



BREAST CENTRES NETWORK

Synergy among Breast Units

★ University Hospital Gasthuisberg - Leuven, Belgium

General Information



New breast cancer cases treated per year **840**

Breast multidisciplinary team members **16**

Radiologists, surgeons, pathologists, medical oncologists, radiotherapists and nurses

Clinical Director: Marie-Rose Christiaens, MD, PhD

The Multidisciplinary Breast Center brings together the know-how and experience of surgeons, gynecologists, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, radiologists and pathologists with special interest in breast diseases and spending all or the major part of their time in 'Breast'. About 740 new breast cancer patients are seen each year. Protocols and internal guidelines for diagnosis and treatment are regularly updated. Diagnosis and treatment of benign breast diseases, risk assessment and genetic counselling is available. A huge tumor and blood bank linked to our datamanagement system is the basis for clinical and translational research. Patient information and support is provided by breast care nurses, social workers, psychologists and a sexologist. KanActief is a rehabilitation program including physical reeducation, information and psychosocial support after treatment for breast cancer. Patients have access to individualised information linked to their personal electronic files: MyUZ.

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Available services

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

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

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

Radiology

- Dedicated Radiologists** 3
- Mammograms per year** 10000
- 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, sterotactic table

Available work-up imaging equipment

- Computer Tomography
- Ultrasound
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- PET/CT scan
- Bone scintigram, MIBI

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)** 1020
- Dedicated Breast Surgeons** 5
- Surgeons with more than 50 surgeries per year** 4
- Breast Surgery beds** 15
- Breast Nurse specialists** 4
- 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
 - only in cN0
- Axillary sampling

Reconstructive/Plastic Surgery

Reconstructive/Plastic surgeons 3

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
- lipofilling

Pathology

Dedicated Breast Pathologists 1

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) gene assay only on demand of the patient

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
- Ki-67, e-cadherine, EGF e.g.

Medical Oncology

Dedicated Breast Medical Oncologists 2

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

MIBI

Rehabilitation

Prosthesis service

Physiotherapy

Lymph-oedema treatment

rehabilitation

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

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Radiology

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Breast Surgery

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Reconstructive Surgery

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Pathology

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Medical Oncology

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Radiotherapy

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How to reach us



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From airport:

By taxi (55€) or by train.

By train:

From all cities.

By bus or sub-way/underground:

Leuven train station is approximately 4 km away from the hospital. Buses leave every 10 minutes. Take one of the following buses towards the city centre (stadscentrum): 16, 333, 334, 335, 338, 370, 371, 373 or 374 to Gasthuisberg. The bus stop is right in front of the hospital main entrance. For more information, telephone De Lijn bus company on 070-220 200.

By car:

Via E40 MOTORWAY: between exits 22 and 23, take E314 motorway. Then follow directions as for via E314 motorway below. Via E314 MOTORWAY: take exit 17 and follow directions to Leuven as far as the ring road (Brusselsepoort). Turn right on to the ring road and leave it at the first exit: UZ Leuven. Follow the signs at the roundabout next to the sculpture called Het Teken. When you leave the hospital, if you want to go back to the

E314 motorway, follow the signs at the roundabout. Via the RING ROAD: if you are on the outside of the ring road, follow the ring road until just behind the Brusselsepoort to the signs for UZ Leuven. Follow directions to the roundabout at the sculpture called Het Teken. If you are on the inside of the ring road: follow the ring road until just behind the Tervuursepoort junction. Then follow directions for UZ Leuven and then UZ Gasthuisberg.

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