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**PEDIATRIC ORTHOPAEDICS AT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF
PHILADELPHIA RANKED TOP IN NATION BY CHILD MAGAZINE**

HARRISBURG (February 2, 2005) – The Pennsylvania Orthopaedic Society congratulates the orthopaedic surgeons affiliated with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) for being named first in the nation for pediatric orthopaedic care.

The honor was listed as part of the February 2005 *Child* magazine of the top ten children's hospitals in the nation and specialty honors. CHOP received the top spot for best overall children's hospital. *Child* pinpointed the leading facilities in five specialty areas – cancer care, cardiac care, emergency medical care, neonatal care and orthopaedic care.

In recognizing CHOP's orthopaedic care, *Child* wrote: "Physicians have pioneered 15 orthopaedic surgical procedures and are internationally renowned for their skill in limb-sparing surgery and removing tumors from bones. The hospital has also created a unique Musculoskeletal Center, which brings together orthopaedic doctors and 10 pediatric subspecialists to treat conditions such as spina bifida and scoliosis."

John P. Dormans, M.D., Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine said he and his colleagues are honored and humbled to receive the award and remain committed to the care of children and families with, not only the most difficult, uncommon and challenging musculoskeletal problems, but to the care of all children who present at CHOP.

“We are indeed, fortunate to be a part of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia team and work within a pediatric healthcare network with facilities and support such as that provided by CHOP's healthcare system,” Dormans said. “We express our appreciation and heartfelt thanks to those orthopaedic surgeons throughout the state of Pennsylvania who have referred their patients to us.”

Dormans added that his team maintains a certain sense of urgency to finding better solutions, interventions and cures for musculoskeletal conditions affecting children. “We believe that prevention remains the cornerstone to this approach,” he said.

Pennsylvania Orthopaedic Society (POS) President Paul Christopher Metzger, M.D. noted that such world-class medical care is an incredible benefit to Pennsylvanians -- both for the high quality care available locally and for the boost it gives our regional economy when patients from outside the region and from other countries come here for their specialty medical care.

“I am proud that our colleagues are once again ranked top in the nation and that's why we are working so hard in Harrisburg to preserve patient care to these outstanding services through medical liability and insurance reimbursement reform,” Metzger said.

POS is a professional medical specialty organization representing more than 900 orthopaedic surgeons across Pennsylvania. For more information visit the POS website at www.paorthosociety.org.

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