



Paediatric Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome – Temporally Associated with SARS-CoV-2: infectious diseases perspective

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COVID-19 in children – what we thought would happen

Low numbers of cases of COVID-19

Similar rates of infection

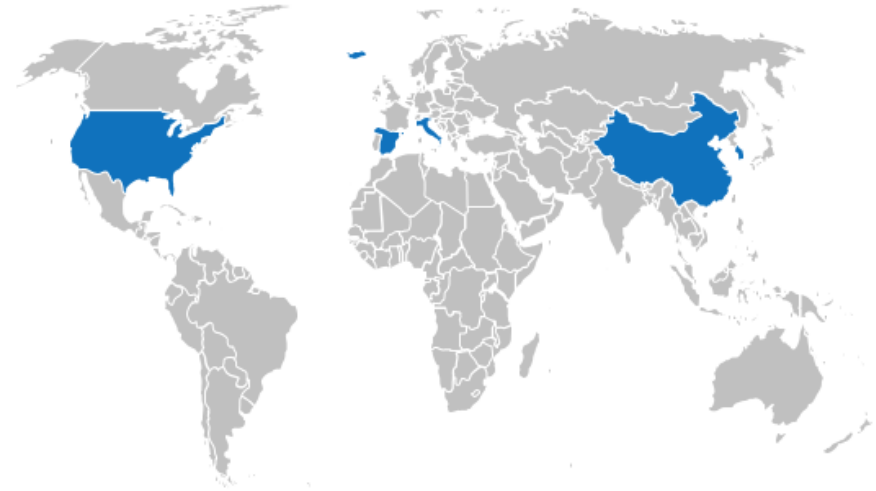
Asymptomatic or mild disease

Critical illness and death extremely rare

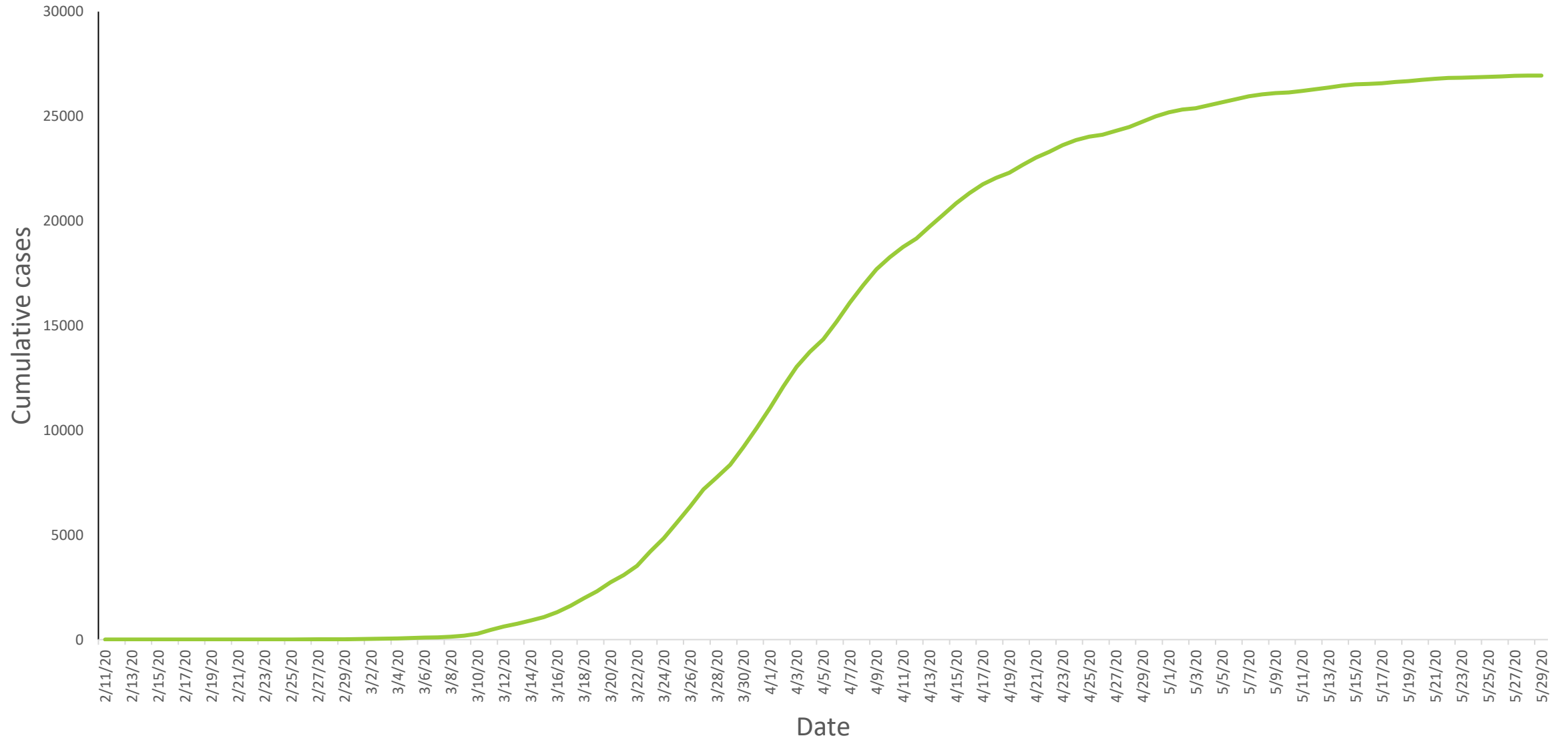
No risk factors

Blood parameters **not** like severe COVID-19 in adults

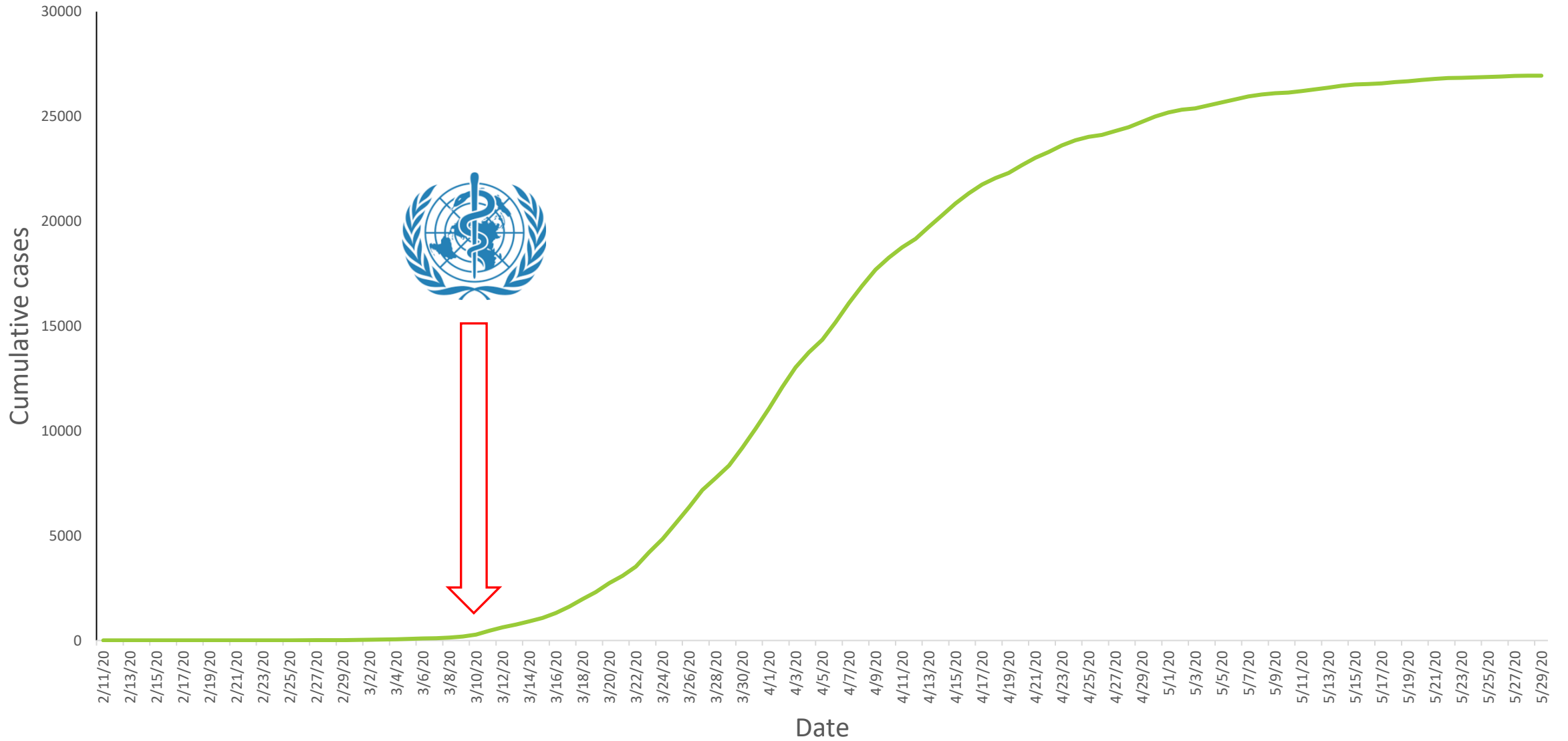
Early questions – **why is COVID-19 less common and less severe in children?**



