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*For immediate release*

**Ten Children's Mercy Physicians Selected Among the Nation's Top Doctors**  
**Physicians selected by their peers for the first U.S. News "Top Doctors" list; Four are among the top 1% in the nation in their specialties**

**Kansas City, Mo. – July 29, 2011** – U.S. News named 10 physicians from Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics to their "Top Doctors" list. The first "Top Doctors" list was developed in collaboration with Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., publisher of *America's Top Doctors* and other guides. Physicians nationwide nominated their peers who excel in their specialty, and who they felt were most worthy of referrals. The Children's Mercy doctors on the inaugural list are:

**Uri S. Alon, MD** - Pediatric Nephrologist  
**Walter Andrews, MD** - Pediatric Surgeon  
**Kimberly Gandy, MD** - Pediatric Heart Surgeon  
**Sarah E. Hampl, MD** - Pediatrician  
**Maxine Hetherington, MD\*** - Pediatric Hematologist/Oncologist  
**John D. Lantos, MD\*** - Pediatrician, Director of Center for Bioethics  
**Gary K Lofland, MD** - Pediatric Heart Surgeon  
**Scott E. Olitsky, MD\*** - Pediatric Ophthalmologist  
**Michael Spaulding-Barclay, MD** - Adolescent Medicine Specialist  
**Bradley Warady, MD\*** - Pediatric Nephrologist

Based on their two decades of work in gathering data about top doctors across the country, Castle Connolly estimated that four (\*) of the Children's Mercy doctors were among the top 1% in the nation in their specialty.

"Top Doctors" are identified by location and hospital affiliation across a wide range of specialties and subspecialties for more than 2,000 diseases, medical issues and procedures. Doctors across the country nominated up to 10 other doctors in their own specialty, and up to 3 per specialty in other specialties.

Earlier this year, Children's Mercy was also ranked among the nation's top pediatric medical centers for all 10 specialties ranked by U.S. News' 2011 "America's Best Children's Hospitals."

For the full rankings and methodology of the "Top Doctors" list, visit <http://bit.ly/pLNC4R>

**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 317-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 as one of "America's Best Children's Hospitals" in all specialties they rank. 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](#).