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WILLS EYE ONCE AGAIN RANKED A PREMIER HOSPITAL IN THE U.S.

Ophthalmologists across the nation selected Wills as a top choice for complex care cases

PHILADELPHIA – <u>Wills Eye Hospital</u> has maintained its top tier ranking on *U.S. News & World Report's* annual "Best Hospitals" Survey. For the 32nd consecutive year, Philadelphia's specialty eye hospital was selected by ophthalmologists as one of the best places to refer patients who have the most complex eye diseases.

Wills Eye Hospital was established in 1832 as the nation's first hospital specializing exclusively in eye care and is a global leader in ophthalmology. Since 1972, Wills has served as the Department of Ophthalmology for Thomas Jefferson University's medical school. The organization has also been nationally recognized for its residency program, which has trained the most ophthalmologists of any program in the country.

"It is a tremendous honor to be continuously recognized and trusted by our peers as one of the country's very best eye hospitals. Our talented medical staff work tirelessly to remain on the cutting edge of ophthalmology and are the reason patients from all over the world get referred to Wills Eye Hospital," said Julia A. Haller, MD, Ophthalmologist-in-Chief, Wills Eye Hospital. "Congratulations to everyone at Wills Eye and kudos to our peers who made this year's U.S. News & World Report list."

In the last year, Wills Eye Hospital has protected and preserved sight for thousands of patients from across the globe. Its world-class physicians have spearheaded clinical trials for revolutionary ocular treatments, surpassed milestones in innovative care, published hundreds of articles on the latest cutting edge research, and provided thousands of hours of continuing medical education for professional peers all over the world.

"This recognition is a testament to the compassion and innovation that is at the center of care given every day by the world-renowned physicians at Wills Eye Hospital," said Joseph P. Bilson, Chief Executive Officer, Wills Eye Hospital. "Wills Eye is among the most trusted eye hospitals in the country because no matter the condition, every patient can rest assured they will receive the highest quality of service. Cheers to our entire system on this accomplishment."

About Wills Eye Hospital:

Wills Eye Hospital is a global leader in ophthalmology, established in 1832 as the nation's first hospital specializing in eye care. *U.S. News & World Report* consistently ranks Wills Eye as one of America's top ophthalmology Hospitals since the survey began, has the most nationally ranked ophthalmologists in the country and is among the top academic training programs in the U.S. for its residency program as voted by physicians in the nation. Wills Eye is a premier training site for all levels of medical education. Its

resident and post-graduate training programs are among the most competitive in the country. The Vickie and Jack Farber Vision Research Center at Wills harnesses the core strengths of Wills, the close connection between innovative research and advanced patient care, to discover therapeutic breakthroughs. Wills provides the full range of primary and subspecialty eye care for improving and preserving sight, including cataract and primary eye care, cornea, emergency care, glaucoma, neuro-ophthalmology, ocular oncology, oculoplastics, pathology, pediatric ophthalmology, refractive surgery, retina, and strabismus. Ocular Services include the Wills Laser Correction Center and Diagnostic Center. Its 24/7 Emergency Service is the only one of its kind in the region. Wills Eye also has a network of six multi-specialty, ambulatory surgery centers throughout the tristate area. To learn more, please visit www.willseye.org.

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