

1 **Kawasaki Disease - A ~~2-year~~ prospective population survey in the UK and Ireland from 2013-2015.**
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18 **Running Title**

19 **Kawasaki Disease in UK and Ireland**

20 *Key words:*

21 Kawasaki Disease, Paediatrics, Epidemiology, Coronary artery disease, Acquired heart disease, coronary artery

22 aneurysm, vasculitis.

23 Abstract

24 Objectives

25 Kawasaki disease (KD) is an increasingly common vasculitis with risk of coronary artery aneurysms (CAA). The
26 last prospective UK survey was in 1990 whereas current epidemiology, treatment patterns, and complication rates
27 are unknown, and the aim of this study was to address that knowledge gap.

28 Methods

29 A British Paediatric Surveillance Unit (BPSU) survey in the UK and Ireland from 01.01.2013 to 28.02.2015
30 ascertained demographics, ethnicity, seasonal incidence, treatment, and complication rates.

31 Results

32 553 cases were notified: 389 had complete KD; 46 had atypical KD; and 116 had incomplete KD, two diagnosed
33 at post-mortem. The incidence was 4.55/100,000 children under 5 years with male: female ratio of 1.5:1, median
34 age 2.7 years (2.5 months - 15 years). Presentation was highest in January and in rural areas. Most were White
35 (64%); Chinese and Japanese Asians were over-represented compared to national demographics (5% v 0.8%),
36 as were Black African or African mixed-race children (11% v 7%). 94% received intravenous immunoglobulin
37 (IVIG). The overall CAA rate was 19%, and all-cardiac complications affected 28%. Those with CAA received
38 IVIG later than in those without (median 10 days vs 7 days). Those under 1 year had fewer symptoms, but highest
39 CAA rate (39%). Overall 8/512 cases (1.6%) had giant CAA; and 4/86 cases (5%) under 1 year of age developed
40 giant CAA. Mortality from KD was 0.36%.

41 Conclusions

42 The UK and Ireland incidence of KD has increased. KD occurs more frequently in winter and in rural areas. Whilst
43 delayed administration of IVIG is associated with increased risk of CAA suggesting earlier treatment might reduce
44 complications, these high complication rates also suggest that adjunctive primary treatment may be required for
45 the primary treatment of KD to prevent CAA, particularly in the very young.

46

47

48 BACKGROUND

49 Kawasaki Disease (KD) is a self-limiting medium vessel vasculitis of unknown aetiology that typically presents in
50 children and adolescents with fever and muco-cutaneous changes. If left untreated, 15-25% of children will develop
51 coronary artery aneurysms (CAA); 2%–3% of untreated cases die as a result of coronary vasculitis causing myocardial
52 ischaemia, sometimes many years later ¹. The incidence of KD varies from 264 per 100,000 children under 5 years
53 in Japan, to about 5-8 per 100,000 in England ^{2,3}. The high rate in North East Asians, which persists after migration
54 to countries with low incidence ⁴, is strong evidence for a genetic factor and there is clear evidence from genome wide
55 association studies of an important role for genetic variants in determining susceptibility. The aetiology of KD is
56 unknown, but seasonal variation, occurrence of epidemics and association with wind patterns would be compatible
57 with an infectious or toxic trigger ^{5,6}.

58

59 KD is the commonest cause of acquired heart disease in children in the UK and USA ^{7,8}. Prompt diagnosis is
60 essential to minimize complications. Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) has formed the mainstay of primary
61 treatment following publication of a seminal clinical trial in the 1980s ⁹. However, IVIG-resistance occurs in up to
62 20-40% of unselected cases and is associated with increased coronary complication rates ^{1,10}. Recent studies
63 and meta analyses of all published studies have suggested that addition of corticosteroids to IVIG reduces the
64 risk of CAA, particularly in high risk patients ^{1,10,11}. However, there is currently no reliable method to predict which
65 patients are at risk of CAA and thus require additional treatment, as scoring systems that predict IVIG non-
66 response in Japan have not been reliable in studies in UK and North America.

