A rare but serious complication of COVID-19 infection is MIS-C. After a COVID-19 infection, some children can experience a persistent fever and inflammation or damage to the heart, lungs, stomach, kidneys, nervous tissue, and/or muscles that requires hospitalization, usually in the intensive care unit. Doctors do not yet know how long the damage can last in your child after this serious illness. More information can be found on the CDC website here.

Of the 12 confirmed cases of MIS-C in Montana, six were reported in the last two months. Nine additional cases are under review as of November 24, 2021. More than 5,500 children have been sick with MIS-C in the United States alone, as of November 24, 2021. 48 children have died. Check out the most recent numbers here.

The best way is to get your child vaccinated. Any child 5 years old and up is eligible for a FREE COVID-19 vaccination. Other prevention measures include wearing a mask in public places and keeping 6 foot distance from other people. And remember to stay home if you are sick!