

1 **BNT162b2 mRNA Vaccination Against COVID-19 is Associated with Decreased Likelihood of**
2 **Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in U.S. Children Ages 5–18 Years**

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30 **Running title:** BNT162b2 Vaccine and Likelihood of MIS-C

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1 **Abstract**

2 **Background:** Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C), linked to antecedent severe
3 acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection, is associated with considerable
4 morbidity. Prevention of SARS-CoV-2 infection or coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) by
5 vaccination might also decrease MIS-C likelihood.

6 **Methods:** In a multicenter case-control public health investigation of children ages 5–18 years
7 hospitalized from July 1, 2021 to April 7, 2022, we compared the odds of being fully vaccinated (two
8 doses of BNT162b2 vaccine ≥ 28 days before hospital admission) between MIS-C case-patients and
9 hospital-based controls who tested negative for SARS-CoV-2. These associations were examined by age
10 group, timing of vaccination, and periods of Delta and Omicron variant predominance using
11 multivariable logistic regression.

12 **Results:** We compared 304 MIS-C case-patients (280 [92%] unvaccinated) with 502 controls (346
13 [69%] unvaccinated). MIS-C was associated with decreased likelihood of vaccination (aOR, 0.16; 95%
14 CI, 0.10-0.26), including among children ages 5–11 years (aOR, 0.22; 95% CI, 0.10-0.52), ages 12–18
15 years (aOR, 0.10; 95% CI, 0.05–0.19), and during the Delta (aOR, 0.06; 95% CI, 0.02–0.15) and
16 Omicron (aOR, 0.22; 95% CI, 0.11–0.42) variant-predominant periods. This association persisted
17 beyond 120 days after the second dose (aOR, 0.08, 95% CI, 0.03–0.22) in 12–18 year-olds. Among all
18 MIS-C case-patients, 187 (62%) required intensive care unit admission and 280 (92%) vaccine-eligible
19 patients were unvaccinated.

20 **Conclusions:** Vaccination with two doses of BNT162b2 is associated with reduced likelihood of MIS-
21 C in children ages 5–18 years. Most vaccine eligible hospitalized patients with MIS-C were
22 unvaccinated.

23 **Key words:** MIS-C; vaccine effectiveness; Pfizer (BioNTech); COVID-19; children

1 **Introduction**

2 Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) is a severe hyperinflammatory condition
3 occurring approximately four weeks post-acute infection with severe acute respiratory syndrome
4 coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), the virus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) [1–3]. In the
5 United States, the Pfizer-BioNTech (BNT162b2) vaccine has been authorized for use in children and
6 adolescents ages 6 months through 15 years under an Emergency Use Authorization by the U.S. Food
7 and Drug Administration and is fully licensed for all persons ages ≥ 16 years [4,5]. Prelicensure trials
8 indicate high immunogenicity and vaccine efficacy against laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 in children
9 ages ≥ 5 years [6]. The Pfizer-BioNTech (BNT162b2) mRNA vaccine is also associated with preventing
10 COVID-19 hospitalizations in children and adolescents [7,8].

11 We recently reported interim findings of an estimated 91% reduced likelihood of MIS-C
12 hospitalization in the United States among adolescents 12–18 years old associated with two doses of
13 BNT162b2 COVID-19 vaccine [9]. These data were among adolescents hospitalized with MIS-C
14 through December 9, 2021, predominantly during Delta variant circulation. In this report, we extend
15 those findings to include patients 5–11 years old who were first eligible for BNT162b2 vaccination
16 beginning November 2, 2021 [10] and into the period of B.1.1.529 (Omicron) SARS-CoV-2 variant
17 predominance, starting December 18, 2021 [11]. We evaluate the association of vaccination with MIS-
18 C among patients ages 5–18 years hospitalized through April 7, 2022 by age group, by periods of
19 predominant circulation with the Delta and Omicron SARS-CoV-2 variants, and by timing of
20 vaccination.

21
22 **Methods**

23 *Design and Setting*

24 This evaluation of the association of COVID-19 vaccination with MIS-C was conducted across 29
25 hospitals in 22 U.S. states in the CDC-funded *Overcoming COVID-19* (OC-19) pediatric vaccine

1 effectiveness network (sites and investigators are listed in **Supplement 1**). Strengthening reporting of
2 observational studies in epidemiology (STROBE) guidelines were followed [12]. The surveillance
3 protocol was approved by CDC and by the other participating institutions as a public health surveillance
4 activity; this review was conducted in accordance with applicable federal laws and CDC policy [13].

