



# BREAST CENTRES NETWORK

Synergy among Breast Units

## ★ Breast Clinic ZNA Middelheim - Antwerp, Belgium

### General Information



**New breast cancer cases treated per year** 250

**Breast multidisciplinary team members** 16

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

**Clinical Director:** Amin Philip Makar, MD, PhD

Our multidisciplinary breast centre located at ZNA Middelheim Hospital in Antwerp meets the highest European standards. A highly qualified team with gynaecologic oncologists, surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists, radiologists, pathologists and breast care nurses discusses every case. Multidisciplinary treatment protocols are up to date. We offer immediate breast reconstruction with free perforator flaps, genetic counselling, comprehensive rehabilitation programs and a full psychological support. We operated 300 new cases last year and other 250 were referred for radiotherapy from external sources. Our breast unit has been pioneer in the Flanders regarding adoption of new techniques such as sentinel node procedure (about 15 years ago).

### **Breast Clinic ZNA Middelheim**

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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** 3
- Mammograms per year** 5000
- 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)** 800
- Dedicated Breast Surgeons** 2
- Surgeons with more than 50 surgeries per year** 2
- Breast Surgery beds** 8
- 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 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
- palliative surgery

**Pathology**

- Dedicated Breast Pathologists** 3

**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)
- basal like cancer immunohistochemical surrogates

**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
- multifocality/multicentricity, DCIS size and grade

**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

residents and reconstructive surgery upon request

## Further Services and Facilities

**Nuclear Medicine**

Lymphoscintigraphy

Bone scan

Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

PET/CT scan

**Rehabilitation**

Prosthesis service

Physiotherapy

Lymph-oedema treatment

Realidation port service in groups, sexologic course

**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

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## Reconstructive Surgery

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How to reach us



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**From airport:**

From Brussels International Airport, take the train to Antwerp. At the entrance of the train station, take bus number 27 to ZNA Middelheim. It takes about 30 minutes.

**By bus or sub-way/underground:**

From Brussels International Airport, take the shuttle to Antwerp. At the central station, take bus number 27 to ZNA Middelheim. It takes about 30 minutes.

**By car:**

Via the E40 motorway direction Ghent, Antwerp. The motorway E40 is connected to the E19 (direction Antwerp). Take exit number 6 'Hoboken, Wilrijk, Mortsel' and turn left. Then turn right to the Koningin-Elisabethlaan. Carry on for about 1 km. On the right you will see ZNA Middelheim building.

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