

Pediatrics TeamWork <sup>K</sup>  
437

# Kawasaki disease

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*Kawasaki disease topic includes also dr. Mohammed alghamdi slides and notes from acquired heart disease lecture to avoid repeating topics!*

# Kawasaki Disease



## Overview:

- The other name is mucocutaneous lymph node syndrome
- Kawasaki disease mainly affects children of 6 months to 4 or 5 years of age, with a peak at the end of the first year of life.
- **It is the commonest cause of acquired heart disease in children** ( in north america) ( in SA is Acute Rheumatic Fever):

### Cardiac involvement

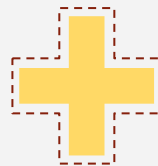
Dilation and aneurysm formation, thrombus formation, fibrosis and stenosis, myocardial infarction and it may cause myocarditis and endocarditis

- Systemic inflammatory process (Vasculitis: medium size , mainly coronary arteries) with no known etiology
- Maybe infectious etiology
- **More common in children of Japanese and, to a lesser extent, Black-Caribbean ethnicity, than in Caucasians**

## Diagnosis:

**There is no diagnostic test;** instead, the diagnosis is made based on clinical findings alone:

Fever > 5 days



At least **4** of the following:

### 1 Changes in the extremities:

- Erythema and edema of hands and feet (acute phase)
- Subsequent peeling of distal ends of digits (subacute phase)

### 2 Polymorphous rash. Any type of skin rash except vesicles and bullae. Check the diaper area

### 3 Non-purulent bilateral conjunctivitis

### 4 Mucosal changes:

- Strawberry tongue
- Red, cracked lips and/or erythema of oral and pharyngeal mucosa

### 5 Cervical lymph node ( $\geq 1.5$ cm in diameter)



-It is **NOT** a must to have all the clinical features in the same time  
-If you don't ask about red eyes the parents may forget about it (it disappears quickly)  
-Other Ddx of strawberry tongue : scarlet fever  
-Peeling of the skin usually not in the beginning of disease  
-**Other medium size arteries:** axillary, femoral, iliac and renal arteries

# Kawasaki Disease



## Diagnosis & DDX:

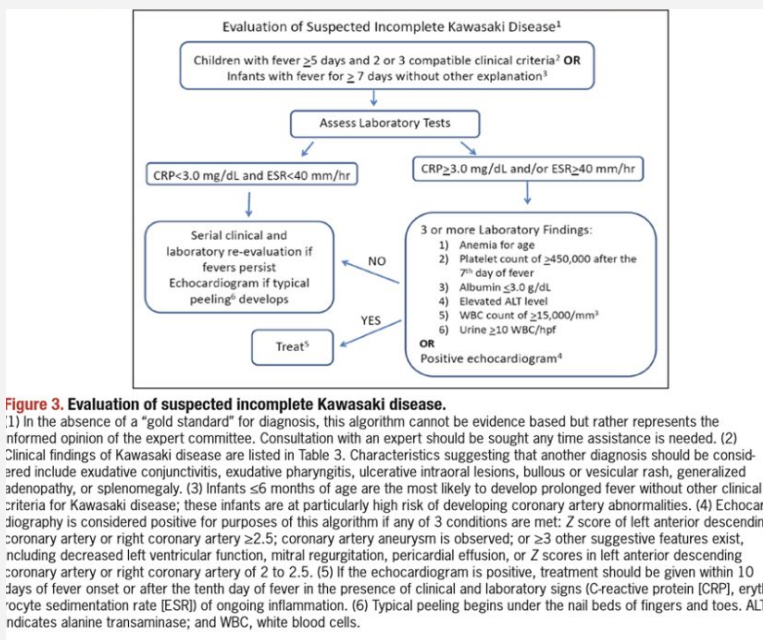


### Differential diagnoses

- Scarlet fever
- EBV infection
- Adenovirus infection
- Staphylococcal scalded skin syndrome
- Drug reactions
- Stevens-Johnson syndrome



Young infants may have 'incomplete' symptoms or diseases, in which not all the cardinal features are present:



For incomplete symptoms, there should remain a high clinical suspicion, particularly for children less than 6 months of age with prolonged fever and these children are more likely to develop coronary artery aneurysms which affected children within the first 6 weeks. It should be treated as complete KD



## Investigations:

- Affected children have **high inflammatory markers** (C-reactive protein, erythrocyte sedimentation rate, white cell count), with a **platelet count that rises typically in the second week of the illness.**
- CBC: Neutropenia, leukocytosis (50%) and nonspecific anemia
- Elevated liver transaminases (40%), low serum albumin level
- Sterile pyuria (33%), aseptic meningitis (up to 50%)
- **Echocardiography should be performed when the diagnosis is first suspected, and at 4–6 weeks to identify coronary artery aneurysms; and it may show a pericardial effusion, myocardial disease (poor contractility), endocardial disease (valve regurgitation), or coronary disease with aneurysm formation, which can be giant ( $\geq 10$  or  $>8$  mm in diameter).**
  - If the coronary arteries are abnormal, angiography or **magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) will be required.**

# Kawasaki Disease

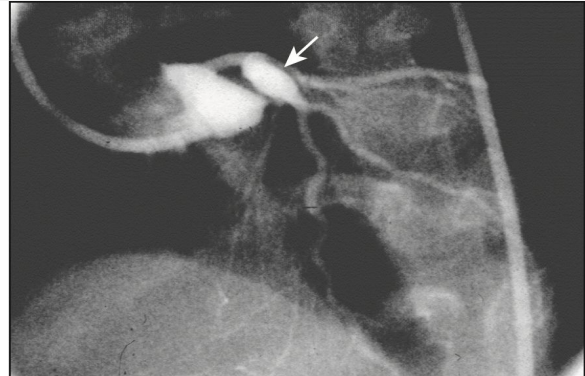


## Management:



### RISK SCORES FOR CORONARY ANEURYSM

1. WBC > 12 000
2. Platelet < 350 000
3. CRP > 3+
4. Hct < 3.5
5. Albumin < 3.5
6. Age <= 12 months
7. Male sex



**Figure 18.22** Kawasaki disease. Angiogram showing coronary artery aneurysm.

## Treatment:

- **Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG)**, ideally given within the first 10 days, to lower the risk of coronary artery aneurysms. From 25% to less than 5%
- **Aspirin** to reduce the risk of thrombosis. due to dilation of the coronary even if there is no dilation start aspirin then re-evaluate after 6 wks with another echo If normal → stop aspirin "coronary changes might develop after this period", decrease aspirin once afebrile
- **Children with coronary artery aneurysms require long-term low-dose aspirin and lifelong follow-up.**
- Give another anticoagulant if giant aneurysm of CA
- **For resistant Kawasaki disease which presents with fever persists or recurs despite initial treatment: give a second dose of:**
  - intravenous immunoglobulin or,
  - corticosteroids or,
  - infliximab (a monoclonal antibody against tumour necrosis factor- $\alpha$ )



If you find 3/ 6 then treat the pt as Kawasaki disease:  
Anemia for age  
Plt >450  
High WBC count in peripheral blood or in the urine  
Low albumin  
Elevated Na

Even w/o Tx kids w/ Kawasaki most sx will disappear (like: fever ..). But the problem is w/ coronary involvement:

- Stagnation of flow through the coronaries.
- Dilation of the coronaries.
- Coronary aneurysm.

**Whenever you suspect KD or you are not sure, ALWAYS TREAT AS KD!!**