



BREAST CENTRES NETWORK

Synergy among Breast Units

★ Antwerp University Hospital - University of Antwerpen - Edegem, Belgium

General Information



New breast cancer cases treated per year **250**

Breast multidisciplinary team members **16**

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

Clinical Director: **Wiebren A.A. Tjalma, MD, PhD**

The University Multidisciplinary Breast Clinic Antwerpen was founded in 2001. In 2007 a law was enacted to recognize breast clinics, and our Breast Clinic was one of the first to be recognized. The Breast team is a multidisciplinary team that does joint consultations every day of the week except on Saturdays and Sundays. Our goal is to see the patient within 48 hours from her acceptance in the breast clinic and have a tissue diagnosis if indicated within 5 working days. The treatment should start within 4 weeks after the diagnosis.

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CERTIFICATION(S) ACCREDITATION(S)

FOD Volksgezondheid

Expiration date: 01 February 2021



Stichting Tegen Kanker

This Centre has notified to be certified and, as such, been requested to upload the certification document for further information. When the certification document/s is/are provided, it is/they are made available hereafter.

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** 5000
- 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)** 284
- Dedicated Breast Surgeons** 3
- Surgeons with more than 50 surgeries per year** 3
- Breast Surgery beds** 10
- 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
- Axillary sampling

Reconstructive/Plastic Surgery

- Reconstructive/Plastic surgeons** 4
- 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)
- NGS

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** 3
- 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

Nurse of the Ward

Further Services and Facilities

Nuclear Medicine

Lymphoscintigraphy

Bone scan

Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

PET/CT scan

Rehabilitation

Prosthesis service

Physiotherapy

Lymph-oedema treatment

Multidisciplinary Oedema Clinic & Onco Rehabilitation Program

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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|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------|
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Radiology

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------|
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| Astrid Van Hoyweghen, MD | Staff Radiologist | astrid.vanhoyweghen@uza.be | |

Breast Surgery

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| Peter Van Dam, MD, PhD | Staff Surgeon | | |
| Bich Xuan Trinh, MD, PhD | Staff Surgeon | | |

Reconstructive Surgery

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|--|---------------|
| Thierry Tondou, MD | Staff Surgeon | thierry.tondou@clinic12b.be | +32473642214 |
| Filip Thiessen, MD, PhD | Staff Surgeon | filip.thiessen@clinic12b.be | +32496695099 |
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| Jana Van Thielen, MD | Staff Surgeon | jana.vanthielen@uza.be | |

Pathology

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| Vasiliki Siozopoulou, MD | Staff Pathologist | | |
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Medical Oncology

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|--------------------------------|------------------|--|---------------|
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Radiotherapy

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|------------------------|----------------------|--|---------------|
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How to reach us



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From airport:

By train, bus or car see below.

By train:

Station Antwerpen-Centraal > take bus 17 to UZA. Time ± 32 min, direct line. Station Berchem > take bus 21 to Wilrijk Bist and change to a bus to UZA (see 'Bus'). Time: ± 35 min.

By bus or sub-way/underground:

Nearest bus station: UZA The following lines stop at the UZA: Line 17> Rijnkaai - Central Station - Wilrijk Bist - UZA; Line 22> Green Place - Wilrijk Valaar, Bistrita - UZA; Line 130> Lier - Ribbon - Kontich - Edegem - Wilrijk University Square; Line 131> Lier - Kontich Schools - Edegem - Wilrijk University Square; Line 135> Lier - Kontich - Edegem - Wilrijk University Square; Line 140 and 141> Wijnegem - Wommelgem - Borsbeek - Mortsel - Edegem - Wilrijk University Square, Bistrita - Hoboken.

By car:

Take the Antwerp ring road connecting to the E19 Mechelen-Brussels. After Craeybeckxtunnel on the E19, take exit 6A service and turn right at the Three Eikenstraat.

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