5 We applied a test-negative case-control design [14,15], often used to estimate vaccine effectiveness
6 [8,16,17], to evaluate the association between MIS-C and prior vaccination with the BNT162b2 vaccine
7 with case-patients hospitalized with MIS-C and SARS-CoV-2 negative control patients hospitalized for
8 SARS-CoV-2-unrelated reasons. We secondarily aimed to describe organ system involvement and
9 critical disease in vaccinated vs unvaccinated MIS-C patients.

10

11 *Participants*

12 Children ages 5 to 18 years hospitalized at OC-19 sites between July 1, 2021 and April 7, 2022, were
13 enrolled through active surveillance for MIS-C. Case-patients were identified by review of hospital
14 admission logs or electronic medical records and included those hospitalized with MIS-C as the primary
15 reason for admission. Applying the CDC case definition for MIS-C [18], cases required multisystem
16 (≥ 2) organ involvement, elevated inflammatory markers, recorded or subjective fever $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ lasting ≥ 24
17 hours, and laboratory evidence of recent SARS-CoV-2 infection by RT-PCR, antigen, or serology
18 (**Supplemental Figure 1**). Controls tested negative for SARS-CoV-2 infection by RT-PCR or antigen-
19 based assay either within 7 days prior to hospital admission or during their hospitalization, and were
20 admitted for reasons unrelated to SARS-CoV-2 and did not meet clinical criteria for MIS-C. Controls
21 were matched to case-patients by site, age group (5–11, 12–15, 16–18 years), and targeted admission
22 within approximately +/- 3 weeks (maximum 4 weeks) of an enrolled case.

23 We excluded suspected MIS-C patients if they failed to meet all fever and organ system involvement
24 criteria (including specification of ≥ 2 organ systems), or if they did not have molecular or serologic

1 evidence of current or recent SARS-CoV-2 infection within 90 days of admission or during their
2 hospitalization. While a 2:1 control-to-case ratio was targeted, a minimum of one matched control per
3 case-patient was required for inclusion. Information on vaccination status was collected after enrollment.
4

5 *Data Collection*

6 Demographic, clinical, and laboratory data were collected by trained personnel through standardized
7 interviews and medical records abstraction. MIS-C patients were adjudicated at the site level, and
8 clinical criteria were reviewed by CDC to ensure all MIS-C patients met inclusion criteria. COVID-19
9 vaccination status, including manufacturer, dates of vaccination, number of doses, and location, were
10 ascertained through parent interviews and a review of source documentation. Documents acceptable for
11 vaccine verification included patient vaccination cards, hospital records, electronic medical records,
12 state immunization information systems, and vaccine records requested from clinics, pharmacies, and
13 schools. Vaccinations were verified as received if source documentation was identified or if the
14 interviewee provided a plausible date and location of vaccination.
15

16 *Classification of Vaccination Status*

17 Vaccination status was classified according to vaccine receipt before the case-patient hospital
18 admission date (reference date). Participants were classified as unvaccinated if no vaccine was received
19 before the reference date and fully vaccinated if they had received two BNT162b2 doses at least 28 days
20 before the reference date. We chose 28 days as the cutoff for all cases and controls to account for a delay
21 between potential infection with SARS-CoV-2 and MIS-C and to exclude the possibility of including
22 cases of MIS-C potentially associated with vaccination, which are likely rare and would be expected to
23 occur early after vaccination [19]. Partial vaccination was defined as having received only one vaccine
24 dose before the reference date or receiving a second dose <28 days prior to the reference date. Patients

1 who received their 2nd dose between 14 and 27 days prior to the reference date were included in a
2 sensitivity analysis, but were excluded from the primary analysis. Patients were excluded if they
3 received a different type of COVID-19 vaccine, such as AD.26COV2.S (Janssen/Johnson & Johnson) or
4 mRNA-1273 (Moderna) if they received heterologous doses (e.g., BNT162b2 for the first dose and
5 mRNA-1273 for the second), or if they received >2 doses of any vaccine.

6 While full mRNA vaccination against acute COVID-19 is usually considered to be 14 days after a
7 second dose [20], the timepoint at which vaccination may confer protection against MIS-C is unclear;
8 therefore, we performed a sensitivity analysis including patients vaccinated at least 14 days before the
9 reference date. Duration of immunity was assessed by separately comparing those hospitalized ≥ 121
10 days after the second dose. Patient inclusion in each of these sub-analyses was contingent upon
11 hospitalization after the enrollment eligibility date (e.g. the date at which a patient could plausibly be
12 considered fully vaccinated). Each eligibility date was calculated first using the date the vaccine was
13 recommended for each age group by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, adding 21
14 days required between the first and second dose, and finally adding the specified time interval between
15 the second dose and hospitalization (**Supplemental Table 2**).

