



2011 Superlatives

- We are **one of the largest childhood cancer and blood disorders centers in the country**, caring for more inpatients than any other pediatric center.¹ We treat more than 6,500 children each year at three campuses in metro Atlanta.
 - On average we see 350 new cancer patients each year—that is one new child walking through our doors almost every single day of the year.
- Our **childhood cancer survival rates are higher than the national average** for the majority of common childhood cancers.
- We are **among the top five blood and marrow transplant (BMT) programs in the country**.¹
 - We have the only pediatric BMT program in Georgia and have performed more than 850 transplants since 1985.
 - Our BMT team performs more than 60 transplants each year with excellent patient outcomes. Survival rates at 100 days post-transplant are 97 percent for autologous and 95 percent for allogeneic transplants.
- We have **cared for children from 43 states and around the world**.
- Cancer can devastate families in many ways, including financially. Thanks to our donors, **we never turn away any child from Georgia simply because of the family's inability to pay**.
- We **lead the nation in treating debilitating sickle cell disease**, with more than 1,600 children currently under our care. In addition to pain, sickle cell disease can also cause strokes, organ damage and even early death.
- **All of our 35+ physicians are also researchers**. As a result, every child at the Aflac Cancer Center is evaluated for clinical trial participation as part of our ongoing efforts to find the most effective treatments.

- As a part of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, one of the largest pediatric providers in the country, children at the Aflac Cancer Center have access to an organization with a proven track record of providing **world-class care in more than 30 pediatric specialties**.
- We are the pediatric component of the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, the **only National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center in Georgia**.²
- Our **Fellowship Program is one of the largest in the country** and is critical to ensuring that future generations receive the care and cures they need.
- It is important to monitor the long-term effects of cancer treatment. Once in remission, approximately two-thirds of childhood cancer survivors will have additional health problems—also known as late effects—due to their cancer treatment. The Aflac Cancer Center has **one of the largest and most comprehensive survivor programs in the country**, following nearly 1,000 cancer survivors and promoting quality of life after childhood cancer.
 - o Our Cancer Survivor Program monitors and evaluates childhood cancer survivors for physical, psychological and social issues, such as learning disabilities, vision, hearing and heart problems, and growth and physical complications.
 - o In 2011 we launched SurvivorLink, a web-based network that stores health information for childhood cancer survivors. Our survivors benefit greatly from this crucial tool, which is a novel approach to long-term cancer survivor care and is **the only statewide effort of its kind in the U.S.**

¹Pediatric Health Information System (PHIS), 2010; the PHIS hospitals are 42 of the largest and most advanced children’s hospitals in America and constitute the most demanding standards of pediatric service in America.

²NCI designation requires meeting rigorous criteria for the depth and breadth of basic science and clinical research, in addition to cancer prevention, control and population/behavioral sciences

Soft stats and other talking points:

- We know that children have unique emotional and medical needs. That is why our facilities have video games, toys and a specially trained team to provide comfort and distract children during painful or stressful procedures.
- Everyone is vulnerable to illness, regardless of age. Nearly half of our newly diagnosed cancer patients in 2010 were younger than age 6.
- Childhood cancer affects the entire family. To keep the family together, all inpatient rooms have a bed for parents to spend the night.
- While our doctors are focused on treatments, a unique family support team allows us to take care of the rest. We have a team of 28 family support specialists, including teachers, social workers, child life specialists, psychologists, a music therapist and chaplains to care for the whole child and the child's family. These critically important team members are fully funded by donor support.
- In the 1960s, only one in four children with cancer survived. Today, thanks to research and improved treatments, three times as many children will survive cancer. Even at 80 percent survival, however, two in 10 children will not survive. You can help.
- In 2010, our physicians and researchers published more than 100 peer-reviewed articles in national scientific journals, demonstrating our commitment to lead and shape the search for better treatments and cures for cancer and blood disorders.