The Breast Unit St Vincents Hospital is one of 8 units in Ireland which are part of the National Cancer Control Programme and one of 4 units which are part of the National Cancer Screening Service. It looks after more than 600 new cancers annually across the campus and is fully comprehensive. It has the full range of diagnostic services and delivers on site surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and palliative care. It has dedicated triple assessment, screening, family history and benign clinics as well as follow up clinics for all modalities of therapy. It runs 2 multidisciplinary meetings/week, has full audit and data manager facilities and runs active research and educational programmes. It has a full undergraduate programme with University College Dublin and is a national training centre for surgeons with The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Its internal educational meetings include grand rounds, journal club and research meetings weekly. Research consists of clinical trials with national and international groups as well as basic science research with both University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin.

**St Vincents University Hospital**

Elm Park
4 Dublin,

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Fax: +353 1 221 3678
E-mail: feedback@st-vincents.ie
Web-site: [http://www.stvincents.ie/departments/Breast_Clinic.html](http://www.stvincents.ie/departments/Breast_Clinic.html)
### Available services

- **Radiology**
- **Breast Surgery**
- **Reconstructive/Plastic Surgery**
- **Pathology**
- **Medical Oncology**
- **Radiotherapy**

- **Nuclear Medicine**
- **Rehabilitation**
- **Genetic Counselling**
- **Data Management**
- **Psycho-oncology**
- **Breast-oncology**

- **Social Workers**
- **Nutritional Counselling**
- **Survivorship Groups**
- **Supportive Health Counselling**
- **Supportive and Palliative Care**
- **Integrative Medicine**

### Radiology

- **Dedicated Radiologists**: 6
- **Mammograms per year**: 14,000
- **Breast radiographers**
- **Screening program**
- **Verification for non-palpable breast lesions on specimen**
- **Axillary US/US-guided FNAB**
- **Clinical Research**

**Available imaging equipment**
- Mammography
- Ultrasound
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) tomosynthesis

**Available work-up imaging equipment**
- Computer Tomography
- Ultrasound
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- PET/CT scan

**Primary technique for localizing non-palpable lesions**
- Hook-wire (or needle localization)
- Charcoal marking/tattooing
- ROLL: radio-guided occult lesion localization

**Available breast tissue sampling equipment**
- Stereotactic Biopsy (Mammography guided)
- Core Biopsy (Tru-cut)
- Vacuum assisted biopsy
- Ultrasound-guided biopsy
- Fine-needle aspiration biopsy (FNAB, cytology)
- Core Biopsy
- Vacuum assisted biopsy
- MRI-guided biopsy
- Core Biopsy
- Vacuum assisted biopsy

### Breast Surgery

- **New operated cases per year (benign and malignant)**: 700
- **Dedicated Breast Surgeons**: 5
- **Surgeons with more than 50 surgeries per year**: 5
- **Breast Surgery beds**: 15
- **Breast Nurse specialists**: 10
- **Outpatient surgery**
- **Intra-operative evaluation of sentinel node**
- **Reconstruction performed by Breast Surgeons**
- **Clinical Research**

**Primary technique for staging the axilla**
- **Axillary lymph node dissection**
- **Sentinel lymph node biopsy**:  
  - Blue dye technique
  - Radio-tracer technique
  - Blue dye + Radio-tracer
- **Axillary sampling**
Reconstructive/Plastic Surgery

- Reconstructive/Plastic surgeons
- Immediate Reconstruction available

Type of breast reconstructive surgery available
- Remodelling after breast-conserving surgery
- Reconstruction after mastectomy:
  - Two-stage reconstruction (tissue expander followed by implant)
  - One-stage reconstruction
- Autogenous tissue flap
  - Latissimus dorsi flap
  - Transverse rectus abdominis (TRAM)
- Free-flaps (free TRAM, DIEP, SIEA, gluteal, etc.)
- Surgery on the contralateral breast for symmetry

Pathology

- Dedicated Breast Pathologists

Available studies
- Cytology
- Haematoxylin & eosin section (H&E)
- Surgical specimen
- Sentinel node
- Core biopsy
- Frozen section (FS)
- Surgical specimen
- Sentinel node
- Immunohistochemistry stain (IHC)
  - Estrogen receptors
  - Progesterone receptors
  - HER-2
  - Ki-67

Other special studies available
- Fluorescence in-situ Hybridization for HER-2 gene (FISH)
- Oncotype Dx (21-gene assay)
  - MammaPrint (70-gene microarray)
  - Prediction Analysis of Microarray 50-gene set (PAM 50)

Parameters included in the final pathology report
- Pathology stage (pT and pN)
- Tumour size (invasive component in mm)
- Histologic type
- Tumor grade
- ER/PR receptor status
- HER-2/neu receptor status
- Peritumoural/Lymphovascular invasion
- Margin status

Medical Oncology

- Dedicated Breast Medical Oncologists
- Outpatient systemic therapy
- Clinical Research
### Radiotherapy

- **Dedicated Radiation Oncologists**
- **Clinical Research**
- **Available techniques after breast-conserving surgery (including experimental)**
  - Whole-Breast RT (WBRT)
  - Partial breast irradiation (PBI):
    - External beam PBI
    - Interstitial brachytherapy
    - Targeted brachytherapy (MammoSite, SAVI applicator, other devices)
    - Intra-operative RT (IORT)

### Multidisciplinary Meeting (MDM) / Tumour Board (TB)

#### Regular MDM/TB for case management discussion

- Twice a week
- Weekly
- Every two weeks
- Other Schedule

#### Cases discussed at MDM/TB

- Preoperative cases
- Postoperative cases

#### Specialties/services participating in MDM/TB

- Radiology
- Breast Surgery
- Reconstructive/Plastic Surgery
- Pathology
- Medical Oncology
- Radiotherapy
- Genetic Counselling
- Breast Nurse Service
- Psycho-oncology

### Further Services and Facilities

#### Nuclear Medicine

- Lymphoscintigraphy
- Bone scan
- Positron Emission Tomography (PET)
- PET/CT scan

#### Rehabilitation

- Prosthesis service
- Physiotherapy
- Lymph-oedema treatment

#### Genetic Counselling

- Specialist Providing Genetic Counselling/Risk assessment service:
  - Dedicated Clinical Geneticist
  - Medical Oncologist
  - Breast Surgeon
  - General Surgeon
  - Gynaecologist
- Genetic Testing available
- Surveillance program for high-risk women

#### Data Management

- Database used for clinical information
- Data manager available

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical Director</strong></td>
<td>Ann O'Doherty, MD</td>
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<td><strong>Breast Surgery</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reconstructive Surgery</strong></td>
<td>Colin Morrison, MD</td>
<td>Consultant Plastic Surgeon</td>
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<td>Cecily Quinn, MD</td>
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<td>Janice Walshe, MD</td>
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<td><strong>Radiotherapy</strong></td>
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**From airport:**  
Aircoach to drop off near hospital best.

**By car:**  
M50 and N11.

**Last modified:** 19 May 2015