16 17 *MIS-C Severity and Organ System Involvement*

18 Data were collected on disease severity, survival, and organ system involvement up until the point of
19 hospital discharge or death to characterize the clinical features and outcomes of included MIS-C case-
20 patients (**Figures 2a-b and 3a-b**). Descriptive statistics were calculated for binary variables reflective of
21 disease severity (ICU admission, noninvasive ventilation, invasive mechanical ventilation, vasopressor
22 support, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, or death). Organ system involvement among MIS-C
23 case-patients was likewise assessed descriptively, with overlap of ≥ 2 organ systems analyzed and
24 displayed graphically (**Figure 2b**). MIS-C severity and organ system involvement was also considered

1 in the context of median hospital length of stay and median number of organ systems involved. Findings
2 on severity and organ system involvement were stratified by age group (5–11 years, 12–18 years).

3

4 *Statistical Analysis*

5 We compared the odds of being fully vaccinated with two doses of the BNT162b2 vaccine (exposed)
6 vs. being unvaccinated (unexposed) in MIS-C case-patients compared with controls. We used
7 multivariable logistic regression models, controlling for age at hospital admission (continuous, in years),
8 sex, race and ethnicity, site of enrollment, and presence of an underlying medical condition. Adjusted
9 odds ratios (aOR) <1.0 indicated that MIS-C was associated with a reduced likelihood of vaccination.
10 The aOR can be used to estimate vaccine effectiveness for the prevention of MIS-C through the
11 following equation: vaccine effectiveness (%) = (1 – aOR) X 100 [14,17,21].

12 This association between vaccination and MIS-C was further explored through stratified secondary
13 analyses by age group (5–11 and 12–18 years). Given the earlier authorization date and longer follow-up
14 time available among adolescents 12–18 years, we further stratified adolescents by time point since
15 vaccination to examine the duration of immunity (28–120 days and ≥ 121 days). The later authorization
16 date for 5-11 year olds precluded the ability to examine duration of immunity. The proportion of SARS-
17 CoV-2 infections estimated to be attributable to the Omicron variant exceeded 50% during the week
18 beginning December 18, 2021 [11,22], and the onset of MIS-C most frequently occurs within 2 to 4
19 weeks of SARS-CoV-2 infection [1–3]; therefore, we dichotomized the dates of patient hospitalization
20 before and on/after January 1, 2022 (December 18, 2021, plus 2 weeks) to separately identify MIS-C
21 cases attributed to periods of Delta vs. Omicron variant predominance. An additional model was
22 constructed to evaluate the impact of time since vaccination by replacing the vaccination exposure
23 variable with a time variable (unvaccinated, vaccinated 28–120 days before hospitalization, and

1 vaccinated ≥ 121 days before hospitalization). Analyses were conducted using SAS V9.4 (SAS Institute,
2 Cary, NC) and R Studio (V1.2.5033).

3

4 **Results**

5 *Participants*

6 During July 1, 2021, to April 7, 2022, 1016 patients were enrolled from 29 pediatric hospitals in 22
7 states; 210 ineligible patients were excluded to yield 304 MIS-C case-patients and 502 controls (**Figure**
8 **1, Supplemental Table 3**). The most common reasons for exclusion from the primary analysis were
9 partial vaccination (n=79), age-ineligible or hospitalization before the eligibility date (n=53), and receipt
10 of the first vaccine dose < 14 days prior to hospitalization (n=23). Twenty-six children who received
11 their second dose between 14 and 27 days prior to hospitalization were excluded from the primary
12 analysis, but included as a sensitivity analysis. If vaccinated, all patients were hospitalized ≥ 28 days
13 after their second dose for the primary analysis.

14 Among enrolled patients, MIS-C case-patients differed from controls by sex and presence of
15 underlying health conditions (**Table 1**). Enrolled MIS-C case-patients were evenly distributed between
16 periods of Delta (n=145, 48%) and Omicron (n=159, 52%) variant predominance; we assumed that the
17 predominant variant shifted from Delta to Omicron after December 18, 2021 [11,22]. Of note, among
18 MIS-C case-patients in the 12–18 year age group, 122/160 (84%) were hospitalized during the period of
19 Delta predominance, whereas 121/144 (76%) of patients in the 5–11 year age group were hospitalized
20 during the period of Omicron predominance. The majority of vaccinated MIS-C case-patients were
21 hospitalized within 50 days of their 2nd vaccine dose (**Table 1, Supplemental Figure 2**).

