



BREAST CENTRES NETWORK

Synergy among Breast Units

★ National Center of Oncology - Yerevan, Armenia

General Information



New breast cancer cases treated per year 550

Breast multidisciplinary team members 29

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

Clinical Director: Artur Avetisyan, DrPH, MD

The Breast Unit was established in 2004 inside the National Center of Oncology in Armenia due to a more-than-10-year-long multidisciplinary approach to breast cancer diagnosis and treatment. Our department of breast diseases has 60 beds. Every year Armenia comes up with already more than 1000 cases of breast cancer, more than half of which are engaged in our department. We use protocols and clinical recommendations from NCCN, ESMO, ASCO, EUSOMA. We offer a coordinated approach provided by a team of experts in all fields involved in breast diseases, including all steps from risk assessment to long term follow up. The multidisciplinary team, made up of oncologists, radiologists, radiation oncologists, pathologists and surgeons, meets every two weeks for patient's evaluation and the definition of diagnostic and therapeutic strategies. The breast unit provides care for all stages of BC: neo- and adjuvant chemotherapy, oncoplastic and conserving surgery, breast reconstruction, treatment of locally advanced and metastatic BC, rehabilitative and psychological support. Our strategy is to tailor individualized treatment according to clinical stage and tumour biology.

National Center of Oncology

Fanardjian 76

0052 Yerevan,

Phone: +37410287152

Fax:

E-mail: artax5us@yahoo.com

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** 1500
- 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)

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)** 750
- Dedicated Breast Surgeons** 7
- Surgeons with more than 50 surgeries per year** 3
- Breast Surgery beds** 60
- Breast Nurse specialists** 9
- 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
 - ISG system for sentinel lymph node biopsy also
- Axillary sampling

Reconstructive/Plastic Surgery

Reconstructive/Plastic surgeons _____ 2

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

Medical Oncology

Dedicated Breast Medical Oncologists _____ 5

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

Further Services and Facilities

Nuclear Medicine

Lymphoscintigraphy

Bone scan

Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

PET/CT scan

Rehabilitation

Prosthesis service

Physiotherapy

Lymph-oedema treatment

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

Artur Avetisyan, DrPH, MD	Coordinator	artax5us@yahoo.com	+37491324525
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Radiology

Hasmik Davtyan	Staff Radiologist		
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Breast Surgery

Artur Avetisyan, MD, PhD	Assistant Professor	artax5us@yahoo.com	+37491324525
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Reconstructive Surgery

Artur Avetisyan, MD, PhD	Staff Surgeon	artax5us@yahoo.com	+37491324525
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Pathology

Lilia Harutyunyan, MD			
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Medical Oncology

Nara Janoyan	Head of chemotherapy department	njanoian@gmail.com	
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Radiotherapy

Tatul Saghatelian, MD	Radiation Oncologist	tatul_sagh@yahoo.com	+37491421928
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How to reach us



National Center of Oncology

Fanardjian 76

0052 Yerevan,

Phone: +37410287152

Fax:

E-mail: artax5us@yahoo.com

From airport:

By taxi (about 25km).

By train:

N/A

By bus or sub-way/underground:

By bus number 2 and 26.

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