



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Maria-Cristina Javier Graduates from Children's Mercy Center for Pediatric Bioethics Certificate Program in Pediatric Bioethics

Dr. Javier joins 26 graduates from the 2013-2014 class

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 15 , 2014 –Dr. Javier a neonatologist at the Betty H. Cameron Women and Children's Hospital in Wilmington, NC is among 26 graduates of the Children's Mercy Center for Pediatric Bioethics 2013-2014 Certificate Program in Pediatric Bioethics.

[The Children's Mercy Center for Pediatric Bioethics](#) Certificate Program in Pediatric Bioethics is a nine-month program taught by faculty from the Children's Mercy Hospital and the University of Missouri – Kansas City. It is the only ethics program in the United States that focuses exclusively on pediatrics.

The program is designed to help clinicians understand common pediatric bioethical issues. This year's class included doctors, nurses, chaplains, and social workers from the U.S., Canada, Norway, and Saudi Arabia.

"Our Certificate Program teaches participants to analyze the ethical issues particular to pediatrics. We want to train teachers who can go back to their home institutions and help others become better clinicians," says John Lantos, MD, the Director of the Children's Mercy Bioethics Center.

The Certificate Program runs from September to May. It begins and ends with an intensive on-site session in Kansas City, Mo. For the rest of the year, students and faculty meet on-line to discuss carefully selected readings. Each student works with faculty mentors to prepare a paper for publication.

The program covers a number of key topic areas in pediatric bioethics, including the role of ethics committees, practical techniques in ethics consultation, futility and moral distress, end-of-life decisions, pediatric palliative care, research ethics, biobanking and genetics, enhancement, issues in adolescent medicine, and immunization controversies. We read and analyze works of literature, legal cases, and articles from medical and bioethics journals.

Information on the Children's Mercy Certificate Program in Pediatric Bioethics may be found at www.childrensmercy.org/CMBC.

About Children's Mercy

Children's Mercy, located in Kansas City, Mo., is one of the nation's top pediatric medical centers. The 354-bed, not-for-profit hospital provides care for children from birth through the age of 21, and has been ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of "America's Best Children's Hospitals." For the third time in a row, Children's Mercy has achieved Magnet nursing designation, awarded to fewer than seven percent of all hospitals nationally, for excellence in quality care. Its faculty of 600 pediatricians and researchers across more than 40 subspecialties are actively involved in clinical care, pediatric research, and educating the next generation of pediatric subspecialists. For more than a century, Children's Mercy has provided the highest level of medical care to every child who passes through its doors, made possible through generous community support. For more information about Children's Mercy and its research, visit childrensmercy.org. For breaking news and videos, follow us on [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#).