Supporting Information

Supplementary results
This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed. It is posted as supplied by the authors.

Appendix to: Ibrahim LF, Tham D, Chong V, et al. The characteristics of SARS-CoV-2-positive children who presented to Australian hospitals during 2020: a PREDICT network study. Med J Aust 2021; doi: 10.5694/mja2.51207.
Table 1. First presentations of SARS-CoV-2-positive children to COVID-19 testing clinics and emergency departments: patient characteristics

| Characteristic                          | All presentations | Clinic presentations | Emergency department presentations | Risk difference (percentage points) (95% CI) |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Number of patients*                    | 372               | 260 (70%)            | 112 (30%)                          | —                                          |
| Sex (girls)                            | 169 (45%)         | 117 (45%)            | 52 (46%)                           | –0.01 (–0.12 to 0.10)                      |
| Age                                    |                   |                      |                                    |                                            |
| < 12 months                            | 49 (13%)          | 21 (8%)              | 28 (25%)                           | –0.17 (–0.26 to –0.08)                     |
| 1–5 years                              | 154 (41%)         | 104 (40%)            | 50 (45%)                           | –0.05 (–0.16 to 0.06)                      |
| 6–10 years                             | 68 (18%)          | 50 (19%)             | 18 (16%)                           | 0.03 (–0.05 to 0.11)                       |
| > 10 years                             | 101 (27%)         | 85 (33%)             | 16 (14%)                           | 0.18 (0.10 to 0.27)                        |
| Epidemiological risk factors           |                   |                      |                                    |                                            |
| Contact with SARS-CoV-2-positive person| 268/351 (76%)     | 196/242 (81%)        | 72/109 (66%)                       | 0.15 (0.05 to 0.25)                        |
| Overseas travel in past 14 days        | 5/283 (2%)        | 3/192 (2%)           | 2/91 (2%)                          | –0.01 (–0.04 to 0.03)                      |
| Symptoms/signs: at time of swab        |                   |                      |                                    |                                            |
| Any symptom/sign                       | 220/357 (62%)     | 141/246 (57%)        | 79/111 (71%)                       | 0.14 (0.03 to 0.24)                        |
| None                                   | 137/357 (38%)     | 105/246 (43%)        | 32/111 (29%)                       | 0.14 (0.03 to 0.24)                        |
| Symptoms/signs: any time               |                   |                      |                                    |                                            |
| Any symptom/sign                       | 236/329 (72%)     | 152/222 (68%)        | 84/107 (79%)                       | –0.10 (–0.20 to –0.00)                     |
| None                                   | 93/329 (28%)      | 70/222 (32%)         | 23/107 (22%)                       | –0.10 (–0.20 to –0.00)                     |
| Fever/febrile (> 37.5°C)               | 149/316 (47%)     | 94/211 (45%)         | 55/105 (52%)                       | –0.08 (–0.20 to 0.04)                      |
| Stuffy/runny nose                      | 143/202 (71%)     | 94/127 (74%)         | 49/75 (65%)                        | 0.10 (–0.05 to 0.22)                       |
| Cough                                  | 137/213 (64%)     | 86/130 (66%)         | 51/83 (61%)                        | 0.05 (–0.10 to 0.18)                       |
| Sore throat                            | 61/184 (33%)      | 48/117 (41%)         | 13/67 (19%)                        | 0.22 (0.09 to 0.35)                        |
| Headache                               | 33/236 (14%)      | 26/152 (17%)         | 7/84 (8%)                          | 0.09 (0.00 to 0.17)                        |
| Difficulty breathing                   | 16/181 (9%)       | 5/107 (5%)           | 11/74 (15%)                        | –0.10 (–0.19 to –0.01)                     |
| Muscle ache                            | 13/236 (6%)       | 9/152 (6%)           | 4/84 (5%)                          | 0.01 (–0.05 to 0.07)                       |
| Diarrhoea                              | 11/236 (5%)       | 8/152 (5%)           | 3/84 (4%)                          | 0.02 (–0.04 to 0.07)                       |
| Anosmia                                | 4/236 (2%)        | 3/152 (2%)           | 1/84 (1%)                          | 0.01 (–0.02 to 0.04)                       |
| Comorbid conditions                    |                   |                      |                                    |                                            |
| Any condition                          | 53/291 (18%)      | 24/185 (13%)         | 29/106 (27%)                       | –0.14 (–0.24 to –0.05)                     |
| Asthma                                 | 24/286 (8%)       | 15/184 (8%)          | 9/102 (9%)                         | –0.01 (–0.07 to 0.06)                      |
| Heart disease                          | 8/284 (3%)        | 2/184 (1%)           | 6/100 (6%)                         | –0.05 (–0.10 to –0.00)                     |
| Immunosuppression/malignancy           | 2/283 (0.7%)      | 2/184 (1%)           | 0                                  | 0.01 (–0.00 to 0.03)                       |
| Prematurity                            | 5/283 (2%)        | 1/181 (1%)           | 4/102 (4%)                         | –0.03 (–0.07 to 0.01)                      |
| Diabetes mellitus                      | 2/283 (0.7%)      | 1/184 (1%)           | 1/99 (1%)                          | –0.00 (–0.03 to 0.02)                      |
| Cerebral palsy                         | 1/282 (0.3%)      | 0                    | 1 (1%)                             | –0.01 (–0.03 to 0.01)                      |
| Renal disease                          | 0                  | 0                    | 0                                  | —                                          |
| None reported                          | 238/291           | 24/185 (13%)         | 29/106 (27%)                       | –0.14 (–0.24 to –0.05)                     |

