

For immediate release

Children's Mercy Unveils New State-of-the-Art EC145 Helicopter ***First in the region to provide this advanced transportation option***

(Kansas City, Mo. – September 10, 2009) Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics adds a new state of the art EC145 helicopter to its fleet. The EC145 combines size, performance and advanced technologies, and is a perfect addition to the award-winning Children's Mercy Critical Care Transport fleet; which also includes 8 state-of-the-art ambulances and a custom-equipped fixed wing aircraft for longer transports.

The custom-built EC145 is the first of its kind in the region, and has advanced safety features not yet required by the FAA, including energy attenuating seats and an enhanced ground proximity and traffic warning systems. In addition, the EC145 allows our pilots to safely fly in more restricted weather and low light conditions with additional features including night vision goggles and the new Instrument Flight Rules with digital autopilot. This kid-friendly helicopter is a traveling Emergency Room that allows Children's Mercy to quickly provide outstanding care at the bedside of critically ill children of all ages throughout the region.

"The EC145 helicopter is the perfect complement to our fleet. With the EC145, we look forward to continuing to rapidly and safely provide advanced transport options for area medical centers, and quality care to critically ill newborns and children throughout our region," says Karen Cox, RN, PhD, FAAN, Executive Vice President and Co-COO.

Children's Mercy Critical Care Transport is a dedicated pediatric and neonatal transport program, and one of the top 3 dedicated air medical transport programs in the country. In 2007, the Children's Mercy Critical Care Transport was named "Transport Program of the Year" by the Association of Air Medical Services. The 2007 award as top overall program came on the heels of being named best fixed wing program in 2006 and best ground transport program in 2005. The "triple crown" is a first; no other program has ever won all three awards, let alone consecutively. Children's Mercy is one of just two neonatal and pediatric specialty transport teams to receive the award.

Children's Mercy Critical Care Transport is one of the busiest programs in the country. Each month, the specialized teams of Children's Mercy employees make close to 400 transports in Children's Mercy ambulances, helicopters or its airplane. Children's Mercy transports nearly 5,000 patients from across the U.S. each year, in addition to numerous international transports.

About Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics

Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics in Kansas City, Mo. is one of the nation's top pediatric medical centers. Designated as a Magnet hospital for excellence in nursing services, and ranked in 2009 by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of "America's Best Children's Hospitals," Children's Mercy provides outstanding pediatric care for children from birth through the age of 18. With a 314-bed facility, Level IIIc neonatal intensive care unit, Level I pediatric trauma center, faculty of 600 pediatricians, and [40 subspecialties](#), it is one of the largest and most comprehensive pediatric medical centers in the country. In addition to a mission of caring for children regardless of their family's ability to pay, Children's Mercy is actively involved in clinical care, pediatric research, and educating the next generation of pediatric subspecialists. More information about Children's Mercy

and its research can be found on our Web site at ChildrensMercy.org. For breaking news and videos, follow us on [Twitter](#), [You Tube](#) and [Facebook](#).

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