**St Vincents University Hospital - Dublin, Ireland**

**General Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New breast cancer cases treated per year</th>
<th>600</th>
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<td>Breast multidisciplinarity team members</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radiologists, surgeons, pathologists, medical oncologists, radiotherapists and nurses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Director: Ann O'Doherty, MD</td>
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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 bith University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin.

**St Vincents University Hospital**

Elm Park
4 Dublin, Ireland
Phone: +353 1 221 3778
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
- Sexual Health Counselling
- Supportive and Palliative Care
- Integrative Medicine

Radiology

- Dedicated Radiologists: 6
- Mammograms per year: 14000
- 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

- 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
# Contact details

## Clinical Director

Ann O'Doherty, MD  
Consultant Radiologist  
Ann.ODoherty@cancerscreening.ie  
+35318659300

## Radiology

Ann O'Doherty, MD  
Consultant Radiologist

## Breast Surgery

James Geraghty, MD, PhD  
Consultant Surgeon  
james.geraghty@ucd.ie

## Reconstructive Surgery

Colin Morrison, MD  
Consultant Plastic Surgeon

## Pathology

Cecily Quinn, MD  
Consultant Pathologist

## Medical Oncology

Janice Walshe, MD  
Consultant Medical Oncologist

## Radiotherapy

Gerard McVey, MD  
Consultant Radiation Oncologist
St Vincents University Hospital

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Web-site: http://www.stvincents.ie/departments/Breast_Clinic.html

From airport:
Aircoach to drop off near hospital best.

By car:
M50 and N11.

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