* Does not include 21 patients who were managed as hospital in the home patients without attending an emergency department or patients who tested positive while in hospital.
## Table 2. Clinical characteristics, investigations, and emergency department-initiated interventions

| Characteristic                                                                 | Value                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Clinical signs (N = 232: children with documented clinical examinations)**   |                                                                      |
| Wheeze                                                                        | 2 (1%)                                                              |
| Crepitation                                                                   | 3 (1%)                                                              |
| Pharyngitis or tonsillitis                                                    | 7 (3%)                                                              |
| **Laboratory and imaging findings**                                           |                                                                      |
| C-reactive protein (mg/L), median (IQR) [17 children, 19 presentations]       | 16 (< 5 to 56)                                                     |
| Elevated (above upper limit normal reference range, < 8 mg/L)                | 16/19 (84%)                                                        |
| Platelets (10⁹/L), median (IQR) [18 children, 21 presentations]              | 225 (210–294)                                                      |
| Abnormal (outside limits of normal reference range, 150–400 x 10⁹/L)         | 7/21 (33%)                                                         |
| Leucocytes (10⁹/L), median (IQR) [18 children, 21 presentations]              | 6.5 (4.9–7.6)                                                      |
| Abnormal (outside limits of normal reference range, 5.0–14.5 x 10⁹/L)        | 0/21                                                                |
| Neutrophils (10⁹/L), median (IQR) [18 children, 21 presentations]            | 3.2 (2.2–4.3)                                                      |
| Abnormal (outside limits of normal reference range, 1.5–8.0 x10⁹/L)          | 4/21 (19%)                                                         |
| Chest x-ray [9 children, 10 x-rays]                                          |                                                                     |
| Ground glass opacity                                                         | 1/10 (10%)                                                         |
| **Hospital interventions commenced in emergency department**                  |                                                                      |
| None                                                                          | 115/131 (88%)                                                      |
| Antibiotics                                                                   | 7 (5%)                                                              |
| Intravenous fluids                                                           | 5 (4%)                                                              |
| Steroids                                                                      | 4 (3%)                                                              |
| Analgesia                                                                     | 3 (2%)                                                              |
| Diabetic ketoacidosis protocol                                                | 1 (1%)                                                              |
| Intravenous immunoglobulins                                                  | 1 (1%)                                                              |
| Nasogastric hydration                                                         | 1 (1%)                                                              |
| Salbutamol                                                                    | 1 (1%)                                                              |
| Supplemental oxygen (oxygen saturation < 90%)                                 | 1 (1%)                                                              |