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*For immediate release*

## **Children's Mercy Ranked Among the Best Pediatric Hospitals in All 10 Specialties Ranked by U.S. News & World Report's 2011 "America's Best Children's Hospitals"**

**Kansas City, Mo. – May 17, 2011** – Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics ranks among the nation's top pediatric medical centers for the fourth year in a row, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* 2011 "America's Best Children's Hospitals." The America's Best Children's Hospitals includes the top 50 pediatric hospitals in 10 major subspecialties. Children's Mercy ranked in all 10 subspecialties (No. 10) **Nephrology**, (No. 21) **Urology**, (No. 20) **Orthopedics**, (No. 24) **Gastroenterology**, (No. 32) **Cancer**, (No. 36) **Cardiology & Heart Surgery**, (No. 36) **Pulmonology**, (No. 37) **Neonatology**, (No. 39) **Diabetes & Endocrinology** and (No. 40) **Neurology & Neurosurgery**.

Recognizing the strength of our advanced treatment and research, three Children's Mercy specialties moved up the 2011 list versus last year's list to rank in the top 25 children's hospitals (Gastroenterology, Orthopedics and Urology), and Nephrology moved up to rank among the top 10 pediatric subspecialty teams in the nation.

"This is validation of what we and the children we serve already know. Children's Mercy is one of the best children's hospitals in the nation, providing high quality care and cutting edge research across more than 40 subspecialties," says Children's Mercy president and CEO Randall L. O'Donnell, PhD.

The new rankings recognize the top 50 children's hospitals in 10 specialties. Now in its fifth year, Best Children's Hospitals pulls together clinical and operational data from a lengthy survey, completed by the majority of the 177 hospitals asked to participate for the 2011-12 rankings. The survey asks hundreds of questions about survival rates, nurse staffing, subspecialist availability, and many more pieces of critical information difficult or impossible for those in charge of a child's care to find on their own. The data from the survey is combined with recommendations from pediatric specialists on the hospitals they consider best for the treatment and care of children with chronic illnesses.

For the full rankings and methodology, visit <http://bit.ly/j3EYLF>.

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