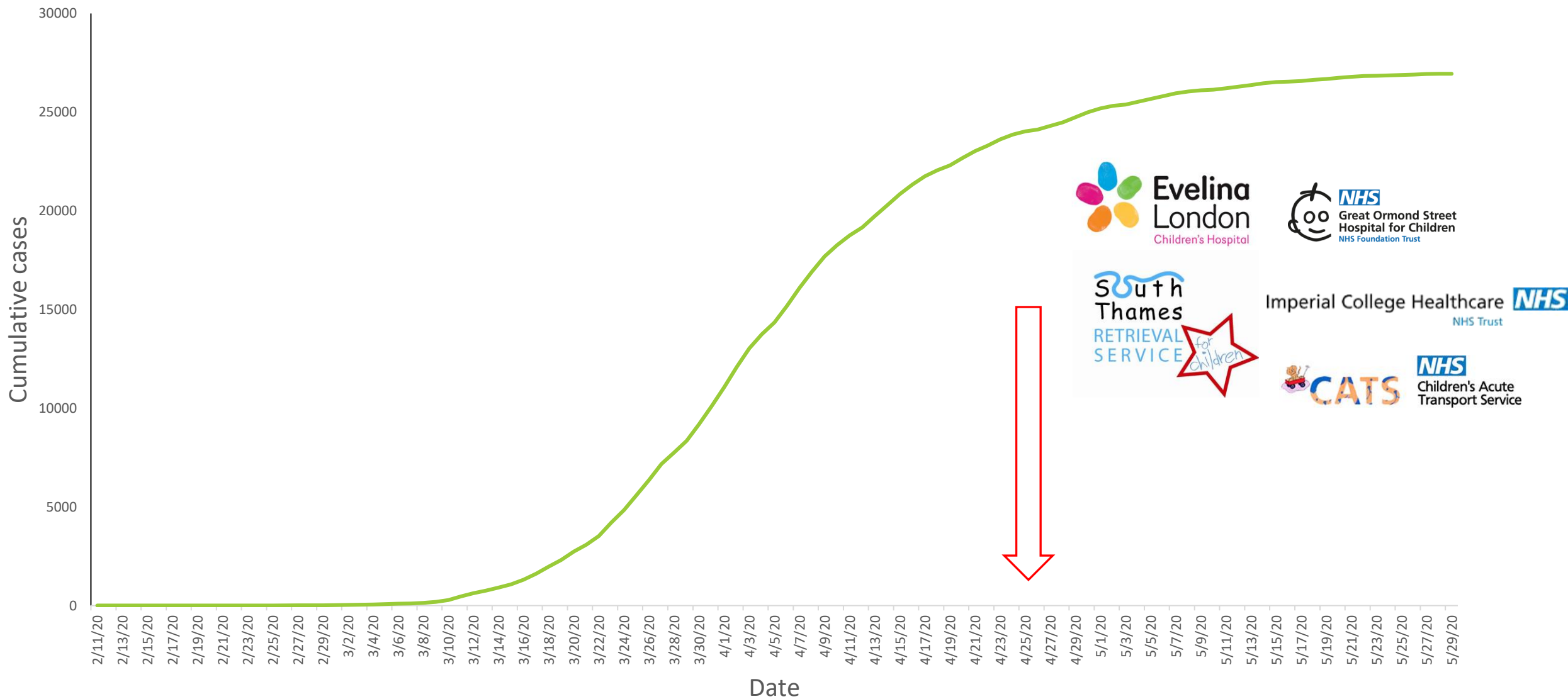
London cumulative lab-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases



