

## CHILDREN'S MERCY FETAL HEALTH CENTER

*A comprehensive multidisciplinary program providing prenatal consultation and diagnosis for complex congenital malformations and integrated, intensive care for those babies before, during and after delivery.*

- This center provides diagnosis and management of complex congenital malformations, including:
  - consultative services with a maternal/fetal medicine specialist
  - integrated access to a broad range of pediatric specialists prior to delivery
  - delivery services for babies with congenital conditions
  - Level III-c neonatal and pediatric subspecialty care as needed for these newborns
- The center opened in September 2009 with the establishment of the center's Perinatal Clinic, formally named the Consultative and Diagnostic Services program, headed by Timothy Bennett, MD, a maternal/fetal medicine specialist who has practiced in the Kansas City area for more than 20 years. Dr. Bennett also serves as Vice Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the UMKC School of Medicine. This outpatient service is located in the 5520 College Blvd. building at our Children's Mercy South campus in Overland Park.
- The program is focused on identifying fetuses who have been determined to have complex congenital malformations and who will benefit from advanced diagnostics and/or the availability of a comprehensive spectrum of pediatric specialists for consultative and diagnostic services (including perinatology, genetics, pediatric radiology, neonatology, pediatric anesthesiology and surgery, pediatric cardiology, pediatric gastroenterology and more).
- Examples of the congenital malformations to be seen at the center include congenital heart defects (hypoplastic left heart syndrome, transposition of the great arteries with intact septum), congenital diaphragmatic hernia or other defects associated with pulmonary hypoplasia (renal or skeletal dysplasia, cystic adenomatoid malformation) or airway compromise (cystic hygroma/cervical teratoma), or abdominal wall malformation.
- A key component of the new Fetal Health Center is the development of a delivery service to enable critically-ill newborns with complex congenital malformations to have immediate availability to pediatric and surgical subspecialty care. The new delivery center is located at Children's Mercy Hospital, allowing families to be in the same hospital as their newborn. The delivery service will be limited to those infants who would most benefit from immediate subspecialty or surgical intervention after birth. Mothers with complex health conditions or those with infants not anticipated to need immediate intervention would be expected to be delivered at the hospital most appropriate for their needs. The infant would be transferred to Children's Mercy if needed, as is currently done. The delivery service will open in early 2011.
- The continuum of care available at the Fetal Health Center provides state-of-the-art post-natal care in Children's Mercy's Level III-c Neonatal Intensive Care Unit as well as immediate on-site access to any of the hospital's pediatric subspecialties which the infant's condition may require.
- Children's Mercy is committed to working in partnership with the primary care physicians, obstetricians and maternal/fetal medicine physicians of our region to provide an integrated spectrum of services designed to achieve optimal outcomes for babies with complex congenital malformations. For more information about the Children's Mercy Fetal Health Center, call 913-696-5000.

Children's Mercy Fetal Health Center  
Perinatal Clinic  
5520 College Blvd., Suite 480  
Overland Park, KS 66211  
913-696-5000