Antwerp University Hospital - University of Antwerpen - Edegem, Belgium

General Information

- New breast cancer cases treated per year: 266
- Breast multidisciplinarity team members: 15
  - 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 who 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 to have a tissue diagnosis, if indicated within 5 working days. The treatment should start within 4 weeks after the diagnosis.

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FOD Volksgezondheid
Expiration date: 01 January 2019

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

- 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): 296
- Dedicated Breast Surgeons: 3
- Surgeons with more than 50 surgeries per year: 3
- Breast Surgery beds: 10
- Breast Nurse specialists: 3
- 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)
- 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
- 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**
- ✔ Pre operative cases
- ✔ Post operative 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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## 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 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.