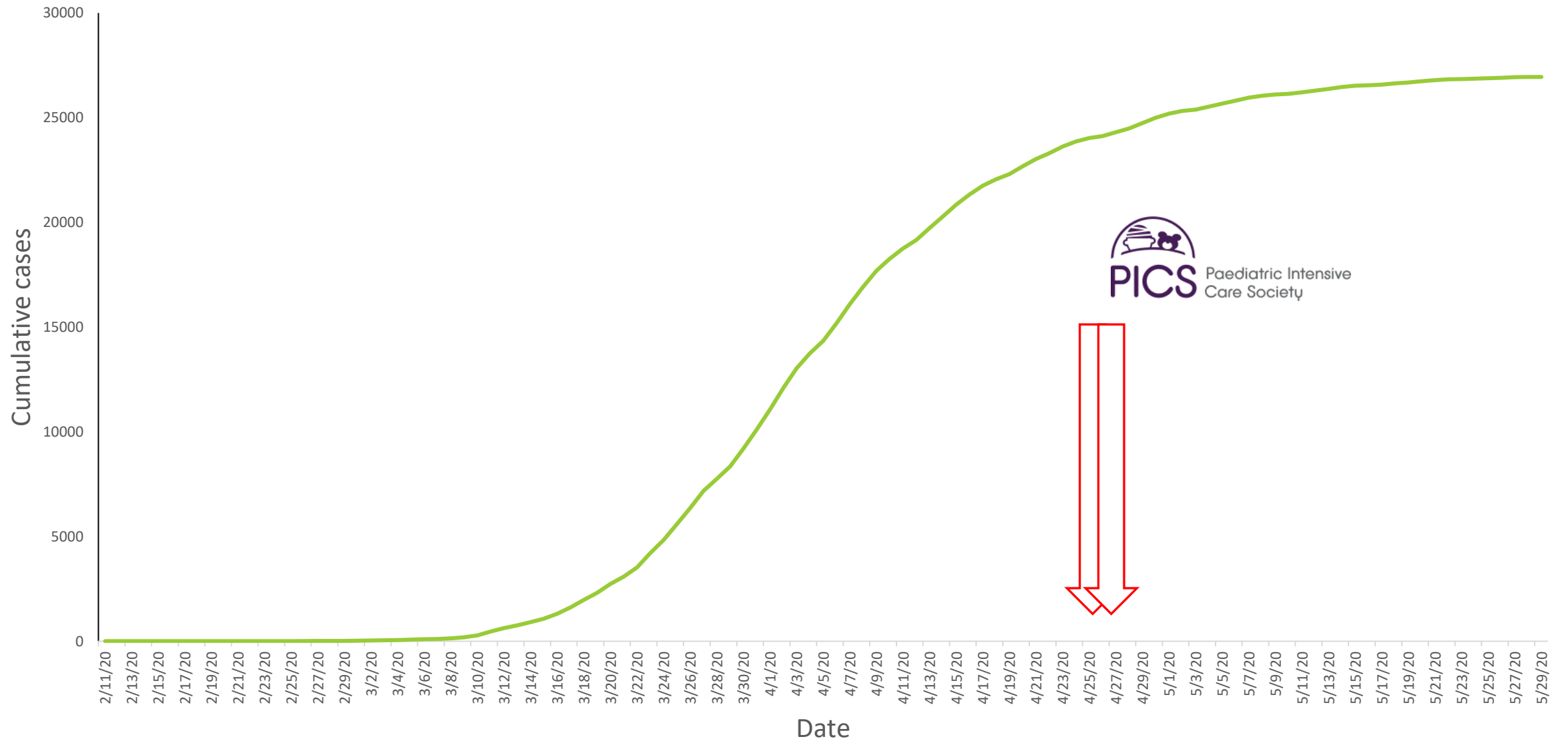
London cumulative lab-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases



London cumulative lab-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases



London cumulative lab-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases



Questions asked of the team

Is this real?

Is it an increase in the numbers of cases of a condition we know?

Is it linked to SARS-CoV-2?

Is it an outbreak of another infectious pathogen?

How can we raise awareness?