67

68 The last comprehensive epidemiological study of KD in the UK was undertaken by the British Paediatric
69 Surveillance unit (BPSU) in 1990 ¹²⁻¹³. This revealed an incidence of 3.4/100,000 children under 5 years from

70 January 1st to 31st December 1990; and a higher than expected coronary complication rate of 29% in those
71 children who had received IVIG, comparable to those patients who did not receive IVIG. More recent
72 epidemiological studies noted a higher UK incidence of 8.39-9.1/100 000 children under the age of 5^{3 8}, but both
73 were limited by indirect retrospective epidemiological methodologies, and thus may not be accurate. Moreover,
74 24% of children with KD are older than five years^{14 15 16}, but accurate UK epidemiological data are lacking in this
75 age group.

76
77 The incidence of KD has been reported to be increasing in many countries. Furthermore, the population
78 demographics are changing, and there is therefore a need for updated information on KD in the UK^{1 17 18}. The
79 purpose of this study was to establish the current incidence of KD in the UK, noting the seasonal variation; to assess
80 complication rates and the factors influencing these; and to shape future management practice based on these data
81 (Panel 1). Areas of particular interest included the potential influence of ethnicity, urbanisation, and disease outcomes
82 in the light of recently updated clinical guidance regarding the use of corticosteroids for KD¹.

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84 Panel 1: Summary of Kawasaki disease BPSU research questions

Incidence:

- What are the demographics (sex, age, ethnicity, area of residence) of those diagnosed with Kawasaki disease (KD) in the UK and Ireland less than 16 years old?
- Has the incidence changed since the last survey in 1990?

Clinical Presentation and cardiac complications:

- How does KD first present, and what is the interval between first presentation and diagnosis?
- What is the frequency and nature of cardiac complications detected using echocardiography within 30 days of developing KD?

Clinical Management:

- What acute treatment is being given to patients during their initial hospital presentation with KD?
- Are treatments other than aspirin and intravenous immunoglobulin being used, and if so, has this impacted on outcome?

Other Outcomes:

- What is the frequency of non-cardiac complications within 30 days following KD?
- How are patients with KD being followed up within the UK and Ireland?

85 METHODOLOGY

86 The study used BPSU methodology for the epidemiological research surveillance, similar to the 1990 BPSU KD
87 survey ¹². Each month all paediatricians and paediatric cardiologists (list available from the Royal College of
88 Paediatrics and Child Health and the British Congenital Cardiac Association) were contacted by email to report if
89 they had seen a case of KD. If notified, the BPSU would then make the research team aware and a questionnaire
90 was posted. This surveillance methodology provided an active, real-time quantitative portrait of KD in the defined
91 population. All of the UK and Ireland were included in the study. Also included were the Channel Islands and Isle
92 of Man. Incidence was calculated by applying the most recent resident population data from the 2011-2015
93 Census of Population ¹⁹ and their equivalents from Ireland ²⁰. (Census 2011 Small area population statistics,
94 Central statistics office).

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95

96 Panel 2 KD Case definition

97

98 Any infant or child up to the age of 16 years presenting for the first time in the UK or Ireland with fever of 5 or more
99 days duration *plus* 4 of the following (complete KD), or *plus* any 3 of the following (incomplete KD) or *plus* 2 or 3 of
100 the following with coronary artery changes (atypical KD):

101

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 102 | 1. Conjunctivitis | Bilateral, bulbar, non-suppurative |
| 103 | 2. Lymphadenopathy | Cervical > 1.5cm |
| 104 | 3. Rash | Widespread, polymorphous. <i>Not</i> vesicular. |
| 105 | 4. Lips and mucosa | Red cracked lips, 'strawberry tongue', erythematous oral cavity |
| 106 | 5. Changes of extremities | Erythema, oedema of palms and soles initially, later peeling of skin |

107

108 Inclusion criteria

109 In the first year, the protocol requested the reporting of only Complete KD cases, but in the second year all cases of
110 KD (i.e. including atypical and incomplete KD as per the aforementioned definitions) were included. Where the
111 interpretation of clinical features was uncertain, expert panel review (RT, RMW, AR, JT, DS, PB) of the case was
112 undertaken to ascertain by consensus (defined as 100% agreement among experts) if the diagnostic criteria for KD
113 had been fulfilled, and if so how to classify the subtype of KD (complete, atypical, or incomplete) for inclusion in the
114 study.

115

116 Exclusion criteria

117 Exclusion criteria were patients older than 16 years; outside the pre-defined study period; and those with alternative
118 final diagnoses. In addition, for the first year of the study, those with streptococcal infection were excluded, but not in
119 the second year of study, since it is now recognized that streptococcal infection (and other infections) may be
120 associated triggers for responses resulting in KD ²¹.