22

23 *Severe Clinical Outcomes and Organ System Involvement among MIS-C Case-Patients*

24 Organ system involvement among MIS-C patients are shown in **Figure 2a** and the combinations of
25 organ system involvement in **Figure 2b**. Of the 304 case-patients, 62% were admitted to the ICU, 21%

1 required noninvasive ventilation, 8% required invasive mechanical ventilation, and 43% required
2 vasopressor support. **Figure 3a** shows the proportions of patients admitted to the ICU, receiving
3 noninvasive ventilation or vasopressor support by age group (5–11 and 12–18 years).

4 Among 304 MIS-C case-patients, 280 (92%) were unvaccinated. Among case-patients 12–18 years
5 of age, a lower proportion of vaccinated patients required life support or died (44.4% of unvaccinated vs
6 0% of vaccinated patients, $p=0.05$) during the period of Delta variant predominance; no significant
7 difference in clinical outcomes by vaccination status was evident during the period of Omicron variant
8 predominance. Among 5–11 year-olds, most of whom were hospitalized during Omicron predominance,
9 MIS-C requiring life-support or resulting in death likewise did not differ by vaccination status (**Figure**
10 **3b, Supplemental Table 4**). One unvaccinated MIS-C case-patient in the 12–18 year-old age group
11 required ECMO, and one unvaccinated patient in the 5–11 year-old age group died.

12

13 *Association between MIS-C and BNT162b2 Vaccination*

14 Full vaccination was less common in MIS-C case-patients compared with controls, (7.9% vs 31.1%)
15 (**Figure 4**). Overall, MIS-C was strongly associated with a lower likelihood of vaccination with two
16 doses of BNT162b2 mRNA vaccine ≥ 28 days before hospitalization, with an aOR of 0.16 (95% CI,
17 0.10–0.26). Using a timeframe of ≥ 14 days before vaccination, the aOR was similar at 0.17 (95% CI,
18 0.10–0.27). When stratified by age, the aOR, was 0.22 (95% CI, 0.10–0.52) for children ages 5–11 years
19 and 0.10 (95% CI, 0.05–0.19) for adolescents ages 12–18 years. Association between vaccination and
20 protection against MIS-C was significant among children ages 12–18 years during both periods of
21 variant predominance (aOR, 0.06; 95% CI, 0.02–0.17 for Delta; aOR, 0.08; 95% CI, 0.02–0.29 for
22 Omicron). Among patients ages 12–18 years, MIS-C was also associated with a lower likelihood of
23 hospitalization in patients vaccinated 120 to 200 days before hospitalization (aOR, 0.08; 95% CI, 0.03–
24 0.22) (**Figure 4**).

1 Discussion

2 In this public health investigation of children admitted to 29 U.S. pediatric hospitals between July 1,
3 2021, and April 7, 2022, BNT162b2 vaccination was less likely among patients with MIS-C than in
4 children hospitalized for other non-SARS-CoV-2-related reasons. This finding was observed among
5 children 5–11 years and 12–18 years, and in adolescents during periods of both Delta and Omicron
6 predominance. Most children ages 5–18 years with MIS-C had severe clinical outcomes, including 62%
7 requiring ICU admission and nearly half having a life-threatening illness. Overall 92% of the MIS-C
8 patients were unvaccinated, including 93% of those with life-threatening or fatal illness. The aOR in this
9 analysis corresponds to estimated overall vaccine effectiveness of 84% for vaccination with two doses of
10 BNT162b2 to prevent MIS-C in patients ages 5-18 years. For 12–18 year olds who had a longer period
11 of vaccine eligibility, the protective association persisted four to seven months after vaccination.

12 This investigation is one of the first to examine the association of BNT162b2 vaccination with
13 prevention of MIS-C using a case-control design. We expand our prior preliminary findings of high
14 vaccine effectiveness against MIS-C among 12–18 year-olds [9]. Our findings are also consistent with
15 two prospective studies demonstrating decreased MIS-C incidence associated with vaccination prior to
16 the emergence of the Omicron variant [23,24]. Levy et al. found that MIS-C incidence from September
17 1–October 31, 2021 decreased by 91% after dose one of BNT162b2 vaccine in France; no MIS-C cases
18 were reported among fully vaccinated adolescents [23]. In a separate national cohort study in Denmark,
19 Nygaard et al. found that MIS-C incidence among children ages 0–17 years declined by 94% among
20 vaccinated children between August 1, 2021 and February 1, 2022 [24]. High VE has been reported
21 against development of severe acute COVID-19 in children and adults [7,8,16,17], but MIS-C is a
22 presumably post-infectious complication of SARS-CoV-2 infection. Waning vaccine-induced immunity
23 has been highlighted as a concern, and the Omicron variant has been associated with immune escape and
24 vaccine resistance among children and adults who have received two doses of the BNT162b2 vaccine
25 [25–27]; however, the point estimates for the effect sizes we observed in preventing MIS-C after

