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**Truman Medical Centers Recognized by
Hospitals & Health Networks as one of health care's "Most Wired"**

Kansas City, Mo — Truman Medical Centers (TMC) has been named one of Health Care's "Most Wired" organizations of 2011 by Hospitals & Health Networks magazine, the journal of the American Hospital Association, recognizing TMC for its embrace of information technology.

"Technology has been viewed as a strategic asset at TMC by our management leadership and our Board for well over a decade," said Mitzi Cardenas, TMC Chief Information Officer. "We recognize that Health Information Technology (HIT) is a powerful tool for providing high quality, safe, patient-centered care. We are making a significant push to adopt HIT solutions that improve communication within TMC and, as importantly, beyond the walls of TMC. And this designation is proof we are moving in the right direction."

Being named a Most Wired health care organization means that TMC is not only effectively using the most current technology available, but is also prepared for advances in health information technology to come. The designation followed an in-depth survey that looked at overall technology infrastructure at health systems throughout the country, including items such as security tools, to be sure that the day-to-day basic needs of their facilities are being met. The survey also included detailed information about how integrated an organization's systems are and whether they can accommodate the increasing demand for electronic health information sharing.

For TMC, the implementation of leading technology to improve the quality and safety of patient care has been an organizational priority for nearly a decade— from medical devices such as the 128-slice CT scanner to the electronic medical records (HIMSS Analytics EMRAM Stage Six) used to record and share vital information between physicians,

hospital staff and patients. Some of TMC's information technology systems include bar-code enabled medication administration, a Computerized Physician Order System to manage patient orders from staff and physicians with medication checking and alerts and full digital imaging for radiology.

“Technology will play a large role in the success of most of the federal reimbursement model changes. TMC has met or exceeded national standards in such indicators as: heart failure education; anticoagulation treatment and education; reduction in surgical care infection rates; and medication reconciliation,” said John W. Bluford, TMC President and CEO. “Health Information Technology will also continue to enable patients to interact with their care providers in ways that are convenient and efficient for our technology-based society and this designation is another way that TMC leading the way to a healthier Kansas City community.”

Hospitals with state-of-the-art technology, like those that make the Most Wired list, tend to have better patient outcomes and are more likely to meet eligibility requirements for the federal program that will offer health care providers with financial incentives for what is termed, the “meaningful use,” of electronic health record technologies.

The online survey was taken between January and March 2011, and was completed by 530 organizations (24 percent of all U.S. hospitals) representing 1,388 hospitals throughout the U.S. See the cover story from the July issue of Hospitals & Health Networks magazine, at hnhmag.com. For information about TMC, visit trumed.org.

About TMC

Truman Medical Centers is a not-for-profit two acute-care hospital health system in Kansas City. The TMC Health System includes TMC Hospital Hill, TMC Lakewood, TMC Behavioral Health, the Jackson County Health Department and a number of primary care practices throughout Eastern Jackson County. Recently named one of the nation's top academic medical centers, TMC is the primary teaching hospital for the University of Missouri-Kansas City Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry and Pharmacy and specializes in asthma, diabetes, family medicine, orthopaedics, trauma services and women's health. For more information, please call (816) 404-3785 or visit www.trumed.org