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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Parents Get Tough Questions Answered by Top Pediatric Health Experts in New Podcast Series

Children's Mercy launches Children's Mercy Pediatric PodCalls

KANSAS CITY, Mo., September 26, 2011 –Parents, caregivers and other physicians nationwide can now benefit from a virtual consultation with top pediatric experts about some of the toughest issues parents face – from the role religion plays in treatments to controlling their kids' diets and much more.

Children's Mercy Pediatric PodCalls features [John Lantos, MD](#), Director of the [Children's Mercy Bioethics Center](#), in probing discussions with pediatric experts about some of the ethical questions affecting parents and the health of their children.

"Parents often ask themselves whether they are doing the right thing for their kids' health," said Dr. Lantos. "There is a lot of information out there, but not all of it is accurate. This podcast series gives parents a reliable source that provides perspective straight from pediatric experts on the questions parents often struggle to answer."

With more new parents expressing concerns about the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine, the most recent podcast, "*MMR Vaccine: Does it Cause Autism?*" clarifies what the latest scientific research says about MMR and its suggested links to autism. In the podcast, Dr. Lantos is joined by [Mary Anne Jackson, MD](#), Chief of [Infectious Disease](#), at Children's Mercy, a nationally recognized expert on the issue.

"A growing number of parents have concerns about the vaccine, and it's an issue that gets a lot of attention," said Dr. Lantos. "Parents need help navigating information that often seems to conflict. The podcast format allows them to hear directly from one of the leading experts on the topic."

You can listen to the latest *Children's Mercy Pediatric PodCalls* podcast "*MMR Vaccine: Does it Cause Autism?*" at the [Children's Mercy Bioethics Center](#), [Children's Mercy Pediatric Bioethics Blog](#), and on [iTunes](#). Upcoming podcast topics include childhood obesity, spanking, media consumption and the role of religion in children's medical care.

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 or download our mobile phone app *CMH4YOU* for all phone types. For breaking news and videos, follow us on [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#).

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