1 vaccination during the period of Omicron predominance were overall larger than reported in pediatric
2 vaccine effectiveness studies against symptomatic COVID-19 [25–27] and also in severe COVID-19
3 within the same OC-19 network [7,8]. This investigation also demonstrated sustained protection against
4 MIS-C across both variant predominant periods in adolescents and among patients ages 5-18 years, as
5 well as protection against severe clinical outcomes during the period of Delta variant predominance.
6 These results reiterate the benefits of pediatric COVID-19 vaccinations and the public health imperative
7 of improving pediatric vaccine acceptance and uptake.[28]

8

9 *Limitations*

10 This investigation has several limitations. First, this analysis used a control population of patients
11 hospitalized for a non-SARS-CoV-2-related indication who tested negative for SARS-CoV-2. While
12 hospitalized controls should support equivalent access to care between study arms, they may not
13 represent the general population. Residual confounding may be present by unmeasured covariates and
14 bias cannot be fully excluded in these observational evaluations. Second, because SARS-CoV-2-
15 negative controls were included in this analysis, we could not separately examine protection from
16 progression to MIS-C after infection and non-hospitalized patients with mild COVID-19 or
17 asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection 3-6 weeks later may be an alternate control group. Third, the case
18 definition for MIS-C includes children up to age 20 years, and while mRNA-1273 (Moderna) is
19 recommended for persons ages ≥ 18 years, this analysis assessed only the association between
20 BNT162b2 and MIS-C. Fourth, the sample size was insufficient to assess the association between MIS-
21 C and vaccination beyond 4 months after the second dose, and we had insufficient numbers of patients
22 with a booster dose to assess effectiveness of booster vaccines. Fifth, given that most site investigators
23 principally worked in the ICU, this investigation may not have captured all patients admitted to the
24 general hospital ward. Finally, while the point estimate of the odds ratio appeared to be attenuated

1 among children ages 5–11 years, most of these children were hospitalized during the period of Omicron
2 predominance. Children ages 5–11 years who received vaccination at the earliest opportunity
3 (November 2, 2021) were only eligible for inclusion less than two weeks before the beginning of the
4 Omicron-predominant period, so it is not possible to isolate the independent impact of age and variant
5 predominance on the association between vaccination and MIS-C. Finally, if vaccination protects
6 against the MIS-C, we cannot ascertain if it is due to prevention of SARS-CoV-2 infection or another
7 mechanism.

8

9 **Conclusions**

10 Vaccination with two doses of BNT162b2 was associated with lower frequency of MIS-C
11 compared to hospitalized SARS-CoV-2 negative controls. MIS-C was generally associated with severe
12 clinical outcomes, which might be averted by COVID-19 vaccination. These findings are consistent with
13 MIS-C risk reduction associated with COVID-19 vaccination and add evidence to support the
14 vaccination in the pediatric population.

1 **NOTES:**

2 **Author contributions:** Drs. Zambrano, Newhams and Randolph had full access to all of the data in the
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- 25

1 **Table 1.** Characteristics of MIS-C Case-Patients and Control Patients Without COVID-19^a

