



CENTER FOR ONCOLOGY AND RADIOTHERAPY

ACIBADEM SISTINA





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PET CENTER

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ACIBADEM SISTINA ONCOLOGY AND RADIOTHERAPY CENTER

The Oncology and Radiotherapy Center allows treatment of malignant diseases according to global standards, with professional staff and advanced technology. Malignant diseases require a special and complex treatment process. An integrated system that will provide the best and most efficient care for patients is of vital importance. This is why we have created a center where all diagnostics and treatment services are in one place, under one roof, where a special emphasis is put on the comfort and convenience of patients.

Malignant diseases are rapidly expanding worldwide. These diseases can be cured if diagnosed early. Today, given the development of modern medicine and technology, many patients are diagnosed at an early stage of the disease and by using modern treatment protocols, the disease can be cured.

We are investing in modern technology for diagnostics and treatment and we are continuously following and implementing the latest therapies and treatment protocols. The Oncology and Radiology Center provides chemotherapy, radiotherapy and oncological surgery in one place, led by top team of specialists with extensive experience.

Also, patients with malignant diseases have the opportunity to use the latest diagnostic procedures at our hospital, including the PET/CT.

PATIENT COMFORT IS OUR PRIORITY

The specialized cubicles of modern design provide comfort and convenience for patients and their families. The Oncology and Radiotherapy Center has 12 cubicles and an isolation room for radioiodine therapy. Each cubicle is designed to provide privacy and a pleasant setting. The cubicles are also equipped with TV and internet access.



MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

An oncologic medical council of doctors-specialists from different areas functions at the Oncology and Radiotherapy Center, working together to offer the best treatment options for patients.

The treatment protocols for each cancer patient at Acibadem Sistina are adopted by a team of experienced specialists. During the treatment process, treatment is planned and the patient is monitored. At the same time, special attention is paid to reducing the side effects of treatment, increasing energy levels and strength of the patient so that he/she easily endures the healing process.