121
122 Cardiac involvement
123 We defined coronary artery aneurysms (CAA) as Z score of ≥ 2.5 internal diameter²². The Z scores were checked
124 or completed, using Cardio Z software, based on the data supplied by Dallaire and Dahdah²³. Those with
125 aneurysms were referred to as CAA+ and those without were CAA-. In addition, there were some children with
126 bright coronary artery walls, dilated (but non-aneurysmal) coronary arteries, pericardial effusion, or myocarditis.
127 These were recorded as cardiac involvement, but not CAA. We recorded the early presence of CAA at diagnosis,
128 and also in some cases later echocardiographic data was also presented. Giant aneurysms were defined as
129 $\geq 8\text{mm}$ or z score ≥ 10 ²⁴.

130
131 DURATION OF THE STUDY
132 In accordance with the most recent BPSU methodology, data collection was over a 25-month period, Jan 2013 –
133 Feb 2015. All data was collected and retained in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

134
135 DATA MANAGEMENT, ANALYSIS AND SECURITY
136 As approved by the ethics committee, parental consent was not obtained as the identity of the cases was known
137 only to the reporting clinician. Anonymous questionnaires were sent from our study centre after case notification.
138 Use of the NHS number and date of birth allowed checks for duplication. Using the first four components of the
139 postcode, the population density was estimated by area where each patient lived in the UK and by area in Ireland.
140 As most of the data were categorical or not normally distributed, statistical methods based on the Chi-squareds
141 test were used, ~~or Pearson coefficient as appropriate~~. Statistical analysis was undertaken at Herriot-Watt
142 University (MD, RS) using SPSS, version 24. A *p* value of <0.05 was considered significant. The distribution of
143 numerical values was summarized as medians and ranges; the Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney test was used for group

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Or a Wilcoxon test
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defer to his expertise!

144 comparisons of those with or without CAA. A complex System Level Security Protocol (SLSP) was utilized and
145 was risk assessed on an annual basis.

146

147 **ETHICAL APPROVAL**

148 National Research Ethics Committee 11/SW/0310

149 NHS Sponsorship CS/2011/3847

150

151 Funding. Kawasaki disease parent support group; and discretionary institutional academic funds from each of the
152 authors.

153

154 **RESULTS**

155 Between 1 January 2013 and 28 February 2015, 601 reports of KD were received by the BPSU, with 38 duplicates,
156 9 other diagnoses and one with no clinical information. Of the remaining 553, there were 389 cases of complete
157 KD; 46 atypical cases with fewer than four clinical features but with abnormal echocardiograms; and 116 cases
158 of incomplete KD. Two cases were diagnosed retrospectively at post-mortem without any clinical data to allow
159 KD-subtype categorisation (Table 1).

160

161 Males comprised a significantly greater proportion of the cases, and the proportion of Black and Asian patients
162 was increased relative to the expected proportion of these groups in the population (Table 1)¹⁹. There were
163 significantly more children under 1 year old with atypical or incomplete KD (45/95; 47%), compared with children
164 over 1 year old (102/428; 24%) (Chi-squared = 21.31 p<0.0001).

165

166 The annual incidence was estimated using the 257 cases that had been diagnosed between 1 February 2014 and
167 31 January 2015, and whose ages were reported since only in the second year were all sub-types of KD reported.
168 The age-specific annual incidences were 4.55/100,000 at age 0-4 years; 1.26/100,000 at 5-9 years, and
169 0.08/100,000 at 10-14 years.

170
171 Date of diagnosis
172 Based on 479 cases reported between 1st February 2013 and 31st January 2015, more cases occurred in the
173 winter ([defined as December – February](#)) and spring ([March - May](#)) than in the summer ([June - August](#)) and
174 autumn ([September – November](#)) months (Figure 1) ([Chi-squared tests for monthly and seasonal variations were](#)
175 [significant at \$p < 0.004\$](#)). [These results controlled for length of month and confirmed the appreciable peaks in](#)
176 [January in both 'all' and 'complete' cases.](#)

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178 Time to first point of clinical contact and diagnosis
179 443 (80%) children saw a general practitioner (GP) at median (range) 2 (0-27) days from the first onset of
180 symptoms. The time from first GP consultation to hospital admission was 1 (0-32) days; time from disease onset
181 to formal diagnosis was 7 (0-36) days; and time to diagnosis following admission to hospital was 1 (0-25) days,
182 with 50 cases being diagnosed on day of admission.

