



Epworth Breast Service

Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Management

Epworth Breast Service Multidisciplinary Team

A large body of international research evidence supports the view that outcomes for breast cancer can be maximised through a specialist multidisciplinary team approach. Multidisciplinary care (MDC) is defined as "an integrated team approach to health care in which medical and allied health care professionals consider all relevant treatment options and develop collaboratively an individual treatment plan for each patient."

MDC is about all relevant health professionals discussing options and making joint decisions about treatment and supportive care plans, taking into account the personal preferences of the patient. MDC is a key mechanism for ensuring that all relevant disciplines contribute to decisions about the care of patients with cancer, and evidence indicates that a team approach to cancer care can reduce mortality and improve quality of life for the patient. International clinical guidelines for the management of breast cancer, including those of Cancer Australia, all recommend the promotion of multidisciplinary care, and this is an approach also strongly supported by breast cancer consumer groups including Breast Care Network Australia (BCNA).



Regular team meetings are an integral component of MDC and a central theme of these meetings should be prospective treatment planning. The Epworth Breast Service Multidisciplinary Meetings, which have been in operation since the Epworth Breast Service was established in 2005, are held weekly, and all breast cancer patients, with their permission, are discussed both prior to and after their breast cancer surgery.

Clinicians involved in the Epworth Breast Service Multidisciplinary Team Meeting include:

Breast Surgeons: Jane O'Brien/Melanie Walker

Medical Oncologists: Rick de Boer/Rowan Doig/Ross Jennens

Radiation Oncologists: Ros Drummond/Bronwyn King/Andrew See

Pathologist: David Clouston

Breast Radiologists: Anthony Felber/Rohan White

MRI Radiologist: Richard O'Sullivan

Nuclear Medicine specialist: Zita Ballok

Allied health professionals: breast care nurses, oncology nurse coordinator, sonographers, radiographers and nuclear medicine technicians.

General practitioners are welcome to attend by prior arrangement.



Jane O'Brien



Melanie Walker



Rick de Boer



Rowan Doig



Ross Jennens



Ros Drummond



Bronwyn King



Andrew See

All Epworth Breast Service Multidisciplinary Team clinicians consult in the Epworth Centre and treat patients at Epworth Richmond enabling patients to undergo all their breast cancer treatment, from diagnosis, through surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy on site at Epworth Richmond

Level 7, 32 Erin St, Richmond. 3121

T: 9421 4218 F: 9421 5148

www.melbournebreastcancersurgery.com.au



Epworth Breast Service

Specialist Breast and Oncoplastic Surgeons

Fewer than 8% of Australian surgeons are female, and the Epworth Breast Service is therefore very fortunate and proud to be able to offer our breast patients the expertise of two highly trained and extremely experienced female specialist breast and oncoplastic surgeons, both of whom have extensive international training and experience.



Miss Jane O'Brien
MBBS 1985
University of Melbourne
FRACS 1995



Miss Melanie Walker
MBBS 1994
Monash University
FRACS 2002

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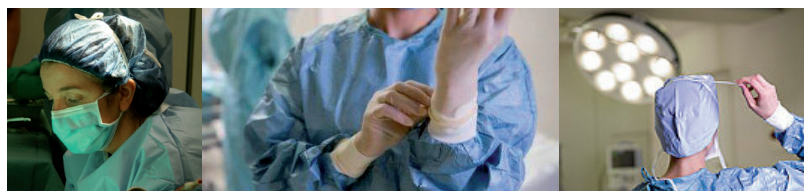
“A specialist Breast Service providing rapid access, integrated, patient centred care delivered by a dedicated multidisciplinary team specialising in breast disease”

Epworth Breast Service offers:

- Expert evaluation of all breast problems (both benign and malignant) with rapid access to specialist breast surgeons especially for patients referred with urgent breast problems, with a strong emphasis on accurate and timely diagnosis
- Access to a full diagnostic work up including breast imaging (mammography/ultrasound and MRI) and pathology (fine needle aspiration/core biopsy) as required, with rapid provision of results.
- Access to a breast care nurse at initial visit and throughout the entire patient journey. Our Breast Care Nurses are based in the consulting suites, and are available to all patients for information, provision of educational resources, assistance with obtaining prostheses, and psychosocial support in a private, dedicated counselling room.
- Personal patient information 2GB USB memory stick silicone bracelets for breast cancer patients, loaded with electronic versions of the appropriate patient resources including DVDs on breast reconstruction etc, in a tailor made fashion for each individual patient depending on specific information needs.
- Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Care with provision of a full range of all treatment modalities delivered by a multidisciplinary team in accordance with agreed clinical guidelines, emphasizing compliance with evidence based practice. We aim to provide an integrated approach to breast care in which medical and allied health professionals consider all relevant treatment options and, together with the patient, collaboratively develop an individual treatment plan for each patient through our weekly multidisciplinary meetings which have been in operation since the service was established in 2005.
- Medical and Radiation oncology services, with both chemotherapy and radiotherapy administered on site at Epworth Richmond.

Specialising in:

- Surgical management of benign breast conditions and breast cancer with access to the full range of breast surgical options including sentinel node biopsy.
- Surgery for screen detected breast cancers. (Jane and Melanie both have appointments at Breastscreen Victoria.)
- Oncoplastic Breast Surgery, a relatively new surgical subspecialty aimed at maximising cosmetic results in breast conservation surgery for breast cancer using advanced surgical techniques.
- Surveillance of high risk groups
- Preventive Risk Reduction Nipple-Sparing Mastectomy with reconstruction
- Treatment of breast cancer in younger women, with particular attention to the specific issues of genetic assessment and fertility options.



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