	No. (%)			
	5 to 11 years		12 to 18 years	
	MIS-C case-patients	Controls	MIS-C case-patients	Controls
Characteristic (no. unknown)	(n = 144)	(n = 230)	(n = 160)	(n = 272)
Median age, yrs (IQR)	8.5 (6.9 - 10.3)	7.9 (6.7 - 9.7)	14.3 (13.1 - 15.9)	14.6 (13.4 - 15.9)
Age, y				
12 - 15	n.a.	n.a.	127 (79.4)	210 (77.2)
16 - 18	n.a.	n.a.	33 (20.6)	62 (22.8)
Sex				
Female	52 (36.1)	108 (47.0)	44 (27.5)	150 (55.1)
Race/ethnicity				
White, non-Hispanic	60 (41.7)	96 (41.7)	53 (33.1)	101 (37.1)
Black, non-Hispanic	42 (29.2)	56 (24.3)	60 (37.5)	71 (26.1)
Asian, non-Hispanic	3 (2.1)	4 (1.7)	1 (0.6)	10 (3.7)
Hispanic, any race	23 (16.0)	55 (23.9)	26 (16.3)	65 (23.9)
Multiple/Other, non-Hispanic	11 (7.6)	16 (7.0)	13 (8.1)	15 (5.5)
Unknown	5 (3.5)	3 (1.3)	7 (4.4)	10 (3.7)
U.S. Census Region*				
Northeast	23 (16.0)	39 (17.0)	11 (6.9)	16 (5.9)
Midwest	63 (43.8)	93 (40.4)	44 (27.5)	69 (25.4)
South	36 (25.0)	64 (27.8)	68 (42.5)	118 (43.4)
West	22 (15.3)	34 (14.8)	37 (23.1)	69 (25.4)
Month of admission				
July 2021	n.a.	n.a.	5 (3.1)	4 (1.5)
August 2021	n.a.	n.a.	18 (11.3)	30 (11.0)
September 2021	n.a.	n.a.	37 (23.1)	39 (14.3)
October 2021	n.a.	n.a.	32 (20.0)	67 (24.6)
November 2021	n.a.	n.a.	17 (10.6)	38 (14.0)
December 2021	23 (16.0)	29 (12.6)	13 (8.1)	26 (9.6)
January 2022	74 (51.4)	119 (51.7)	25 (15.6)	41 (15.1)
February 2022	40 (27.8)	60 (26.1)	13 (8.1)	21 (7.7)
March 2022	6 (4.2)	21 (9.1)	0	6 (2.2)
April 2022	1 (0.7)	1 (0.4)	0	0
Attendance at in-person school or daycare (n=384)	76 (87.4)	61 (79.2)	71 (73.2)	82 (66.7)
≥1 chronic medical conditions	61 (42.4)	171 (74.3)	88 (55.0)	188 (69.1)
Respiratory disease, including asthma	20 (13.9)	94 (40.9)	25 (15.6)	83 (30.5)
Cardiovascular disease	0	16 (7.0)	5 (3.1)	22 (8.1)
Endocrine or metabolic (including obesity)	42 (29.2)	62 (27.0)	56 (35.0)	98 (36.0)
Other ^b	19 (13.2)	122 (53.0)	38 (23.8)	137 (50.4)
Vaccination status^c				
BNT162b2 2-dose series 28 - 41 days prior to hospital admission	4 (2.8)	15 (6.5)	2 (1.3)	8 (2.9)

BNT162b2 2-dose series 42 - 120 days prior to hospital admission	6 (4.2)	28 (12.2)	5 (3.1)	44 (16.2)
BNT162b2 2-dose series \geq 121 days prior to hospital admission	n.a.	n.a.	7 (4.4)	61 (22.4)
Unvaccinated	134 (93.1)	187 (81.3)	146 (91.3)	159 (58.5)
If fully vaccinated, median days from second vaccine to reference date of hospitalization (IQR) ^{δδ}	47 (31 - 71)	47 (36 - 56)	110 (63 - 158)	130 (75 - 189)

1

2 ^a Up to 2 controls were matched to each case by site, age group (5 - 11; 12 - 15; 16 - 18 years), and approximate +/- 3 week
3 date of admission, with preferential selection of controls closest in age to each case-patient.

4 ^b Other underlying conditions include neurologic/neuromuscular disease, oncologic history, autoimmune disease or
5 immunosuppression)

6 ^c A total of 24 MIS-C case-patients and 55 controls were considered partially vaccinated (defined as 1st dose received \geq 14
7 days before hospitalization; no 2nd dose or 2nd dose received 0 to 13 days before hospitalization). As a sensitivity analysis,
8 patients who had been vaccinated between 14 and 27 days before vaccination and their matched controls were added to the
9 cases included in our primary analysis. This added a total of 5 case-patients and 21 controls

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1 **FIGURE LEGENDS:**

2 **Figure 1:** Participant Flow Through a Study of Association Between BNT162b2 COVID-19 mRNA
 3 Vaccination and MIS-C

4 ^a Children who received a 2nd vaccine dose between 14 and 27 days prior to hospitalization were included in a
 5 sensitivity analysis examining the association between vaccination ≥ 14 days prior to hospitalization and MIS-C;
 6 however, they were excluded from the primary analysis.

7
 8 **Figure 2** Organ System Involvement among MIS-C case-patients.

- 9 A. Organ System Involvement, by Age Group
 10 B. Overlap in Organ System Involvement Among MIS-C Patients^b

11
 12 **Figure 3.** Clinical outcomes among MIS-C case-patients.

- 13 A. Proportion of MIS-C Patients requiring ICU admission, vasopressor support, and noninvasive or
 14 invasive mechanical ventilation.
 15 B. Comparison of MIS-C cases resulting in life support or death between vaccinated and
 16 unvaccinated patients, by period of variant predominance and by age group

17 ^a Visualization of intersecting organ system involvement among included MIS-C patients, including the number of
 18 patients with involvement of each organ system (left) and a combination matrix representing the number of MIS-C
 19 patients with specific combinations of overlapping organ system involvement.
 20

21 **Figure 4.** Association between MIS-C and Prior BNT162b2 Vaccination among children ages 5 - 18
 22 years.

