



Supporting Information

Supplementary results

**This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed.
It is posted as supplied by the authors.**

Appendix to: Ibrahim LF, Tham D, Chong V, et al. The characteristics of SARS-CoV-2-positive children who presented to Australian hospitals during 2020: a PREDICT network study. *Med J Aust* 2021; doi: 10.5694/mja2.51207.

Table 1. First presentations of SARS-CoV-2-positive children to COVID-19 testing clinics and emergency departments: patient characteristics

Characteristic	All presentations	Clinic presentations	Emergency department presentations	Risk difference (percentage points) (95% CI)
Number of patients*	372	260 (70%)	112 (30%)	—
Sex (girls)	169 (45%)	117 (45%)	52 (46%)	-0.01 (-0.12 to 0.10)
Age				
< 12 months	49 (13%)	21 (8%)	28 (25%)	-0.17 (-0.26 to -0.08)
1–5 years	154 (41%)	104 (40%)	50 (45%)	-0.05 (-0.16 to 0.06)
6–10 years	68 (18%)	50 (19%)	18 (16%)	0.03 (-0.05 to 0.11)
> 10 years	101 (27%)	85 (33%)	16 (14%)	0.18 (0.10 to 0.27)
Epidemiological risk factors				
Contact with SARS-CoV-2-positive person	268/351 (76%)	196/242 (81%)	72/109 (66%)	0.15 (0.05 to 0.25)
Overseas travel in past 14 days	5/283 (2%)	3/192 (2%)	2/91 (2%)	-0.01 (-0.04 to 0.03)
Symptoms/signs: at time of swab				
Any symptom/sign	220/357 (62%)	141/246 (57%)	79/111 (71%)	0.14 (0.03 to 0.24)
None	137/357 (38%)	105/246 (43%)	32/111 (29%)	0.14 (0.03 to 0.24)
Symptoms/signs: any time				
Any symptom/sign	236/329 (72%)	152/222 (68%)	84/107 (79%)	-0.10 (-0.20 to -0.00)
None	93/329 (28%)	70/222 (32%)	23/107 (22%)	-0.10 (-0.20 to -0.00)
Fever/febrile (> 37.5°C)	149/316 (47%)	94/211 (45%)	55/105 (52%)	-0.08 (-0.20 to 0.04)
Stuffiness/runny nose	143/202 (71%)	94/127 (74%)	49/75 (65%)	0.10 (-0.05 to 0.22)
Cough	137/213 (64%)	86/130 (66%)	51/83 (61%)	0.05 (-0.10 to 0.18)
Sore throat	61/184 (33%)	48/117 (41%)	13/67 (19%)	0.22 (0.09 to 0.35)
Headache	33/236 (14%)	26/152 (17%)	7/84 (8%)	0.09 (0.00 to 0.17)
Difficulty breathing	16/181 (9%)	5/107 (5%)	11/74 (15%)	-0.10 (-0.19 to -0.01)
Muscle ache	13/236 (6%)	9/152 (6%)	4/84 (5%)	0.01 (-0.05 to 0.07)
Diarrhoea	11/236 (5%)	8/152 (5%)	3/84 (4%)	0.02 (-0.04 to 0.07)
Anosmia	4/236 (2%)	3/152 (2%)	1/84 (1%)	0.01 (-0.02 to 0.04)
Comorbid conditions				
Any condition	53/291 (18%)	24/185 (13%)	29/106 (27%)	-0.14 (-0.24 to -0.05)
Asthma	24/286 (8%)	15/184 (8%)	9/102 (9%)	-0.01 (-0.07 to 0.06)
Heart disease	8/284 (3%)	2/184 (1%)	6/100 (6%)	-0.05 (-0.10 to -0.00)
Immunosuppression/malignancy	2/283 (0.7%)	2/184 (1%)	0	0.01 (-0.00 to 0.03)
Prematurity	5/283 (2%)	1/181 (1%)	4/102 (4%)	-0.03 (-0.07 to 0.01)
Diabetes mellitus	2/283 (0.7%)	1/184 (1%)	1/99 (1%)	-0.00 (-0.03 to 0.02)
Cerebral palsy	1/282 (0.3%)	0	1 (1%)	-0.01 (-0.03 to 0.01)
Renal disease	0	0	0	—
None reported	238/291	24/185 (13%)	29/106 (27%)	-0.14 (-0.24 to -0.05)

* Does not include 21 patients who were managed as hospital in the home patients without attending an emergency department or patients who tested positive while in hospital.

Table 2. Clinical characteristics, investigations, and emergency department-initiated interventions

Characteristic	
Clinical signs (<i>N</i> = 232: children with documented clinical examinations)	
Wheeze	2 (1%)
Crepitation	3 (1%)
Pharyngitis or tonsillitis	7 (3%)
Laboratory and imaging findings	
C-reactive protein (mg/L), median (IQR) [17 children, 19 presentations]	16 (< 5 to 56)
Elevated (above upper limit normal reference range, < 8 mg/L)	16/19 (84%)
Platelets (10 ⁹ /L), median (IQR) [18 children, 21 presentations]	225 (210–294)
Abnormal (outside limits of normal reference range, 150–400 x 10 ⁹ /L)	7/21 (33%)
Leucocytes (10 ⁹ /L), median (IQR) [18 children, 21 presentations]	6.5 (4.9–7.6)
Abnormal (outside limits of normal reference range, 5.0–14.5 x 10 ⁹ /L)	0/21
Neutrophils (10 ⁹ /L), median (IQR) [18 children, 21 presentations]	3.2 (2.2–4.3)
Abnormal (outside limits of normal reference range, 1.5–8.0 x10 ⁹ /L)	4/21 (19%)
Chest x-ray [9 children, 10 x-rays]	
Ground glass opacity	1/10 (10%)
Hospital interventions commenced in emergency department	
None	115/131 (88%)
Antibiotics	7 (5%)
Intravenous fluids	5 (4%)
Steroids	4 (3%)
Analgesia	3 (2%)
Diabetic ketoacidosis protocol	1 (1%)
Intravenous immunoglobulins	1 (1%)
Nasogastric hydration	1 (1%)
Salbutamol	1 (1%)
Supplemental oxygen (oxygen saturation < 90%)	1 (1%)

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