

## CHAPTER 5

### SURGICAL PROCESS AND NURSING CARE OF CHILDREN DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19

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#### INTRODUCTION

A new type of pneumonia that appeared in the form of an outbreak in Wuhan, Hubei province, China at the end of 2019, was identified and rapidly spread throughout the world and led to epidemics. The viral cause in patients admitted to the hospital with symptoms such as cough, fever, respiratory distress, diarrhea, and nausea in January 2020 was defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a new coronavirus (2019-nCoV) disease that was not seen before, and the disease was named COVID-19. Due to its close genetic similarity to SARS CoV, COVID-19 virus was named as SARS-CoV-2. While COVID-19 virus was initially seen in people working in the Wuhan South China seafood market, it soon spread around the world and was announced as the beginning of the pandemic by WHO on March 11, 2020. <sup>(1,2)</sup> People infected with COVID-19 virus were most commonly from 30-79 years age group, and the median age range of the disease was identified as 49-59 years. It is known that the disease is rarely seen in children under 15 years of age. Approximately 50% of the people infected with COVID-19 virus do not develop severe or noticeable symptoms while the others has symptoms such as fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, fatigue and myalgia. <sup>(3)</sup> “It was reported that among 1391 children evaluated in Wuhan Children’s Hospital for COVID-19, 171 children were diagnosed with the disease; 15.8% of them did not show any symptoms, 19.3% had upper respiratory infection and the most common symptom was fever in 41.5%. Fatigue, nasal congestion, vomiting

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