Subgroup	Vaccinated case-patients / total case-patients (%)	Vaccinated control patients / total control patients (%)	Unadjusted odds ratio (95% CI)	Adjusted odds ratio (95% CI)
Overall				
≥ 28 Days since 2nd dose	24/304 (7.9)	156/502 (31.1)	0.19 (0.12 - 0.30)	0.16 (0.10 - 0.26)
By age group, y				
5 - 11	10/144 (6.9)	43/230 (18.7)	0.32 (0.16 - 0.67)	0.22 (0.10 - 0.52)
12 - 18	14/160 (8.8)	113/272 (41.5)	0.13 (0.07 - 0.25)	0.10 (0.05 - 0.19)
Ages 12 - 18 y, by period of variant predominance				
Delta	5/122 (4.1)	71/204 (34.8)	0.08 (0.03 - 0.21)	0.06 (0.02 - 0.17)
Omicron	9/38 (23.7)	42/68 (61.8)	0.19 (0.08 - 0.47)	0.08 (0.02 - 0.29)
Ages 12 - 18 y, interval				
28 - 120 Days since 2nd dose	7/153 (4.6)	52/211 (24.6)	0.15 (0.06 - 0.33)	0.10 (0.04 - 0.25)
≥ 121 Days since 2nd dose ^c	7/131 (5.3)	61/196 (31.1)	0.12 (0.06 - 0.28)	0.08 (0.03 - 0.22)

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^a Given similarities in the aOR point estimates by time interval between vaccine dose 2 and illness onset, the stratified analyses by period of variant predominance and age group used the subset of patients included at the 28-day timepoint

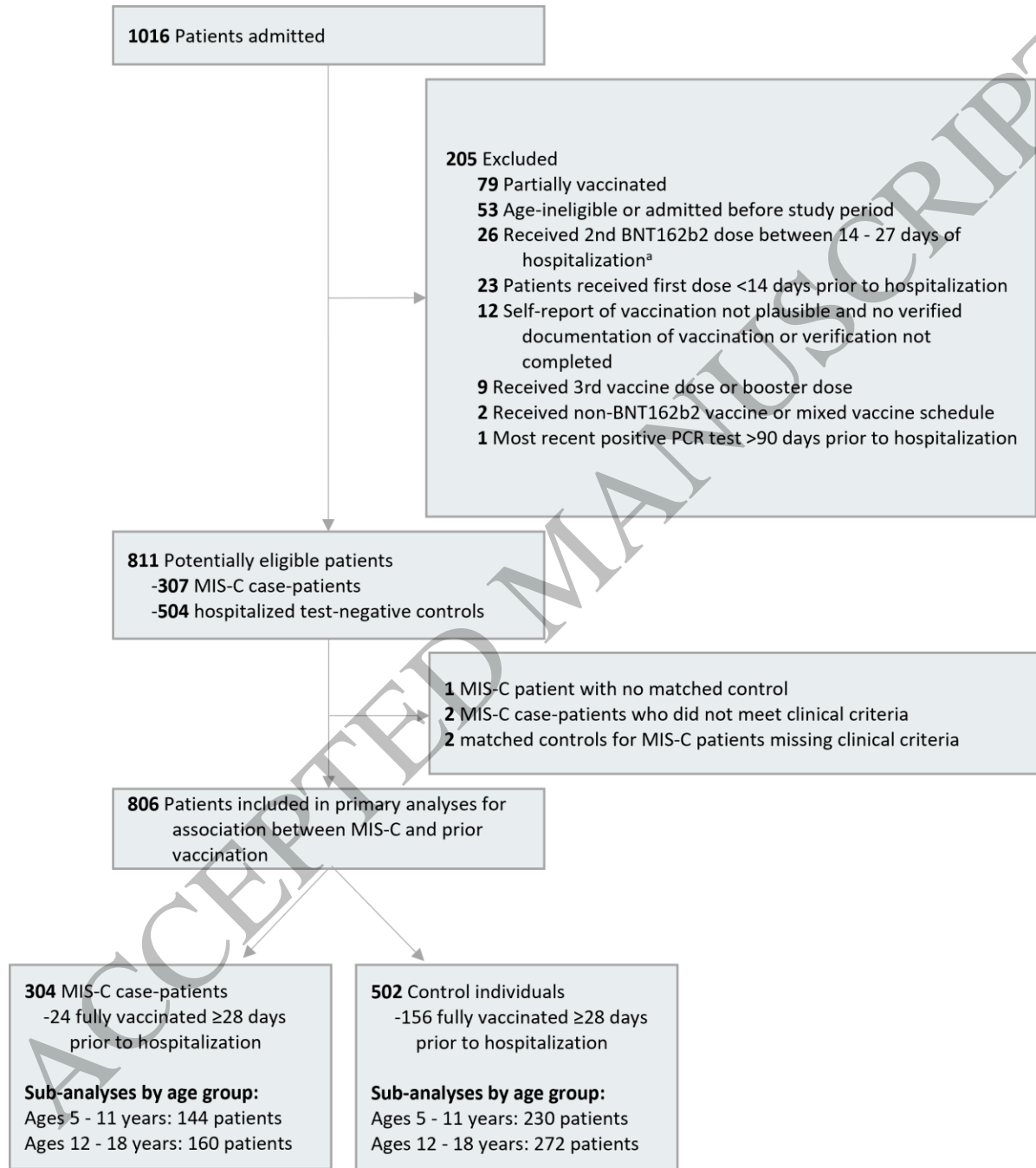
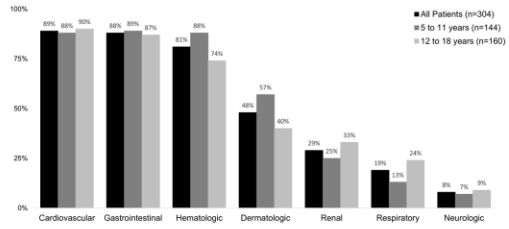


