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Cook Children's Receives Fourth Consecutive Magnet® Designation for Nursing Excellence

Cook Children's Medical Center becomes first freestanding children's hospital in North Texas and 10th in the world to receive esteemed recognition four times in a row

Fort Worth, Texas – Cook Children's Medical Center achieved its fourth consecutive Magnet® designation from the American Nursing Credentialing Center (ANCC), making it one of only 10 freestanding children's hospitals in the world to receive this prestigious recognition four times in a row.

The Magnet® Recognition Program is the gold standard in nursing excellence and validation of high quality patient outcomes. Research shows Magnet® hospitals have increased patient satisfaction, decreased length of hospitalizations, and lower mortality rates, as well as above average nurse-satisfaction and retention rates.

“This recognition is another example of the incredible culture of excellence at Cook Children's,” said Nancy Cychol, chief of hospital services and affiliate ventures at Cook Children's Medical Center. “Our nurses go above and beyond every day to elevate the experience for our patients, families, and staff.”

Only 8% of the approximately 6,000 hospitals in the U.S. are Magnet® designated. Cook Children's is the first freestanding children's hospital in North Texas to receive its fourth consecutive designation. Fewer than 1% of hospitals receive Magnet® recognition four times in a row, ranking Cook Children's among an elite group of high performing medical centers. Hospitals must re-apply for the designation every four years. Cook Children's has been recognized consistently since 2006.

Consideration for Magnet® designation is a rigorous process, which included providing more than 100 examples of nursing excellence at Cook Children's, participation from nursing staff across nearly 70 departments, as well as an onsite visit, which was virtual due to COVID-19. Evaluators were particularly impressed with Cook Children's highly competitive [nurse residency program](#), outpatient clinics, and [Heart Center](#).

“It's important to realize that every single example of nursing excellence provided to the ANCC was above the call of duty. These were programs, processes, and curriculum developed by nurses to move the needle on quality and safety outcomes,” said Cheryl Petersen, chief nursing officer at Cook Children's. “This is what sets Magnet® hospitals apart from other hospitals. It is acknowledgment of forward-thinking innovation, research, and high-level training. We are so proud of what our nurses continue to achieve.”

About Cook Children's

Cook Children's Health Care System embraces an inspiring Promise – to improve the health of every child in our region through the prevention and treatment of illness, disease and injury. Based in Fort Worth, Texas, we're proud of our long and rich tradition of serving our community.

Our not-for-profit organization encompasses nine companies – a medical center, two surgery centers, a physician network, home health services and a health plan. It also includes Child Study Center at Cook Children's, Cook Children's Health Services Inc., and Cook Children's Health Foundation. With more than 60 primary, specialty and urgent care locations throughout Texas, families can access our top-ranked specialty programs and network of services to meet their unique needs.

We've worked to improve the health of children from across our primary service area of Denton, Hood, Johnson, Parker, Tarrant and Wise counties for more than 100 years. Based on the exceptional care we provide, patients travel to Cook Children's from around the country and the globe to receive life-saving pediatric care built on leading technology, extraordinary collaboration and the art of caring.

For more information, visit cookchildrens.org.

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