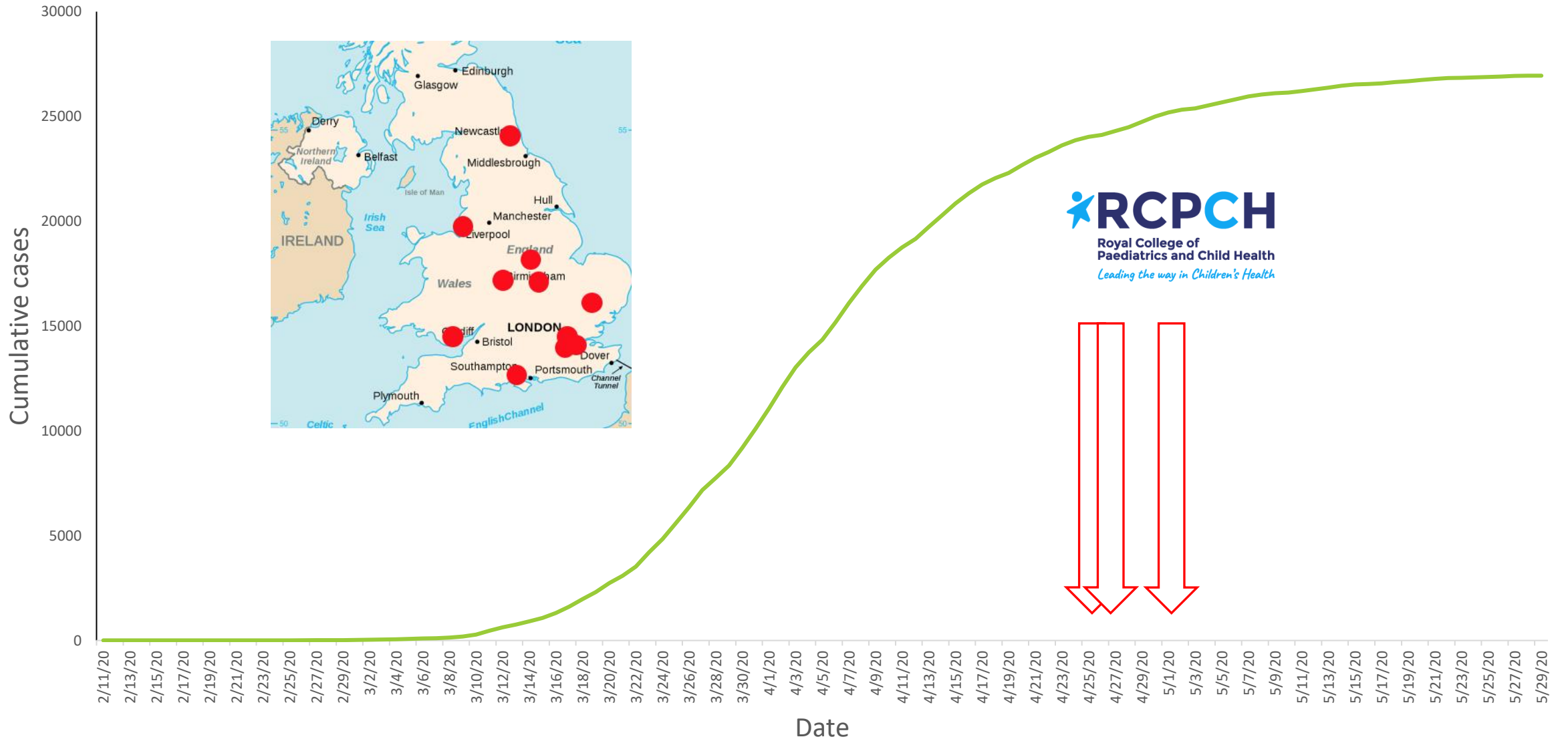
Where should the patients be looked after?

What investigations should be done?

Can we provide any guidance on specific treatment?



London cumulative lab-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases



Paediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome

Temporally Associated

with SARS-CoV2 (PIMS-TS)

Purpose of the case definition

To be broad enough to not miss cases

To include cases of other conditions that may have increased in frequency

To inform baseline surveillance

To raise awareness and promote early referral and entry in to research studies

Not to be dependent on a diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection

Not to be the final case definition of a new syndrome (if one is identified)



Case definition:

1. A child presenting with persistent fever, inflammation (neutrophilia, elevated CRP and lymphopaenia) and evidence of single or multi-organ dysfunction (shock, cardiac, respiratory, renal, gastrointestinal or neurological disorder) with additional features (see listed in [Appendix 1](#)). This may include children fulfilling full or partial criteria for Kawasaki disease.
2. Exclusion of any other microbial cause, including bacterial sepsis, staphylococcal or streptococcal shock syndromes, infections associated with myocarditis such as enterovirus (waiting for results of these investigations should not delay seeking expert advice).
3. SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing may be positive or negative

Clinical and lab features

Fever

Rash

Conjunctivitis

Abdominal pain

Diarrhoea

Vomiting

Headache

Shock

Myocardial dysfunction

ECG abnormalities

Coronary

Low lymphocytes

High neutrophils

High C reactive protein

Low albumin

High ferritin

High fibrinogen

High D-dimers

High troponin

High NT-BNP

SARS-CoV-2 PCR often negative
SARS-CoV-2 IgG positive in most

RCPCH guidance continued...