183
184 We used the first four components of the postcode of patients in the UK to assign cases as resident in Urban or
185 rural areas and compared the proportion of cases occurring in rural or urban areas. Relative to the population
186 density we found significantly more cases occurring in rural areas ([applying a non-linear cubic regression offered](#)
187 [best fit with \$R^2 = 0.867\$, \$F=30.290\$ ~~Pearson's Correlation Test= 0.694~~, \$p < 0.0054\$ \) \(Figure 2\).](#)

188

189 CLINICAL FEATURES

190 Coronary artery status

191 The results of the initial echocardiograms were available for 523/553 children. There were 11 children in whom
192 the weights and Z_{\neq} scores were missing, so these have been omitted from analysis. Overall, 123/512 (24%) had
193 abnormal coronary Z score (Z score >2) at echocardiography within 30 days of diagnosis. Of these, 95/512 had
194 coronary Z score ≥ 2.5 , thus the overall CAA rate within 30 days of diagnosis was 19%.

195 In 25 children, there was a pericardial effusion recorded, and in 7 there was either valve regurgitation or depressed
196 ventricular function. Taking these into account, the all-cardiac complication rate (coronary $Z > 2$, or any other
197 cardiac complication) was 28% within 30 days of diagnosis (Table 2). It is of note that a much higher proportion
198 of children under the age of 1 year had CAA+ (39%) compared with those over the age of 1 (13%, $p < 0.01$).
199 Overall, 8/512 cases (1.6%) developed giant CAA, and 4/86 cases (5%) under 1 year of age had giant CAA.

200

201 Variables associated with coronary artery aneurysms

202 We reviewed the association of CAA status with features highlighted in previous publications (Table 3) to
203 determine whether there were any associations with CAA ²⁵ ²⁶. In addition, we explored if there were any
204 differences in coronary outcomes between 2013 and 2014, which may have been influenced by the publication
205 of a new UK clinical guideline paper at the end of 2013 ¹. In 28 cases, we did not know the coronary artery status;
206 and in both of the post mortem cases there were coronary artery aneurysms.

207

208 The presence of fever plus four diagnostic features of KD at the time of diagnosis (complete KD) was associated
209 with a lower rate of coronary artery involvement. Younger age at presentation; longer time to receive treatment;
210 and presentation between December and May were all associated with increased risk of CAA. Additional factors

211 associated with the presence of CAA were lower albumin, and higher corticosteroid use in those with CAA (Table
212 3).

213

214 Treatment with IVIG and aspirin

215 Excluding the 2 cases diagnosed after death, and excluding the 20 cases with incomplete data, 502/531 received
216 IVIG (95%), with the recommended dose of 2g/kg (97%). 29/531 (5%) did not receive IVIG: 20 with complete KD;
217 0 with incomplete KD; and 8 with atypical KD, (one not classified). The usual reason for not giving IVIG was
218 delayed diagnosis, but in one case the parents refused therapy (Table 3). Anti-inflammatory dose aspirin (30-50
219 mg/kg/day, divided into four daily doses) was given to 472/537; 41 did not receive any aspirin; data regarding
220 aspirin were missing for the other cases. Following this, an anti-platelet dose of aspirin (3-5mg/kg once a day)
221 was given to 460 (83%) children. As shown in Table 4, the proportion of patients with CAA was lowest in those
222 treated with IVIG within 7 days of onset and increased progressively in the group treated between 7 and 10 days
223 and above 10 days.

224

225 Adjunctive therapy

226 Overall, corticosteroids were used in 49/512 (10%) cases where CAA status was documented, either as primary
227 adjunctive (4.6%), or as late rescue therapy (4.8%) (Table 3). Infliximab was given to 10/551 cases (1.8%). Many
228 children were commenced on antimicrobials (n=73) before the diagnosis of KD was made. No other treatments
229 were reported.

230

231 Other outcomes

232 Of the 523 cases with echocardiography performed within 30 days of diagnosis, data on follow up
233 echocardiography beyond 30 days were available in 49/523 of which 40/49 had persistent CAA. Overall, 8/49 had

234 persistent giant CAA, including the 4 cases of giant CAA under the age of 1 year. Three had arthralgia, one had
235 anaemia, one had hypertension, and one had lethargy. In addition to the 2 cases who were diagnosed after death,
236 a third child with pre-existing neurological disease died from intractable seizures, providing an all-cause mortality
237 rate of 3/553 (0.54%), and mortality directly attributable to KD of 2/553 (0.36%).

