Special Issue

Research Progress in Kawasaki Disease: Epidemiology, Treatment and Cardiovascular Outcomes

Message from the Guest Editor

Kawasaki disease (KD) is an acute vasculitis of unknown etiology that predominantly affects young children and remains the leading cause of acquired heart disease in childhood in developed countries. It is widely hypothesized to result from an abnormal immune response to an infectious trigger in genetically susceptible individuals, though the causative pathogenesis has yet to be identified. Treatment with intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) has significantly reduced the incidence of coronary artery aneurysms and improved long-term outcomes. Nevertheless, critical questions remain. However, the pathomechanisms, which drive coronary artery involvement, particularly in IVIG-resistant patients, remain poorly understood. There is a pressing need for improved risk stratification tools and biomarkers to improve predict treatment response and long-term prognosis. Additionally, the long-term cardiovascular risk in patients with and without overt coronary involvement remains incompletely understood.

Guest Editor

Dr. Andre Jakob

Division of Pediatric Cardiology and Intensive Care, University Hospital, LMU Munich, 81377 Munich, Germany

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Journal of Clinical Medicine Editorial Office MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5 4052 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +41 61 683 77 34 icm@mdpi.com

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