

Kawasaki Disease

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Kawasaki Disease Latest News

A multicenter study recently found that the addition of prednisolone to the conventional primary therapy for Kawasaki disease had no effect on lowering the number of cases of coronary-artery lesions at one month from the onset of the disease.

About Kawasaki Disease

- Kawasaki Disease, also known as **Kawasaki syndrome** or **mucocutaneous lymph node syndrome**, is a **rare disease** that causes **fever and inflammation** of the **blood vessels**.
- It occurs **mostly in children younger than 5** years old and **affects boys more often** than girls.
- The disease was first described in Japan by Tomisaku Kawasaki in 1967, and the first cases outside of Japan were reported in Hawaii in 1976.
- The **cause** of Kawasaki disease is **unknown**, although **more cases happen in late winter and early spring**.

- It is the **most common form of acquired** (not present at birth) **heart disease in children in developed countries.**
- The condition **causes** the **immune system to attack blood vessels**, which **become inflamed and swollen.**
- It tends to **affect the coronary arteries**, which carry blood to the heart muscle.
- It can also cause **problems with lymph nodes, skin**, and the **lining of a child's mouth, nose, and throat.**
- It is **not contagious**, so it cannot spread from person to person.

Kawasaki Disease Symptoms

- Symptoms of Kawasaki disease can appear in **two phases** and may **last several weeks.**
- **Common symptoms** include:
 - A **high fever** lasting more than five days.
 - A **rash** on the **main part of the body or** in the **genital area.**
 - An **enlarged lymph node** in the neck.
 - **Very red eyes** without a thick discharge.
 - **Red, dry, cracked lips** and a red, **swollen tongue.**
 - **Swollen, red skin on the palms** of the hands and the soles of the feet. Later the skin on fingers and toes peels.

Kawasaki Disease Treatment

- It is **often treatable.** With **early treatment, most children get better** and have no long-lasting problems.
- It is usually treated in the hospital with an **intravenous (IV) dose of immunoglobulin (IVIG) antibodies.**

Source: MD

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-kawasaki-disease/>

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