238

239

240 DISCUSSION

241 This prospective UK population-based study shows that the incidence of KD as reported by paediatricians in the
242 UK and Ireland has risen since the last survey in 1990 ([from 3.4](#) to 4.55/100,000 children under 5 years, with
243 male: female ratio of 1.51:1. It is noteworthy that estimates of KD incidence based on hospital admission or GP
244 database statistics previously reported more than double the number of cases in our survey ^{8 27}. This BPSU
245 survey used rigorous diagnostic criteria to ensure accurate case inclusion. In contrast hospital admission data are
246 not based on strict epidemiological KD case definitions, usually relying on diagnoses assigned by junior doctors
247 or coding clerks and are thus likely to significantly over-record KD cases. Conversely, the voluntary reporting
248 system used by the BPSU could under-record cases, as busy paediatricians may not respond or recall all the
249 cases or may believe their colleagues are doing the reporting. Therefore, our BPSU data are likely to provide a
250 minimum estimate of annual incidence. Many features observed in this UK and Ireland study are also seen in
251 studies from other countries, including the majority of cases being less than 5 years old, seasonal occurrence with
252 more cases in winter and spring, and increased proportion of Chinese or Japanese Asians and Black Africans
253 relative to their proportion in the general population. We found an increased proportion of cases lived in rural
254 areas relative to the population distribution. Early (within 30 days) all-cardiac complication rates for this unselected
255 treated UK population were 28%; 19% had CAA [at 6 weeks](#), based on a coronary Z score ≥ 2.5 (Table 2).

256 Worryingly, 39% of KD patients under 1 year of age developed CAA despite IVIG; and mortality rates at 0.36%
257 were approximately 10-fold lower than the last BPSU study.

258
259 We were surprised that residence in urban areas was associated with lower incidence of KD than rural residence.
260 There might be many different explanations for this finding, including greater exposure to toxins used in farming,
261 agriculture associated microorganisms, or increased exposure to pollens³. The suggestion that wind patterns
262 could propagate triggers might be of relevance in this context⁶.

263 There was a change in the case ascertainment protocol from the first year of the study to the second. We were
264 obliged by the BPSU reporting restrictions to have a small number of cases (less than 300 in each year) and there
265 was concern that including all cases of KD would make the total number too large. However, it was clear, during
266 the first year of study, that we were being notified of incomplete cases and that we were not going to exceed 300
267 cases per year. In addition, there was a new guideline that was published during the time of the study advising
268 steroids in high risk cases. We wished to capture both of these pieces of information.
269 Clearly, the incidence of all cases of KD could therefore only be based on the second year of study. Despite this,
270 we saw little difference in the demographics between the two years.

271 We found that the frequency of early-CAA (19%), is lower than the 29% observed in the treated cases in the
272 original 1990 BPSU study¹³, - but significantly higher than CAA rates previously reported from other countries²⁴
273 and comparable to reported coronary sequelae rates for untreated cases¹¹⁸. This adds weight to our belief that
274 the rise in observed incidence is not due to better case ascertainment, but due to a real increase in number of
275 cases and also case severity. - Similarly high CAA rates have now also been observed in Sweden [ref] and Russia
276 [ref], with delayed diagnosis cited as a likely explanation for high coronary complication rates in the latter study.

277 We found that the proportion with CAA was lowest in patients treated within 7 days, and this increased with later
278 treatment. Our data therefore strongly suggest that delayed diagnosis and treatment is a significant factor

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279 contributing to the high incidence of CAA in the UK. Furthermore, the low numbers of patients receiving adjunctive
280 treatments such as corticosteroids or anti-TNF, which are associated with more rapid resolution of inflammation
281 and reduced CAA risk, suggests many UK KD patients are not receiving optimal therapy advised in national and
282 international guidance ¹.