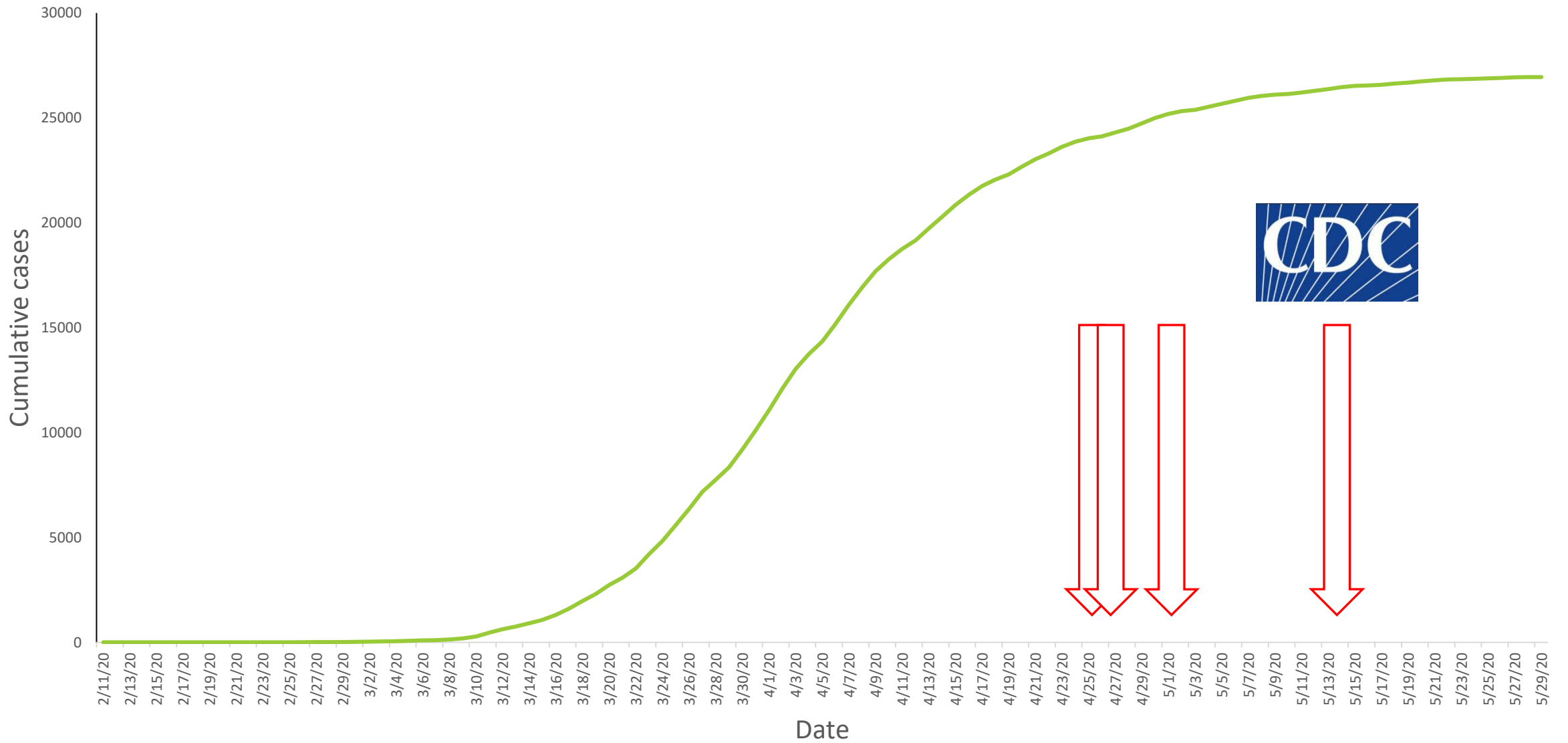
Early medical management

Monitoring

Treatment

Recruitment into observational studies and trials

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Case Definition for Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

