



BREAST CENTRES NETWORK

Synergy among Breast Units

★ Clinical Hospital Centre Rijeka - Rijeka, Croatia

General Information



New breast cancer cases treated per year 250

Breast multidisciplinary team members 18

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

Clinical Director: Franjo Lovasic, PhD

The Breast Centre of Clinical Hospital Centre Rijeka is formally recognised in 2021. However, it is established on the 20-years-long tradition and practice of the institutional dedicated breast multidisciplinary team. The MDMs are held once weekly, and all breast cases are presented and discussed for diagnostic strategies, treatment options and surveillance approaches. The average diagnostic time is 1-2 weeks, and the time from cancer diagnosis to treatment is 2-4 weeks. Conservative oncoplastic surgery of the breast and SLNB are offered whenever appropriate as well as the postmastectomy breast reconstruction procedures. In addition, irradiation therapy and systemic treatments are available on site. Our breast care nurses are committed to the patient's better understanding of the disease course and various treatment options offered in the Centre and the patient's adherence to the recommended pathway.

Clinical Hospital Centre Rijeka

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CERTIFICATION(S) ACCREDITATION(S)

BCCERT - Breast Centres Certification

Expiration date: 08 December 2024



Certification document (eng lang.)

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** 7500
- 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
- PET CT scan available in outsourcing

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)** 300
- Dedicated Breast Surgeons** 5
- Surgeons with more than 50 surgeries per year** 4
- Breast Surgery beds** 12
- Breast Nurse specialists** 4
- 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** 4
- 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
- Remodelling after BCS and contralateral symmetrization procedures are performed by breast surgeons

Pathology

- Dedicated Breast Pathologists** 2

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 for HER-2 gene expression

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
- Ki 67

Medical Oncology

- Dedicated Breast Medical Oncologists** 2
- 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

Nuclear medicine, Cytology, Reproductive health specialist (gynecologist)

Further Services and Facilities

Nuclear Medicine

Lymphoscintigraphy

Bone scan

Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

PET/CT scan

PET CT scan available in outsourcing (facility location is within the Centre)

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 Counseling Service of University Hospital for Tumors (Zagreb)

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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Marzena Mazur Grbac	Breast Radiologist		
Danijela Veljkovic Vujaklija, PhD	Breast Radiologist		
Tiana Grubešić	Breast Radiologist		

Breast Surgery

Franjo Lovasic, PhD	Head of Breast Surgery Dpt., Clinical Director of the Breast Centre	flovasic25@gmail.com	
Ana Car Peterko	Breast Surgeon	anacarpeterko@gmail.com	
Damir Grebic, PhD	Breast Surgeon		
Miljenko Lukanovic	Breast Surgeon		
Danijel Trcak	General Surgeon/ Trainee in Breast Surgery		

Reconstructive Surgery

Damir Juranic	Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeon	damirjuranic@yahoo.com	
Ivan Sebaher	Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeon		
Aleksandra Pirjavec Mahic, PhD	Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeon		

Pathology

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Medical Oncology

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Eleonora Cini Tešar	Breast Oncologist		

Radiotherapy

Ira Pavlovic Ružic, PhD	Breast Radiation Oncologist		
Goran Golcic	Breast Radiation Oncologist		

How to reach us



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Web-site: kbc-rijeka.hr

From airport:

Take Taxi to Rijeka, Krešimirova 42

By train:

The train station is 5 minutes (walking) away from the Breast Centre

By bus or sub-way/underground:

The Breast Centre is 3-4 bus stations away from the centre of the city and can be reached by any bus line of the public transport, as well as by the bus line specially established to drive directly into Clinical Hospital Centre

Last modified: 09 August 2021