283
284 Our study confirms that children under 1 year are more likely to have atypical KD and higher rates of coronary
285 sequelae (39%), [as reported in other series](#) ¹. Diagnosis of KD is difficult in the absence of all the typical features.
286 As a high proportion of infants under 1 year of age do not fulfil the KD diagnostic criteria, there is a need for
287 increased awareness of the possibility of KD in any infant with evidence of persistent inflammation (raised CRP,
288 ESR or white cell count) and no response to antibiotics. In these infants, echocardiography is an urgent
289 investigation required as part of the diagnostic work up of suspected incomplete KD. A high index of suspicion is
290 thus required, and early treatment with IVIG and additional anti-inflammatory agents, and referral to specialist
291 units for suspected atypical KD cases in view of the high risk of CAA is advised. Our findings also support the
292 previous suggestion that children under 1-year should be regarded as high risk for coronary sequelae ¹, and
293 therefore be targeted for more aggressive primary treatment. It is also of note that there was a higher rate of CAA
294 in children in the second half of the study, after 1.2.2014. The most likely reason for this is that we included
295 atypical KD in the second half of the study, which have CAA by definition.

296
297 Ninety-four % of children received IVIG in line with current guidance along with high dose aspirin in almost all,
298 although as previously highlighted, those children with CAA+ were treated later (median 10 days) than those
299 without CAA (7 days), highlighting the importance of instituting treatment as early as possible (i.e. not just within
300 10 days) to improve outcomes ²⁸.

301

302 Corticosteroids were only used in 10% of cases (Table 3); 4.6% of cases as primary therapy, and as rescue
303 therapy in 4.8%. This overall relatively low use of corticosteroids, combined with delay in initiating treatment, could
304 explain the high CAA rates we observed since a recent meta-analysis of 2746 patients has now demonstrated
305 that early addition of corticosteroids is associated with reduced risk of CAA compared with IVIG therapy alone,
306 particularly for high risk cases (odds ratio 0.424; 95%CI, 0.270-0.665)²⁸. Arguably, however, all UK KD patients
307 could be deemed “high-risk”, since 19% developed CAA within 30 days despite IVIG treatment, with even higher
308 risk for children under the age of 1 year, of whom 39% developed CAA, of which 5% had giant CAA with poor
309 prognostic outcomes. We would have liked to have had follow-up on the CAA after 30 days, but we were obliged
310 by our protocol approval by the BPSU and National Information Governance, to keep this within the acute phase.
311 We hope to be able to return to these patients and obtain ethical approval and consent for a follow-up study in
312 the future.

313

314 Limitations.

315 BPSU methodology relies on busy doctors to complete data entry, and thus a surveillance-based study of this
316 nature is limited since it is entirely dependent on the entry of data and case ascertainment for completeness.
317 Therefore, although ours was ~~Although~~ a prospective study, it is expected that there will be a small proportion of
318 cases that are not reported as evidenced in a recent German study suggesting that up to 44% of cases can be
319 missed²⁹. This will only serve to increase the incidence of KD above that in the present reported study. Also, ~~but~~
320 by the nature of BPSU study methodology, follow up data examining late cardiac sequelae are limited.

321

322 CONCLUSIONS

323 KD has a rising incidence in the UK and Ireland, and cardiac sequelae are higher than reported for other countries
324 despite most patients receiving IVIG therapy. Treatment delay is likely to have been contributory to high CAA

325 rates. A future National UK comparative clinical trial of corticosteroids as primary adjunctive therapy for unselected
326 KD patients is now planned. In the meantime, general practitioners and paediatricians should be aware that
327 treatment to completely ablate systemic inflammation as early as possible is required to prevent lifelong cardiac
328 sequelae, and that the historic KD therapeutic adage of “treatment within 10 days” is no longer fit for purpose.

329
330 WHAT IS ALREADY KNOWN ON THIS TOPIC

- 331 1. Kawasaki Disease is the commonest acquired heart disease in the western world, with highest incidence in
332 North East Asians and with unknown aetiology.
- 333 2. Seasonal variation, with peaks in winter and spring, and reported epidemics suggest that there are
334 environmental factors, which trigger the condition.
- 335 3. The original BPSU study in 1990 suggested that UK patients might have high CAA rates despite IVIG.

336
337 WHAT THIS STUDY ADDS

- 338 1. There is a rising incidence of KD compared to 1990, with increased incidence in Chinese and Japanese Asians,
339 and in children of Black African descent; and increased incidence in rural populations.
- 340 2. Children under 1 year are at highest risk of CAA (39%) and are more likely to present with atypical KD.
- 341 3. The overall frequency of CAA remains high at 19% despite more widespread use of IVIG, although mortality is
342 now 10-fold lower than documented in 1990. Late diagnosis and treatment is associated with coronary artery
343 aneurysms.

