

WHAT IS KAWASAKI DISEASE?

Kawasaki disease (KD) is the leading cause of acquired heart disease in children in North America. It is an acute illness that causes inflammation in the walls of blood vessels throughout the body, including the coronary arteries which supply blood to the heart.

The majority of children who develop KD are 5 years of age or younger (75-80%), although it can affect older children and teenagers. Currently, the incidence of KD in Canada is estimated yearly to be close to 30 per 100,000 children under the age of 5. There is a higher incidence in boys than in girls.

KAWASAKI DISEASE CANADA

✉ info@kdcanada.org
🌐 kdcanada.org

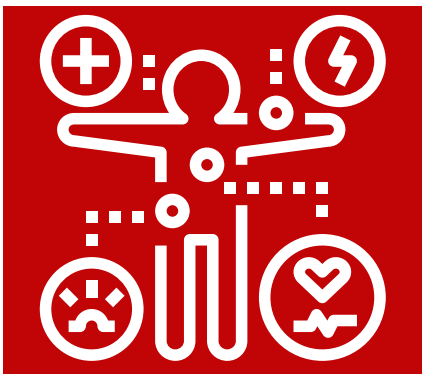
Please consider donating:



SCAN ME

KAWASAKI DISEASE

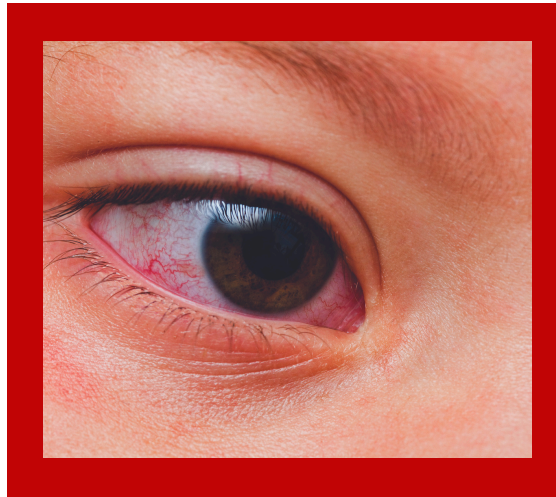




SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Persistent high fever lasting five or more days and two or more of the following:

- Swollen hands and feet
- Redness of the palms and soles of the feet
- Red bloodshot eyes
- Red cracked lips and red swollen tongue (“strawberry tongue”)
- Swollen lymph nodes in the neck
- Body rash, often worse in the groin



TREATMENT

A child with Kawasaki disease will need to stay in the hospital for a few days.

They may be given medicine to try to prevent damage to the coronary arteries. The medicines used are called intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) and acetylsalicylic acid or Aspirin (ASA).

IVIG is given through an intravenous (IV) needle in the child’s vein. It can reduce the inflammation in the body. In turn, this can reduce the fever and redness caused by the disease and help protect against heart problems. IVIG contains antibodies from donated blood. It is screened for viruses and bacteria before it is used as a treatment.