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Cincinnati Children's third in U.S. News' best pediatric hospital ranking

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Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center moved up in the 2008 listing of best pediatric hospitals in the United States, compiled by U.S. News & World Report.

The hospital ranked third of 30 hospitals listed, with a score of 67.5 out of a possible 100, according to U.S. News' Web site. It ranked seventh in the nation last year.

Cincinnati Children's also scored high in the specialty areas the magazine ranked: fourth for cancer treatment; third for digestive disorders; eighth for heart and heart surgery; sixth for neonatal care; 17th for neurology and neurosurgery; and third for respiratory disorders.

U.S. News ranked hospitals according to several criteria: recommendations by panels of experts in specialty areas; a survey of more than 1,100 pediatricians nationwide; and figures supplied by the hospitals. Scoring was based on reputation, outcomes and care-related criteria like nurse staffing, technologies available and patient volume.

Of 143 pediatric hospitals contacted, 113 provided information, the magazine said. The figures were compiled by North Carolina-based **RTI International**.

Three other Ohio hospitals made the ranking: Cleveland's Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital ranked fifth; Children's Hospital-Cleveland Clinic was 14th; and Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus was 15th. The top-ranked pediatric care facility was Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

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