



BREAST CENTRES NETWORK

Synergy among Breast Units

★ Unidade de Senologia - Hospital de Santarém, EPE - Santarém, Portugal

General Information



New breast cancer cases treated per year **198**

Breast multidisciplinary team members **19**

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

Clinical Director: **Madalena Nogueira, MD, MSc**

The Santarém Senology Unit (USS) was founded in 1998. It is responsible for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of patients with breast disease, currently treating 180 new cases/year of breast cancer. We have a multidisciplinary team (gynaecologists dedicated to breast surgery, radiologists, pathologists, medical oncologists, radiotherapists, plastic surgeons, specialized nurses, etc...) with specific training in the field of breast care. We have modern and innovative diagnostic and therapeutic technologies. We have been pioneers in breast cancer treatment in 'one-day surgery' (conservative surgery and, more recently, in selected cases, mastectomy with sentinel lymph node biopsy). The instituted therapeutics reflect the use of national and international guidelines, adapted to each patient. The care of excellence provided by the professionals of the Breast Unit of Santarém reflects the standards of quality and well-being provided to our patients.

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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** 4
- ✓ **Mammograms per year** 1650
- ✓ **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)
- ✓ Contrast Enhanced Mammography

Available work-up imaging equipment

- ✓ Computer Tomography
- ✓ Ultrasound
- ✓ Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- ✓ PET/CT scan
- ✓ Bone Scintigraphy

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)** 331
- ✓ **Dedicated Breast Surgeons** 4
- ✓ **Surgeons with more than 50 surgeries per year** 3
- ✓ **Breast Surgery beds** 6
- ✓ **Breast Nurse specialists** 2
- ✓ **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)
- SISH, OSNA (One-Step Nucleic Acid Amplification) Sentinel Lymph Node

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
- Residual Cancer Burden (RCB)

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

Data Manager, oncology clinic secretary

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

Offered through the Lisbon Cancer Centre (IPOFG, Lisboa)

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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Radiology

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Reconstructive Surgery

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Radiotherapy

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How to reach us



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From airport:

From Lisbon, go North through highway A1- Norte (73.2 Km, 44 min). Take the exit towards Santarém (A2/A6/A13/N114). Continue along N114. Take the exit towards Santarém Centro/ Hospital.

By train:

Buy the train ticket at The Orient railway station. Lisbon- Santarém (Lisbon-Tomar (R)/ Lisbon - Porto (IC/ AP)). Online timetable and information at <https://www.cp.pt/>. Local buses connect to the center every 30 minutes from Santarém Station.

By bus or sub-way/underground:

Bus 'Rede Expressos'. Online timetable and information at <https://www.rede-expressos.pt/>

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