344
345
346

347 **Figure legends**

348
349 Figure 1. Incidence of KD by month at diagnosis, showing breakdown into complete, atypical and incomplete
350 cases. PM was diagnosis at post-mortem.
351

352 Figure 2. Plot of urbanicity (as assessed by population per postcode, per sq km) against number of cases of
353 KD.

354

355

356

357

358 Table 1. The demographics of Kawasaki disease in the UK and Ireland.

359

		Complete		Atypical		Incomplete		Post-mortem		Total	
Total No of cases		389	%	46	%	116	%	2	%	553	100%
Sex	Male	231	60%	28	61%	64	55%	0		323	59%
	Female	153	40%	18	39%	42	36%	2	100%	215	39%
	Sex unreported	5	1%	0	0%	10	9%	0		15	3%
	Male:Female ratio	1.50:1		1.56:1		1.52:1		0		1.51:1	
Age (years)	<1	50	13%	20	43%	25	22%	2	100%	97	18%
	1-4	251	64%	19	41%	48	41%	0		318	57%
	5-9	69	18%	5	11%	28	24%	0		102	18%
	10-16	7	2%	1	2%	1	1%	0		9	2%
	Not reported	12	3%	1	2%	14	12%	0		27	5%
Ethnicity	White	257	75%	26	70%	71	72%	1	50%	355	64%
	White & Black	12	6%	4	5%	4	2%	0		20	7%
	White & Asian	10	2%	1	2%	3	0%	0		14	2%
	Black	39	3%	4	6%	3	0%	0		46	4%
	Asian sub-continent	25	7%	5	8%	12	9%	0		42	10%
	Other Asian	11	5%	1	8%	3	7%	1	50%	16	8%
	Chinese/Japanese	14	3%	4	2%	2	9%	0		20	5%
	Others	21	5%	1	2%	18	16%	0		40	7%
	Country	Scotland	19	5%	3	7%	7	6%	0		28
Republic of Ireland / Eire		23	6%	0	0%	9	8%	0		31	6%
Wales		24	6%	7	15%	6	5%	0		35	6%
N. Ireland		9	2%	0	0%	2	2%	0		12	2%
IoM / Jersey / Channel Islands		2	1%	2	4%	1	1%	0		5	1%
England		312	80%	34	74%	94	79%	2	100%	442	80%
Date of illness	1.2.13-31.1.14	186	49%	13	28%	27	25%	0		226	42%
	1.2.14-31.1.15	161	42%	30	65%	70	60%	2	100%	263	49%
	Outside study period	36	9%	3	7%	9	8%	0		48	9%

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 363 Table 2. Echocardiographic data showing Cardiac complications. There were 11 children in whom the weights
 364 and z scores were missing, which have not been included in the table.

Time of Echo	Number assessed	Coronary z<2	Coronary 2≤z<2.5	Coronary 2.5≤z<5	Coronary 5≤z<10	Coronary z≥10	Pericardial Effusion	Valve regurgitation
At Diagnosis	523	389	28	59	28	8	25	7
>30 days	49		9	20	12	8	0	0

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 367 Table 3: Association of coronary artery status with individual variables. CAA+ = those with coronary artery
 368 aneurysms. CAA- = those without aneurysms. IVIG = intravenous immunoglobulin. *P-P* value is difference in
 369 median: ns = not significant. The numbers of patients receiving corticosteroids were too small for meaningful
 370 statistical testing. There were 11 children in whom the weights and z scores were missing, which have not been
 371 included in the table.

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Criterion	CAA+ (n=95)	CAA- (n=417)	P value
Male	62 (69%)	247 (59%)	0.27 ns
Median lowest Albumin g/L	26	31	0.049
Range	(13, 41) n=83	(21, 49) n=372	
Median Lowest Sodium mmol/L	134	134	0.92 ns
Range	(125, 142) n=48	(123, 141) n=210	
Median Lowest Platelet count x10 ⁹ /L	212	245	0.15 ns
Range	(30, 442) n=95	(54, 450) n=415	
Median Age months at presentation	21.6	36.0	0.005
Range	(2.4, 190.0) n=93	(1.2, 190.0) n=409	
Median Time to treatment (days)	10.0	7.0	0.005
Range	(2, 37)	(1, 36)	
Mucosal involvement at diagnosis	77/95 (81%)	360/416 (87%)	0.19 ns
Dec-May presentation	64/95 (67%)	245/416 (59%)	0.12 ns
Presentation before 1.2.2014	53/95 (56%)	210/416 (50%)	0.35 ns
Primary steroid use	11/95 (12%)	13 (3%)	
Late corticosteroid use	13 (14%)	12 (3%)	
No corticosteroid use	67/92 (73%)	359/384 (93%)	0.03

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377 Table 4: Association of time of treatment with Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) with coronary artery aneurysms.