- An individual aged <21 years presenting with feverⁱ, laboratory evidence of inflammationⁱⁱ, and evidence of clinically severe illness requiring hospitalization, with multisystem (≥2) organ involvement (cardiac, renal, respiratory, hematologic, gastrointestinal, dermatologic or neurological); **AND**
- No alternative plausible diagnoses; **AND**
- Positive for current or recent SARS-CoV-2 infection by RT-PCR, serology, or antigen test; or COVID-19 exposure within the 4 weeks prior to the onset of symptoms

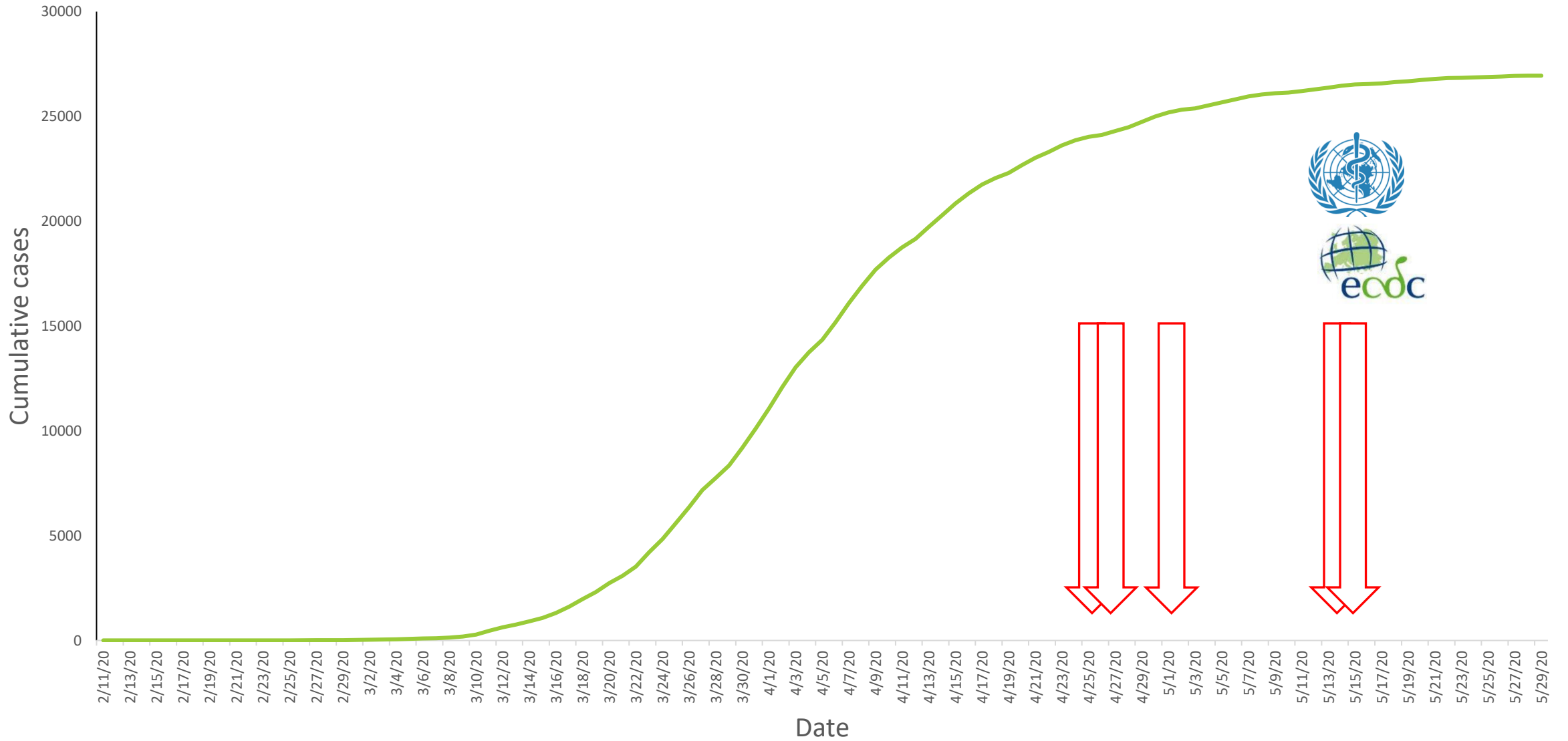
ⁱFever $\geq 38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ for ≥ 24 hours, or report of subjective fever lasting ≥ 24 hours

