



BREAST CENTRES NETWORK

Synergy among Breast Units

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University Hospital Ghent - Ghent, Belgium

General Information



New breast cancer cases treated per year 305 Breast multidisciplinarity team members 14 Radiologists, surgeons, pathologists, medical oncologists, radiotherapists and nurses

Clinical Director: Rudy Van den Broecke, MD, PhD

The University Hospital is a 900 bed facility which provides tertiary care to the whole region of Flanders. Within the department of Gynaecologic Oncology, a long existing interest in breast disease led to the development of a multidisciplinary breast unit, dedicated not only to the diagnosis and treatment of malignant disease, but with a keen interest in all aspects of senology. The activity of our multidisciplinary team involves daily outpatient clinics for women who are referred by their general practitioners or who are anxious because of certain senological problems.

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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

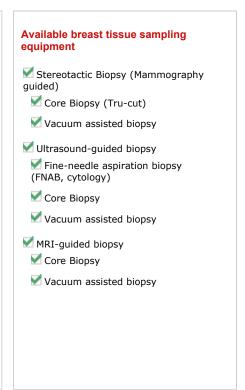
localization

- ✓ Social Workers
- ✓ Nutritional Counselling
- ✓ Survivorship Groups
- ✓ Sexual Health Counselling
- ✓ Supportive and Palliative Care
- ✓ Integrative Medicine

Radiology

☑ Dedicated Radiologists	2
✓ Mammograms per year	10000
✓ 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) elastography 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



Breast Surgery

✓ New operated cases per year (benign and malignant)	380
☑ 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

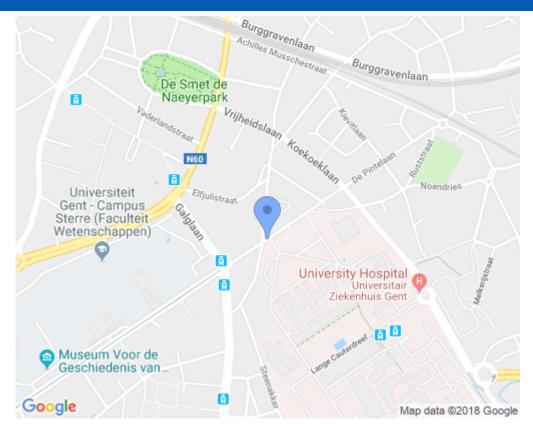
Reconstructive/Plastic surgeons	4	Type of breast reconstructive surgery available
✓ Immediate Reconstruction available		✓ Remodelling after breast-conserving surgery
		✓ Reconstruction after mastectomy:
		$ lap{N}{f Z}$ Two-stage reconstruction (tissue expander followed by implant)
		✓ One-stage reconstruction
		Autogenous tissue flapLatissimus dorsi flap
		☐ Transverse rectus abdominis (TRAM)
		Free-flaps (free TRAM, DIEP, SIEA, gluteal, etc.)
		lacksquare Surgery on the contralateral breast for symmetry
		oncoplastic surgery
athology		
☑ Dedicated Breast Pathologists	2	Other special studies available
Available studies		☑ Fluorescence in-situ Hybridization for HER-2 gene (FISH)
☑ Cytology		Oncotype Dx (21-gene assay)
✓ Haematoxylin & eosin section (H&E)		☐ MammaPrint (70-gene microarray)
✓ Surgical specimen		Prediction Analysis of Microarray 50-gene set (PAM 50)
✓ Sentinel node		✓ array protocols under study
☑ Core biopsy		
✓ Frozen section (FS)		Parameters included in the final pathology report
☑ Surgical specimen		☑ Pathology stage (pT and pN)
✓ Sentinel node		☑ Tumour size (invasive component in mm)
☑ Immunohistochemistry stain (IHC)		☑ Histologic type
Estrogen receptors		☑ Tumor grade
✓ Progesterone receptors		✓ ER/PR receptor status
☑ HER-2		✓ HER-2/neu receptor status
☑ Ki-67		lacksquare Peritumoural/Lymphovascular invasion
		☑ Margin status
		DCIS components

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Radiotherapy	
✓ Dedicated Radiation Oncologists ✓ Clinical Research	Available techniques after breast-conserving surgery (including experimental)
	☑ Whole-Breast RT (WBRT)
	lacksquare Partial breast irradiation (PBI):
	☑ External beam PBI
	lacksquare Interstitial brachytherapy
	Targeted brachytherapy (MammoSite, SAVI applicator, other devices)
	☐ Intra-operative RT (IORT)
	✓ hypofractionation
Multidisciplinary Meeting (MDM) / Tumour Board	(ТВ)
Regular MDM/TB for case management discussion	Specialties/services participating in MDM/TB
☐ Twice a week	☑ Radiology
✓ Weekly	☑ Breast Surgery
Every two weeks	✓ Reconstructive/Plastic Surgery
Other Schedule	✓ Pathology
Cases discussed at MDM/TB	☑ Medical Oncology
a	✓ Radiotherapy
✓ Preoperative cases	✓ Genetic Counselling
M Postoperative cases	✓ Breast Nurse Service
	✓ Psycho-oncology
Further Services and Facilities	
Nuclear Medicine	Genetic Counselling
☑ Lymphoscintigraphy	✓ Specialist Providing Genetic Counselling/Risk assessment service:
☑ Bone scan	✓ Dedicated Clinical Geneticist
Positron Emission Tomography (PET)	☐ Medical Oncologist
☑ PET/CT scan	☐ Breast Surgeon
Rehabilitation	☐ General Surgeon
✓ Prosthesis service	Gynaecologist
✓ Prosidesis service✓ Physiotherapy	✓ Genetic Testing available
✓ Lymph-oedema treatment	✓ Surveillance program for high-risk women
✓ Cosmetic support	Data Management
	☑ Database used for clinical information
	☑ Data manager available

Contact details Clinical Director

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How to reach us



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From airport:

Follow the highway (E40) to Ghent as indicated. In proximity of Ghent, change direction to Antwerp (E17). The exit (number 9) to the University hospital is indicated.

By train:

Take the train to Ghent (St. Pieters station).

By bus or sub-way/underground:

Sint-Pieters station is situated in the immediate surrounding area of our hospital. The local bus and tramway company (De Lijn) has introduced a bus route (n. 65) and a tramway (n. 21 - n. 22) between Sint-Pieters station and the hospital. Tramway n. 21 goes to Melle-Leeuw and n. 22 to Gentbrugge.

Bus routes 5 (Heuvelpoort, Tolpoort, Van Beverenplein and Zwijnaarde Hekers) ensure direct connection with the hospital.

By car:

THROUGH THE MOTORWAYS E40 AND E17 (through 'Zwijnaarde' interchange): motorway E40 (Oostende-Brussel) is connected to the E17 (Antwerpen-Kortrijk). There is a special exit n. 9 'Universitair

University Hospital Ghent

Ziekenhuis' or 'UZG' on the E17. THROUGH THE TOWN: in and around the town signs have been placed on the main crossroads.

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