378 Numbers were small, so statistical comparison of these groups was not performed. Absolute numbers with % in

379 brackets

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IVIG timing	Age <1 year				Age >1 year			
	Number of cases	Z<2.5	Z≥2.5	missing	cases	Z<2.5	Z≥2.5	missing
IVIG before day 7	45	33	11	1	160	138	17	5
IVIG day 7-10	28	12	15	1	142	116	23	3
IVIG>day 10	14	3	9	2	79	62	15	2
No IVIG or missing	8	4	2		49	41	1	

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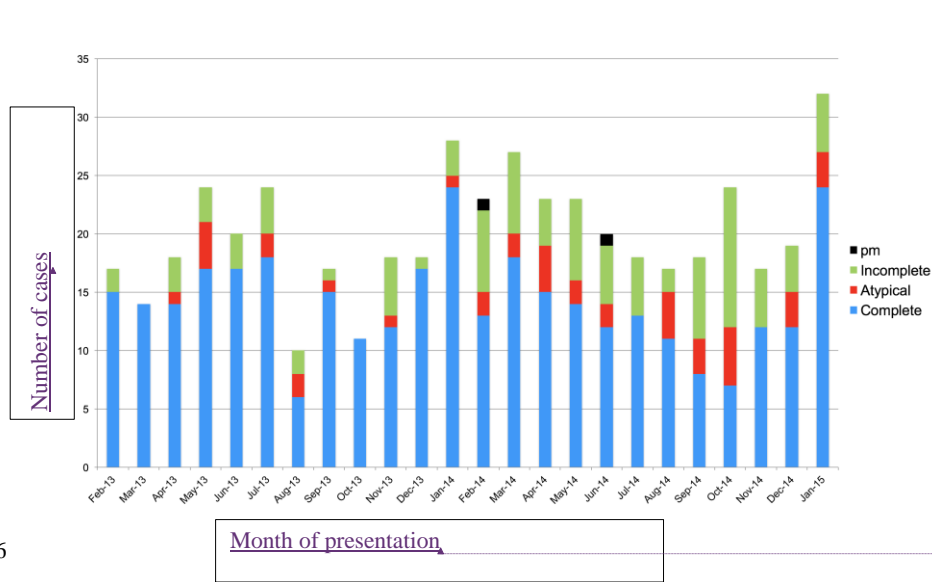
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485 Figure 1.



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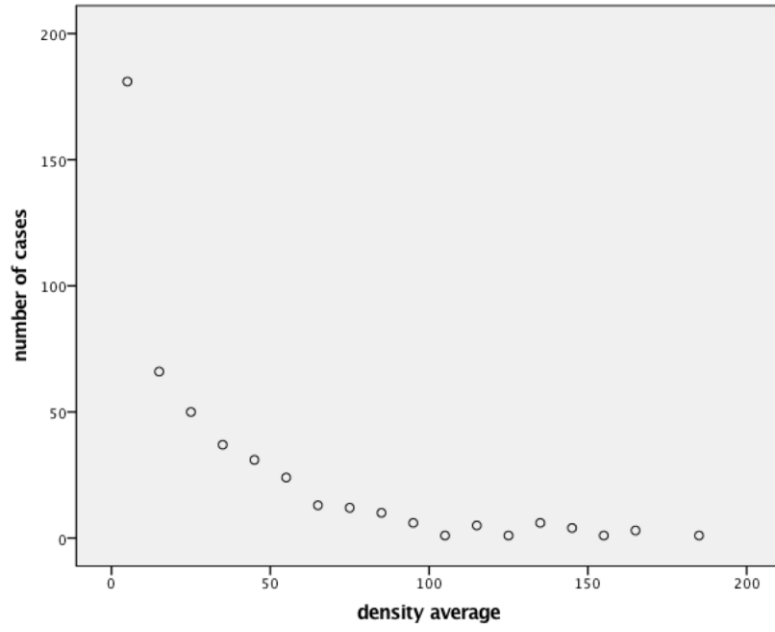
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489 **Figure 2**



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