Figure 1
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Figure 2 Organ System Involvement among MIS-C case-patients.

A. Organ System Involvement, by Age Group



B. Overlap in Organ System Involvement Among MIS-C Patients

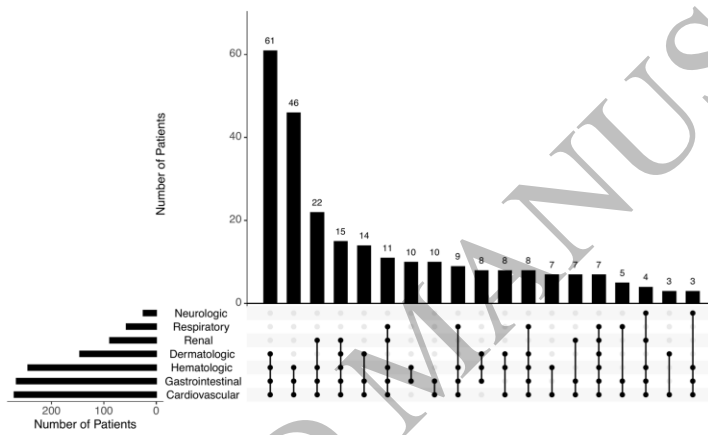
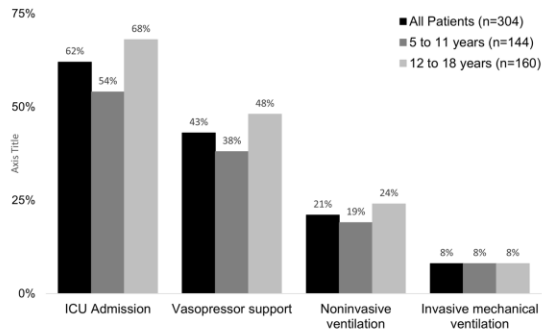


Figure 2
145x178 mm (x DPI)

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Figure 3. Clinical outcomes among MIS-C case-patients

A. Proportion of MIS-C Patients requiring ICU admission, vasopressor support, and noninvasive or invasive mechanical ventilation.



B. Comparison of MIS-C cases resulting in life support or death between vaccinated and unvaccinated patients, by period of variant predominance and by age group.

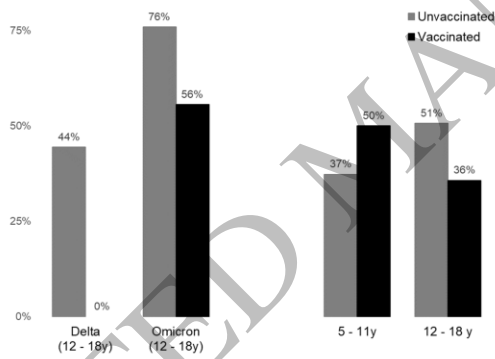


Figure 3
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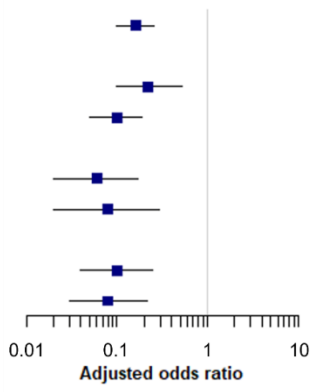


Figure 4
44x53 mm (x DPI)

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