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Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center ranked third in the nation for the seventh consecutive year in U.S. News and World Report's 2017-18 Best Children's Hospitals. There were 187 children's hospitals surveyed this year.

"It is gratifying but humbling to rank among the best year after year," said Michael Fisher president and CEO of Cincinnati Children's. "The credit goes to our employees, both on the front lines and behind the scenes, who work hard to earn the trust of each patient and family that come to us for care."

The Best Children's Hospitals survey highlights the top 50 pediatric centers in the nation in 10 specialties. Cincinnati Children's is No. 3 on the Honor Roll, which includes only those 10 pediatric hospitals with the highest rankings across all specialties.

Cincinnati Children's was ranked among the top five in seven of the 10 specialties, including a No. 3 ranking in Nephrology, Gastroenterology/GI Surgery, Neurology/Neurosurgery and Urology; and a No. 4 ranking in Orthopedics and Pulmonology. Cancer placed number No. 5, moving up seven spots from last year – the most of any specialty. Heart moved up two spots to No. 6, its highest placement since 2013. Endocrinology ranked No. 7, once again in the top ten.

Each hospital's score is based on a variety of patient outcomes, the delivery of evidence-based processes of care, and the presence of advanced healthcare technologies and staff resources. The remainder is based on expert opinion among pediatric subspecialists throughout the country.

According to U.S. News, it publishes its rankings to provide patients and families with a tool that could help narrow their search for a hospital suited to a patient whose medical issue calls for an especially high level of skilled care.