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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. DEV MAULIK, CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI – KANSAS CITY, TO LEAD THE NEW CHILDREN’S MERCY FETAL HEALTH CENTER

Kansas City, Mo – January 15, 2010 – Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics announces that Dev Maulik, MD, PhD, FACOG, FRCOG will be the director of the hospital’s Fetal Health Center. The center, created in cooperation with the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, will provide integrated, multidisciplinary care for infants with serious congenital birth defects before, during and after delivery.

Dr. Maulik is an internationally-recognized maternal/fetal medicine specialist who has practiced in Kansas City and New York for more than 30 years. He also serves as Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Professor of Basic Science at the UMKC School of Medicine; and Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Director of the Maternal Fetal Medicine Fellowship Program at Truman Medical Center.

“The Fetal Health Center will allow Children’s Mercy to start our existing state-of-the-art care for critically-ill newborns before a child is even born, and continue through delivery and post-natal care. With a specialized delivery service, we will also be able to offer integrated care and peace of mind for healthy pregnant women who previously would have to be separated from their newborns at birth,” says Randall L. O’Donnell, PhD, president and CEO at Children’s Mercy.

“This collaboration between the departments of pediatrics and obstetrics brings together the expertise to offer the highest level of service for the highest risk babies. It also brings together experts to continually research the best ways to improve pregnancy outcomes,” says Betty M. Drees, MD, dean of the UMKC School of Medicine.

The first phase of the Fetal Health Center is an outpatient clinic which opened in September 2009 at Children’s Mercy College Boulevard Clinics in Overland Park, KS. The clinic provides prenatal diagnosis and consultation for mothers of fetuses with complex birth defects, and is headed by Timothy Bennett, MD. Dr. Bennett, a maternal/fetal medicine specialist, has practiced in Kansas City for more than 20 years, and serves as vice-chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. The Fetal Health Center will also provide integrated multidisciplinary care following diagnosis and neonatal and pediatric subspecialty care for these infants after birth. Phase two of the center, which includes a delivery service for healthy mothers with babies who have been diagnosed with serious congenital birth defects, will be added in late 2010.

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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. Recognized by both the American Nurses Credentialing Center for excellence in nursing services, and ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of "America's Best Children's Hospitals" in 2009, Children's Mercy continues to provide 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](#), [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#).

About the UMKC School of Medicine

Founded in 1971, the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine offers an innovative approach to medical training, and continues to attract top students from across the country. From its combined baccalaureate/doctor of medicine curriculum to a docent system that emphasizes small group learning, the UMKC School of Medicine has remained a trendsetter in medical education. For more information about how the UMKC School of Medicine is advancing the health of our community through education, research and service, visit www.med.umkc.edu.

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