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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

**CHILDREN'S MERCY DOCTORS PRESENT EXPERTISE AT FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN PEDIATRIC EMERGENCIES IN SAUDI ARABIA**

*Doctors share expertise in Injury & Disability Prevention at conference starting March 23<sup>d</sup>*

**Kansas City, MO – March 23, 2010** – Many of the world's leading experts in pediatric emergency medicine are sharing their expertise today at a first-of-its-kind conference at the King Fahad Cultural Centre in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The conference aims to enhance knowledge, improve skills and raise the standard of medical care of critical pediatric patients who visit emergency rooms.

The conference presenters include two leading pediatric emergency medicine and injury prevention experts and Children's Mercy physicians [Denise Dowd, MD, MPH](#), chief of the section of Injury Prevention, Director of Research, and Professor of Pediatrics, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine; and [Jane Knapp, MD](#), Associate Chair for Education, Director Graduate Medical Education, and Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. Drs. Knapp and Dowd are among a select few international physicians invited to participate in this inaugural conference to share their expertise with Middle Eastern physicians.

At the March 23-25 conference experts from leading medical centers, academia, and the private sector in the U.S., Saudi Arabia, Europe and Australia will exchange knowledge centering on evidence-based practice in the management of critically ill and injured children.

"It is an honor to be invited to assist internationally in this manner. Not only will we teach, we will learn a great deal as well," says Dr. Denise Dowd. "Dr. Hisham Al Omran, a Saudi physician on the conference organizing committee, was one of our former Emergency Department fellows. To see him take his Children's Mercy training and apply it by building the first pediatric emergency medicine clinical program in Saudi Arabia is wonderful."

Among the clinical applications to be discussed include Upper Airway Obstruction; Orthopedic Emergencies: Fractures; Benchmarking and Overcrowding in the Emergency Department; and The Approach to Ingestions (Pediatric Poisonings) – all presented by Dr. Knapp. Dr. Dowd will present How to Approach the Biggest Killer in Saudi Arabia; Children Have the Right to Be Protected; and Head Injury.

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The conference will also facilitate exchanges that help educate international physicians about the importance of specialty care in improving survival rates of critically ill and injured children. "I am excited about the conference, and the opportunity to learn and share clinical practices. I am also honored to take part in this conference, and help a former Children's Mercy fellow realize his dream of bringing this international pediatric emergency medicine conference to his home country," says Dr. Jane Knapp.

Full conference and speaker information can be found at: [www.icpem.com](http://www.icpem.com)

### **About Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics**

Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, located in Kansas City, Mo., is one of the nation's top pediatric medical centers. The 314-bed hospital provides care for children from birth through the age of 18, and has been recognized by the American Nurses Credentialing Center with Magnet designation for excellence in nursing services, and ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of "America's Best Children's Hospitals." Its faculty of 600 pediatricians and researchers across more than [40 subspecialties](#) are actively involved in clinical care, pediatric research, and educating the next generation of pediatric subspecialists. For more information about Children's Mercy and its research, visit [childrensmercy.org](http://childrensmercy.org). For breaking news and videos, follow us on [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#).

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