8th International
Pediatrics, Infectious Diseases and Healthcare Conference

July 28-29, 2025 | Webinar

Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C): Lessons from the frontlines

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Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C), a rare but serious complication following SARS-CoV-2 infection, has emerged as a new clinical entity in pediatric infectious disease. Caroline Dupuis from Lyon, France, presents a comprehensive overview of current diagnostic criteria, pathophysiological insights, and treatment strategies for MIS-C. The session explores how to differentiate MIS-C from Kawasaki disease, sepsis, and toxic shock syndrome using laboratory markers and echocardiography. Dupuis reviews therapeutic approaches including IVIG, corticosteroids, and biologics such as anakinra and infliximab. Special attention is given to cardiac monitoring, long-term follow-up, and psychological recovery in post-MIS-C patients. Drawing on frontline data from European pediatric ICUs, she also shares system-wide responses and clinical guidelines developed during the peak waves of COVID-19. This lecture equips pediatricians, intensivists, and infectious disease clinicians with the tools to manage MIS-C with precision and urgency.

Biography

Caroline Dupuis is a pediatric infectious disease and critical care consultant at Hospital Femme Mere Enfant in Lyon, France. She completed her medical training at the University of Lyon and a fellowship in pediatric immune inflammatory disorders at Great Ormond Street Hospital in London. Dupuis was part of the French national taskforce on MIS-C during the COVID-19 pandemic and has authored several peer-reviewed articles on inflammatory syndromes in children. She is currently involved in longitudinal research studying the long-term health effects of post-viral hyper inflammation in pediatric patients.