Today’s piece was prepared by Katelynn Ho, MD, based on an NBC News story [COVID-19 and children: Doctors see link between virus and neurological side effects](https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/covid-19-children-doctors-see-link-between-virus-neurological-side-n1235501)

The article begins with a case presentation of 15-year old who was initially intubated for 2 weeks for respiratory failure. During recovery, she began hallucinating, had multiple violent seizures and exhibited behavioral regression, then ultimately diagnosed with late-onset, secondary inflammatory illness associated with COVID-19. The article highlights a [JAMA](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamaneurology/fullarticle/2767979) small case series finding 4 of 27 children under 18 years diagnosed with multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) developed new-onset central and peripheral neurologic symptoms in the absence of other respiratory symptoms, with many pediatric neurologists now concerned regarding cognitive, mental health, and related potentially permanent sequelae. Adult COVID-19 studies have revealed a wide range of neurologic sequelae. As such, the [Neurocritical Care Society](https://www.neurocriticalcare.org/research/covid-19-research-opportunities) has organized a global consortium study aimed to assess prevalence, pathophysiology and prognostic outcomes for both children and adults with COVID-19.

This article successfully showcases emerging evidence between COVID-19, MIS-C and suspected neurologic sequelae in children in a way that appeals to both parents and healthcare providers. In presenting the severity of the 15-year old’s case, the authors appeal to families by identifying this association in a relatable way and by highlighting the worst-case scenario as a possible outcome of complacency toward preventative public health measures. While it is reassuring that the authors use data to support their claim, the selected studies did not accurately reflect the prevalence and range of neurologic complications in children. The small sample size in the one pediatric study mentioned skews the severity of possible neurologic sequelae to the point where it may cause unnecessary distress. Overall, the article delineates the importance of child longitudinal studies to discover long-term impacts COVID-19 has on neurodevelopment.

**RESOURCES ON COVID-19 FOR FAMILIES AND PROVIDERS:**

[Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics COVID-19 resources](https://depts.washington.edu/dbpeds/Resources.html#section4_textarea97_heading): *Links to multiple resources for families regarding COVID-19, stress, medical facts, school re-entry considerations, etc.; Seattle Children’s Hospital*

[American Academy of Neurology “*Potential neurologic manifestations of COVID-19”*](https://cp.neurology.org/content/neurclinpract/early/2020/06/30/CPJ.0000000000000897.full.pdf) *Discusses possible mechanism of neurologic disease secondary to coronavirus*

[CDC info for healthcare providers](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/pediatric-hcp.html) Most up to date version on caring for children during the COVID-19 pandemic

And that’s today’s Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics: IN THE NEWS!