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## **Children's Mercy Ranked Among the Best Pediatric Hospitals Honored by U.S. News & World Report's 2009 "America's Best Children's Hospitals"**

**Kansas City, MO – June 18, 2009** – Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics ranks among the nation's top pediatric hospitals for the second time, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* 2009 "America's Best Children's Hospitals." The listing will be published online at [usnews.com/childrenshospitals](http://usnews.com/childrenshospitals), and featured in the magazine's August issue, available on newsstands starting July 21.

The America's Best Children's Hospitals, is the most extensive listing of its kind, and includes the top 30 pediatric hospitals in 10 specialties. Children's Mercy ranked in five specialties: (No. 21) [Urology](#); (No. 23) [Diabetes & Endocrine Disorders](#); (No. 26) [Digestive Disorders](#); (No. 27) [Orthopedics](#); and (No. 29) [Respiratory Disorders](#).

The methodology behind this year's rankings weighed a three-part blend of reputation, outcome, and care-related measures such as nursing care, advanced technology, credentialing, and other factors. The hospitals were judged based on a combination of opinions from pediatric specialists about the hospitals they would recommend for the sickest children, and data gathered in a 65-page survey.

"We are proud of the quality care our entire staff provides, and being recognized among the best children's hospitals in the nation. This honor reinforces our commitment to provide the finest medical care to children everywhere," says Children's Mercy president and CEO Randall L. O'Donnell, PhD.

Ranking-eligible facilities were largely drawn from two membership categories of the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI): freestanding children's hospitals, or "hospitals within a hospital" (large, multidisciplinary pediatric departments within a medical center). Several non-NACHRI members were added because of known expertise or at the recommendation of experts.

### **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 the American Nurses Credentialing Center for excellence in nursing services, Children's Mercy was again designated as a Magnet hospital, and became the first hospital in Missouri or Kansas to receive redesignation. With a 314-bed facility, Level IIIc neonatal intensive care unit, Level I pediatric trauma center, faculty of more than 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](http://childrensmercy.org).

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