



BREAST CENTRES NETWORK

Synergy among Breast Units

★ CHR Citadelle - Liège, Belgium

General Information



New breast cancer cases treated per year 158

Breast multidisciplinary team members 13

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

Clinical Director: Joëlle Desreux, MD, PhD

Our Breast Unit is based on multidisciplinary, with a special interest in prevention and screening in high-risk women, quality of life after breast cancer (collaboration with a menopause center and an in-site medical-assisted procreation department, a wellness house dedicated to cancer survivors and their families) and psycho-social support. More than 9000 mammograms are proceeded yearly. High-performance technical equipment has been enriched by tomosynthesis and biopsy under tomosynthesis since 2015. Quick appointments for diagnosis are available in the following five open days. The average delay of surgery after a diagnosis of breast cancer is 10 days. In some conditions, the gene expression profiling of tumors is available with full reimbursement by Belgian social security and our hospital.

CHR Citadelle

Bvd XIIème de Ligne 1

4000 Liège,

Phone: +3243216068

Fax: +3243217575

E-mail: joelle.desreux@chrcitadelle.be

Web-site: www.chrcitadelle.be

CERTIFICATION(S) ACCREDITATION(S)

Belgian Accreditation of Breast Centres

Expiration date: 31 May 2022

Région Wallonne

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** 9000
- 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
- Scintigraphy, SPECT

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)** 183
- Dedicated Breast Surgeons** 3
- Surgeons with more than 50 surgeries per year** 2
- Breast Surgery beds** 3
- 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** 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, Subcutaneous Prophylactic Mastectomy with Immediate Reconstruction

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)
- NGS PIK3Ca, ESR-1, somatic BRCA

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
- Size, Grade, Margin Status, ER/PR Receptor Status, and HER-2/neu Status of in Situ Component

Medical Oncology

- Dedicated Breast Medical Oncologists** 4
- 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

Gynaecologist, Data Manager, Molecular Oncology Specialist

Further Services and Facilities

Nuclear Medicine

Lymphoscintigraphy

Bone scan

Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

PET/CT scan

Rehabilitation

Prosthesis service

Physiotherapy

Lymph-oedema treatment

Menopause Center, Fertility Preservation Team, Wellness House

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

Joëlle Desreux, MD, PhD	Chief of the Clinic	joelle.desreux@chrcitadelle.be	+3243218325
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Radiology

Olivier Burlet, MD	Radiologist	olivier.burlet@chrcitadelle.be	+3243218985
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Pierre Defrere, MD	Radiologist	pierre.defrere@chrcitadelle.be	+3243217162
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Florence Ledure, MD	Radiologist	florence.ledure@chrcitadelle.be	+3243216068
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Breast Surgery

Pierre Wetz, MD	Surgeon	pierre.wetz@chrcitadelle.be	+3243218589
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Sylvie Maweja, MD	Surgeon	sylvie.maweja@chrcitadelle.be	+3243215349
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Sophie Hanoset, MD	Surgeon	sophie.hanoset@chrcitadelle.be	+3243217568
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Reconstructive Surgery

Florence Lhoest, MD	Surgeon	florence.lhoest@chirplast.be	+3243216111
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Christophe Ronsmans, MD	Head of Plastic Surgery Department	christophe.ronsmans@chrcitadelle.be	+3243218811
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Christophe de Roover, MD	Surgeon	christophe.deroover@chrcitadelle.be	+3243216111
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Pathology

Albert Thiry, MD, PhD	Head of Pathology Department	albert.thiry@chu.ulg.ac.be	+3243217636
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Chantal Lambert, MD	Gynaecologist	chantal.lambert@chu.ulg.ac.be	+3243662227
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Medical Oncology

Jean-Paul Salmon, MD	Head of Oncology Department	jean.paul.salmon@chrcitadelle.be	+3243217165
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Ingrid Louviaux, MD	Oncologist	ingrid.louviaux@chrcitadelle.be	+43218349
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Rose-Marie Silvestre, MD	Oncologist	rosemarie.silvestre@chrcitadelle.be	+3243217127
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Nicolas Janin, MD	Oncologist	nicolas.janin@chrcitadelle.be	+3243215543
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Radiotherapy

Philippe Westerlinck, MD	Radio Oncologist	philippe.westerlinck@chu.ulg.ac.be	+3243218472
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How to reach us



CHR Citadelle

Bvd XIIème de Ligne 1

4000 Liège,

Phone: +3243216068

Fax: +3243217575

E-mail: joelle.desreux@chrcitadelle.be

Web-site: www.chrcitadelle.be

From airport:

Bruxelles National Airport.

By train:

Trains to Liège-Guillemins.

By car:

Highway E40 to Liège, exit Burenville then to the left, follow center direction and then follow CHR Citadelle direction.

Last modified: 06 December 2019