day of fever
- albumin <30 g/L
- elevated ALT
- WBC >15 x 10⁹/L
- urine ≥10 WBC/microlitre

IMMEDIATE TREATMENT

- Aspirin 7.5–12.5 mg/kg oral 6-hrly until afebrile or a minimum of 2 weeks
- Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) 2 g/kg
- check concentration (g/mL) for preparation used in your Trust
- administer at gradually increasing rate, as below:

Rate*	Duration
30 mg/kg/hr	30 min
60 mg/kg/hr	30 min
120 mg/kg/hr	30 min
240 mg/kg/hr*	30 min
360 mg/kg/hr*	30 min
480 mg/kg/hr*	To completion

* Volume will depend on concentration used and maximum rate may be restricted by product literature

Start IVIG as soon as possible (delayed treatment increases risk of aneurysm)

MONITORING IVIG INFUSION

- Monitor temperature, heart rate, BP and respiratory rate:
- every 5 min for first 15 min
- then every 15 min for first hour
- Anticipate anaphylaxis, flushing, fever, headache, shivering
- If tolerated, increase infusion rate to give total dose over remaining 10 hr and monitor hourly
- If mild reaction, stop infusion for 15 min then restart at slower rate

HIGH RISK

- Aspirin and IVIG as above
- Methylprednisolone 0.8 mg/kg IV 12-hrly for 5–7 days or until CRP normalises
- then prednisolone 2 mg/kg/day oral and wean over 2–3 weeks

SUBSEQUENT MANAGEMENT

- If fever persists 36 hr after completion of IVIG, consider a single repeat dose of IVIG (as above)
- If fever persists after second dose IVIG give methylprednisolone IV as above if not already given
- Discuss with cardiologist about infliximab (6 mg/kg) IV 1–2 doses (2 weeks apart if 2 doses)
- Fever settled for 48 hr, clinical improvement and falling CRP, reduce dose of aspirin to 2–5 mg/kg (maximum 75 mg) oral as single daily dose for minimum 6 weeks (until result of echocardiogram known)

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DISCHARGE AND FOLLOW-UP

- Discharge when fever settles
- Echocardiogram at 10–14 days and 6 weeks from onset of signs and symptoms
- Outpatient appointment 1 week after echocardiogram
- Advise to avoid excessive strenuous activity until outpatient appointment after echocardiogram
- Advise to avoid all live vaccines (e.g. MMR) for 3 months following IVIG therapy

OUTPATIENT MANAGEMENT

- No aneurysms at 6 weeks echocardiogram
- stop aspirin
- no restriction on activity
- follow-up at 12 months and discharge if well
- Single aneurysm <8 mm diameter
- aspirin 2–5 mg/kg (maximum 75 mg) once daily until aneurysm disappears
- cardiologist will advise on limitation of activity, exercise stress test, MR/CT angiogram
- 6-monthly ECG and echocardiogram
- lifelong follow-up and advice on reduction of cardiovascular risk factors
- Multiple or giant aneurysm or stenosis
- as for single aneurysm and
 - lifelong aspirin 2–5 mg/kg/day
 - warfarin (after heparinisation)