



BREAST CENTRES NETWORK

Synergy among Breast Units

★ Breast Centre Voorkempen - Brasschaat, Belgium

General Information



Borstkliniek
Voorkempen

New breast cancer cases treated per year 300

Breast multidisciplinary team members 25

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

Clinical Director: [Didier Verhoeven, MD, PhD](#)

The Breast Clinic Voorkempen is the result of the association of a major breast clinic (AZ KLINA, Brasschaat) with a smaller centre (AZ Sint-Jozef, Malle): the two institutions have established a very close collaboration, sharing the same oncological unit and diagnostic centre, weekly discussing all cases together and using the same handbook. Furthermore, in close collaboration with general practitioners, a special 'pathway for breast cancer has been set up, and diagnosis and follow-up are done together and integrated. A breast cancer registry has been created and it has been approved by the National Cancer Registry. An intensive research program is elaborated with dedicated data nurses. Special attention is given to reconstructive surgery.

Breast Centre Voorkempen

Augustijnslei 100

2930 Brasschaat,

Phone: +3236505157

Fax: +3236505093

E-mail: didier.verhoeven@KLINA.be

CERTIFICATION(S) ACCREDITATION(S)

BCCERT - Breast Centres Certification

Expiration date: 30 June 2024



[Certification document \(original lang.\)](#)

[Certification document \(eng lang.\)](#)

Erkend Speciaal Zorgprogramma Borstkanker

Expiration date: 31 December 2022



AZ Klina and AZ
Sint Jozef

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** 7
- Mammograms per year** 8000
- 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)** 288
- 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** 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** 4

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)

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 staining

Medical Oncology

- Dedicated Breast Medical Oncologists** 6
- 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

Data Nurses

Further Services and Facilities

Nuclear Medicine

Lymphoscintigraphy

Bone scan

Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

PET/CT scan

Rehabilitation

Prosthesis service

Physiotherapy

Lymph-oedema treatment

Onco-revalidation Program

Genetic Counselling

Specialist Providing Genetic Counselling/Risk assessment service:

Dedicated Clinical Geneticist

Medical Oncologist

Breast Surgeon

General Surgeon

Gynaecologist

Clinical Geneticist + Medical Oncologist

Genetic Testing available

Surveillance program for high-risk women

Data Management

Database used for clinical information

Data manager available

Contact details

Clinical Director

Didier Verhoeven, MD, PhD	Clinical Director, Breast Centre	didier.verhoeven@KLINA.be	+3236505157
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Radiology

Isabelle Biltjes	Staff Member, Radiology Dpt.	isabelle.biltjes@klina.be	+3236505180
Steven Haegeman	Staff Member, Radiology Dpt.	steven.haegeman@klina.be	+3236505185
Wim Volders	Staff Member, Radiology Dpt.	wim.volders@klina.be	+3236505204
Michiel Eyselberghs	Staff Member, Radiology Dpt.	michiel.eyselberghs@emmaus.be	+3233802030
Erwin Ooms	Staff Member, Radiology Dpt.	erwin.ooms@emmaus.be	+3233802030
Kevin Van Looveren	Staff Member, Radiology Dpt.	kevin.van.looveren@emmaus.be	+3233802030
Filip De Roeck	Staff Member, Radiology Dpt.	filip.de.roeck@klina.be	+3236505133

Breast Surgery

Kristof Kinget, MD	Breast Surgeon	kristof.kinget@KLINA.be	+3236505192
Patrick Debois, MD	Breast Surgeon	patrick.debois@KLINA.be	+3236505125
Christel Depestel, MD	Breast Surgeon	christel.depestel@emmaus.be	+3233802236

Reconstructive Surgery

Wouter Peeters, MD	Reconstructive/Plastic Surgeon	wouter.peeters@KLINA.be	+3236505247
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Pathology

Valerie Duwel, MD	Staff Member, Pathology Dpt.	valerie.duwel@KLINA.be	+3236506352
Gerd Jacomen, MD	Staff Member, Pathology Dpt.	gerd.jacomen@emmaus.be	+3233802055
Joris Beck, MD	Staff Member, Pathology Dpt.	joris.beck@klina.be	+3236506357
Thomas Gevaert, MD	Staff Member, Pathology Dpt.	thomas.gevaert@klina.be	+3236506351
Vera Schelfhout, MD	Staff Member, Pathology Dpt.	vera.schelfhout@emmaus.be	+3233802055

Medical Oncology

Didier Verhoeven, MD, PhD	Staff Member, Medical Oncology Dpt.	didier.verhoeven@KLINA.be	+3236505157
Christine Langenaeken, MD	Staff Member, Medical Oncology Dpt.	christine.langenaeken@KLINA.be	+3236505197
Wim Demey, MD	Staff Member, Medical Oncology Dpt.	wim.demey@KLINA.be	+3236505141
Tine Loyson, MD	Staff member, Medical Oncology Dpt.	tine.loyson@emmaus.be	+3233802015
Alice Van Goethem, MD	Staff member, Medical Oncology Dpt.	alice.van.goethem@klina.be	+3236505312
Bernd Dekeyser, MD	Staff member, Medical Oncology Dpt.	bernd.dekeyser@klina.be	+3236505313

Radiotherapy

Guido Buelens, MD	Staff Member, Radiotherapy Dpt.	guido.buelens@gza.be	+3236505156
Petra Janssens, MD	Staff Member, Radiotherapy Dpt.	petra.janssens@gza.be	+3236505156
Philip Poortmans, MD	Staff Member, Radiotherapy Dpt.	philip.poortmans@gza.be	+3233802088

How to reach us



Breast Centre Voorkempen

Augustijnslei 100

2930 Brasschaat,

Phone: +3236505157

Fax: +3236505093

E-mail: didier.verhoeven@KLINA.be

By car:

See Google Maps: AZ Klina, Augustijnslei 100, 2930 Brasschaat, Belgium AZ Sint-Jozef, Oude Liersebaan 4, 2390 Malle, Belgium +3233802103, borstvpk.azsintjozef@emmaus.be

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