ⁱⁱIncluding, but not limited to, one or more of the following: an elevated C-reactive protein (CRP), erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), fibrinogen, procalcitonin, d-dimer, ferritin, lactic acid dehydrogenase (LDH), or interleukin 6 (IL-6), elevated neutrophils, reduced lymphocytes and low albumin

Additional comments

- Some individuals may fulfill full or partial criteria for Kawasaki disease but should be reported if they meet the case definition for MIS-C
- Consider MIS-C in any pediatric death with evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection

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Preliminary case definition^a

Children and adolescents 0–19 years of age with fever ≥ 3 days

AND two of the following:

- a) Rash or bilateral non-purulent conjunctivitis or muco-cutaneous inflammation signs (oral, hands or feet).
- b) Hypotension or shock.
- c) Features of myocardial dysfunction, pericarditis, valvulitis, or coronary abnormalities (including ECHO findings or elevated Troponin/NT-proBNP),
- d) Evidence of coagulopathy (by PT, PTT, elevated d-Dimers).
- e) Acute gastrointestinal problems (diarrhoea, vomiting, or abdominal pain).

AND

Elevated markers of inflammation such as ESR, C-reactive protein, or procalcitonin.

AND

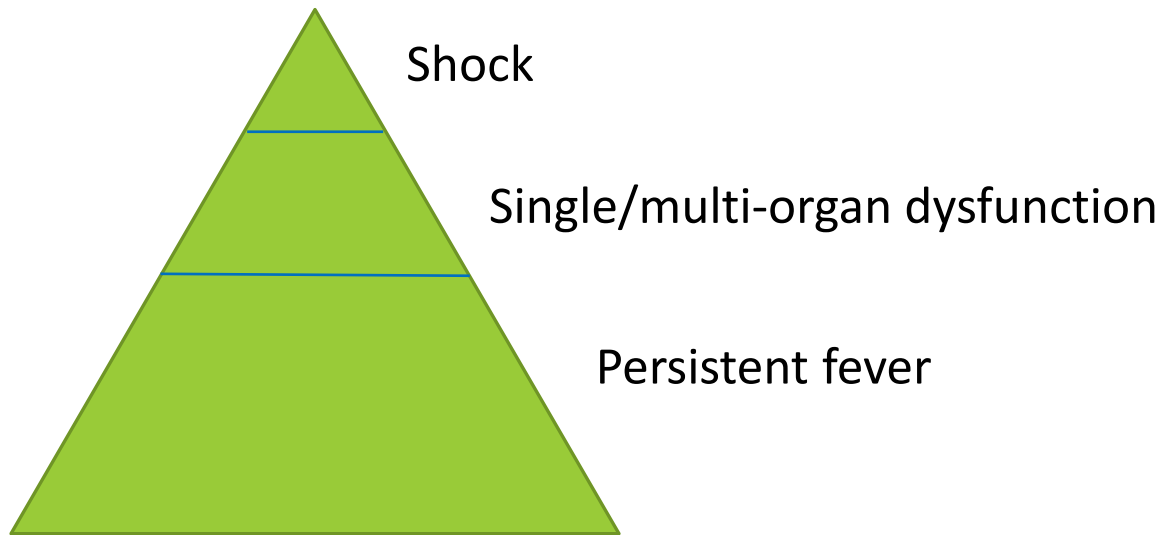
No other obvious microbial cause of inflammation, including bacterial sepsis, staphylococcal or streptococcal shock syndromes.

AND

Evidence of COVID-19 (RT-PCR, antigen test or serology positive), or likely contact with patients with COVID-19.

^a Consider this syndrome in children with features of typical or atypical Kawasaki disease or toxic shock syndrome.

What should be the definition PIMS-TS v2?



A set of
characteristic and
unique clinical
and laboratory
features

Next steps...

Link to SARS-CoV-2

Direct viral effect vs. host response

Risk factors

Age range – young adults?

Pathophysiology and biomarkers

Treatment – supportive care vs. antivirals vs. immunomodulation - Delphi

Long term outcomes – MDT clinics?

Implications for vaccine development and convalescent plasma



Summary

Acknowledgements

