The University of Kansas Hospital is the largest regional resource for trauma and acute care surgery. Our multidisciplinary team provides expert care from the time of injury or illness through the patient’s post-hospitalization rehabilitation. The University of Kansas Hospital focuses this specialty practice on the 3 facets of acute care surgery: emergency surgery, trauma surgery and surgical critical care. Our trauma and acute care specialists are in the hospital 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing expert surgical care.

We specialize in high-acuity surgical and trauma patients with multisystem injuries and complex surgical conditions.

- Because we see a large volume of patients, we excel at providing care to surgical and trauma patients.
- Our comprehensive approach to care involves a multidisciplinary team that specifically specializes in caring for acute surgical and trauma patients.
- As part of an academic medical center, we are active in surgical research, forging new techniques that lead to improved care and recovery.
- We are continually focused on quality improvement for optimal outcomes.
Specialized care team
Trauma and acute care surgery patients receive comprehensive treatment from a multidisciplinary team of professionals, each specializing in the care of surgical patients. Our physician and nursing leaders are nationally recognized experts in their fields.

The team includes:
- Board-certified surgeons with additional qualifications in surgical critical care
- Nurses
- Therapists
- Nutritionists
- Case managers
- Neuropsychologists
- Other specialists trained to care for the specific needs of a surgical patient

Continuous quality improvement
We participate in risk-adjusted benchmarking of patient outcomes on a national level for both surgical and trauma care. This enables us to critically analyze and refine our care so we achieve some of the best surgical patient outcomes in the nation.

Level I trauma care
The Level I Trauma Center at The University of Kansas Hospital serves the highest volume of trauma patients in the region. We treat twice the number of trauma patients as the next largest trauma center. As a regional referral center, we receive transfers from more than 100 different hospitals in 26 states.

Our highly trained trauma surgeons are on site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our board-certified emergency medicine physicians specialize in trauma care and work together with our trauma surgeons to stabilize patients.

In an instant, we can mobilize a team of trauma surgeons, emergency medicine physicians, neurosurgeons, orthopedists, plastic surgeons, radiologists and other specialists.

In addition, we are the injury treatment and medical care provider for the Kansas City Chiefs, Kansas City Royals and Kansas Speedway.

Trauma, critical and acute care
Our surgeons are board-certified in general surgery and surgical critical care. They provide the most advanced and comprehensive care to critically injured patients.

Surgical critical care specialists provide high-quality care to some of the most critically ill patients in our hospital. Conditions that we manage:
- Multisystem organ failure
- Sepsis and life-threatening infections
- Respiratory failure
- Post-operative care
- Shock
- Other critical illnesses

Acute care surgery conditions that we treat:
- Cholecystitis
- Intestinal obstruction/perforation
- Appendicitis
- Colitis
- Abdominal wall hernias
- Soft tissue infections
- Other acute surgical conditions

Orthopedic traumatologists
These board-certified surgical specialists are fellowship-trained in orthopedic trauma. They handle complex and compound injuries, including pelvic fractures, dislocations and soft tissue injuries.

Neurosurgical expertise
Our experienced neurosurgeons are nationally recognized experts in the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of injuries to the brain, spinal cord and nervous system. We provide aggressive and advanced treatment for traumatic brain injury and offer comprehensive care for spinal trauma patients and patients with complex, multisystem injuries.

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