



# BREAST CENTRES NETWORK

Synergy among Breast Units

## ★ AZ Sint-Blasius - Dendermonde, Belgium

### General Information



**New breast cancer cases treated per year** 210

**Breast multidisciplinary team members** 13

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

**Clinical Director:** Decloedt Jan, MD

Our Breast Clinic was founded 15 years ago. We felt the need for a multidisciplinary approach for both benign breast disease and breast cancer. This approach started as a flexible system of multidisciplinary (out)patient evaluation by breast surgeons and radiotherapists/medical oncologists and has nowadays the format of a large multidisciplinary group of young and enthusiastic (para)medical team members, with special education and training. Certainly, this concept has been a pioneering model in peripheral hospitals and has been evaluated by the government for Breast Clinics accreditation system in Belgium. "A multidisciplinary approach in the most human way" was our first motto and our most recent mission is 'A multidisciplinary approach focused on the patient and based on quality, speed and empathy'. We strongly invest in continuous teaching and have dedicated breast surgeons with subspecialisation in oncoplastic surgery. Improving quality and patient satisfaction are major challenges in our team. Therefore we have developed (transmural) clinical pathways in order to standardize our care and we have implemented quality indicators in our process.

### **AZ Sint-Blasius**

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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** 5
- ✓ **Mammograms per year** 2880
- ✓ **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)** 255
- ✓ **Dedicated Breast Surgeons** 2
- ✓ **Surgeons with more than 50 surgeries per year** 2
- ✓ **Breast Surgery beds** 15
- ✓ **Breast Nurse specialists** 1
- ✓ **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** 1
- 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** 2

### 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)
- androgen receptor

### 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** 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

Professor Neven as consultant on 2 weekly basis (Tele conferencing)

## Further Services and Facilities

### Nuclear Medicine

Lymphoscintigraphy

Bone scan

Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

PET/CT scan

### Rehabilitation

Prosthesis service

Physiotherapy

Lymph-oedema treatment

Herstel en Balans (r) : oncorevalidation

### 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:**

From Brussels Airport: Take Highway E40 direction GENT - Exit 19 AALST. From Exit Aalst follow indications to DENDERMONDE.

**By train:**

From DENDERMONDE railway station it takes 15 minutes on foot or you can call BELBUS (reservations +32/9/210 94 94)

**By bus or sub-way/underground:**

From Dendermonde bus station it takes 15 minutes on foot or you can call BELBUS (reservations +32/9/210 94 94)

**By car:**

From BRUSSELS: take Highway E40 direction GENT; exit 19 AALST and then follow indications to DENDERMONDE.

From GENT: take Highway E17, direction ANTWERPEN; take exit 12 LOKEREN/ZELE and then follow direction ZELE/DENDERMONDE (= N47).

From ANTWERPEN: take Highway E17, direction ZELE; take exit 12 LOKEREN/ZELE and then follow direction ZELE/DENDERMONDE (= N47).

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