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Children's ranks among best in nation

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Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center is one of the top five children's hospitals in the country, according to Parents magazine's 10 Best Children's Hospitals survey.

Cincinnati Children's ranked fourth among more than 100 children's hospitals surveyed. The rankings are based primarily on overall quality; in addition, Parents judged hospitals based on pediatric specialty areas. Cincinnati Children's ranked in the top 10 in newborn intensive care, cancer care, heart care, pulmonary care and emergency care.

The results will appear in the February 2009 issue of Parents, on newsstands Jan. 13.

"Every parent wants to make the most informed decisions about their child's health, and that's especially important when a child is facing a serious illness," Dana Points, editor in chief of Parents, said in a press release. "We created this guide with the hope of making the difficult process of choosing the right hospital a little easier."

Hospitals are ranked on their responses to questions in the following areas: survival rates for childhood cancer, pediatric heart disease, and other critical conditions; their experience in performing certain complex procedures; the depth of the research program; safeguards to prevent medical errors; staffing ratios and quality; waiting times in the emergency department; community outreach; and services that address the emotional needs of sick children and their families.

Parents is published monthly by **Meredith Corp.**

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