Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute
Floating Hospital for Children
Tufts Medical Center

ACS verified Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center
2011

We are extremely pleased to announce we have achieved verification as a Level I Pediatric Trauma Center from the American College of Surgeons' (ACS) Committee on Trauma. This prestigious Level I Trauma Center verification means Floating Hospital for Children has voluntarily demonstrated our commitment to provide superior care for injured children. This honor and our state-of-the-art program are the direct result of the teamwork between the many pediatric and pediatric surgical subspecialists, Floating Hospital nurses, and Child Life specialists who participate in the care of injured children as well as the Kiwanis Foundation of New England, which provides support and funding for our Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute (KPTI) and our excellent KPTI staff. All these professionals played a significant role in our verification and we cannot thank them enough. .

We must make a special point to recognize Chief of Pediatric Surgery Walter J. Chwals, MD and Chief of Emergency Medicine Brien Barnewolt, MD who championed our Level I verification efforts with great passion. You may remember that due to a previous decrease in trauma patient volume we were designated as a Level II center since the last verification. The team has worked tirelessly to ensure that our volume met ACS standards so that our high-quality program could once again be Level I. We must also recognize Denise Schepici, whose efforts in support of the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute exemplify the commitment of the Tufts Medical Center leadership to pediatric trauma. In addition, new affiliations established with community hospitals like Lawrence General, MetroWest Medical Center and Lowell General have greatly helped to increase our volume.

The review by the ACS is extremely rigorous and shows what an outstanding program we have in so many areas. Trauma care is about many departments working seamlessly together in the most urgent of situations and thus is truly exemplary of the talent in all our departments. The ACS team reviews hundreds of prerequisite standards of clinical excellence pertaining to the function of the Emergency Department, Surgical Services, Laboratory, Blood Bank, Radiology and many other hospital services which impact pediatric trauma care.

Level I Pediatric Trauma verification affirms excellence in clinical practice, in teaching to educate the next generation of pediatric trauma experts, in education of parents, in community education for trauma prevention and in research and publishing to improve trauma care both nationally and internationally.

Trauma remains the leading cause of death for children; more than tumors, infections and all other pediatric diseases combined. Our Level I designation sends a very positive message for the parents and children in this region; if needed, they will have access to the highest level of pediatric trauma care right here at Floating Hospital for Children.

Please join us in congratulating and thanking everyone on our team who played a role in this great achievement.

Sincerely,

Ellen Zane
President and CEO
Tufts Medical Center and Floating Hospital for Children

Eric Beyer
President and CEO
Physicians Organization

John Schreiber, MD, MPH
Pediatrician-in-Chief and Administrative Director
Tufts Medical Center's Floating Hospital for Children