CENTER SERVICES

Oncological Surgery

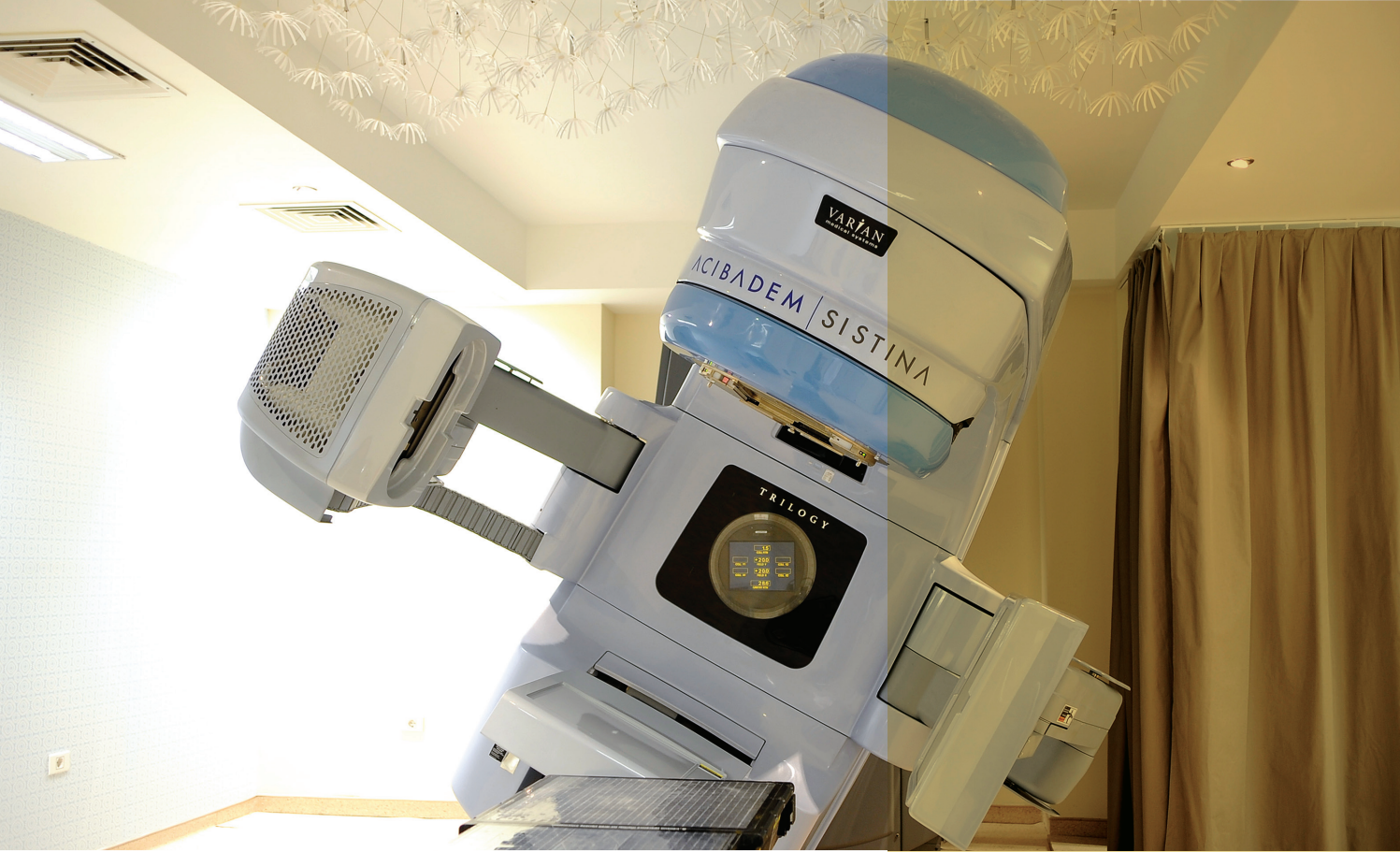
Surgery plays an important role in setting the diagnosis and the cancer treatment. The oncological surgical interventions are performed by specialized surgeons from all areas of surgery: abdominal, thoracic, urology, orthopedics and traumatology, neurosurgery, plastic surgery, gynecology and ENT.

Medical Oncology

Each stage of the malignancy is a subject of medical oncology. The treatment of patients is planned multidisciplinary, on evidence-based medicine. The oncological treatment is conducted at the Oncology and Radiotherapy Center by our expert team and it involves intravenous or oral administration of medications.

- **Chemotherapy** means application of medication aimed at destroying cancer cells, wherein more cytostatic preparations with different effect mechanism are usually combined. The team of oncologists at Acibadem Sistina Hospital constantly monitor the latest progress in oncology, as well as their effective application in accordance to accepted standards.
- **Hormone therapy** is recommended in the treatment of tumors with hormone dependency, such as prostate cancer and breast cancer. Most of the preparations are administered orally, but there is an opportunity for muscular application of certain preparations from this group.
- **Immunotherapy** performed by applying substances that the immune system naturally produces which are used to identify and destroy cancer cells by activating the immune system.
- **Target or biological therapy** one of the most important discoveries in the last decade in oncology are the highly-effective biological preparations with few side effects that affect the appropriate receptors (targets) located on the tumor cell and are not located in normal cells. This type of modern oncological therapy is widely used in various cancer types, particularly breast, colon and kidney cancer.





Radiotherapy

In this segment, the Oncology and Radiotherapy Center disposes of two types of treatment: radiotherapy and radiosurgery.

The advanced technology that we use in radiotherapy destroys cancerous tissue with high doses of radiation and at the same time protects the healthy tissue.

Radiosurgery is part of radiotherapy used to treat tumors, usually located in the brain, that can not be surgically removed. For the first time in the region, Acibadem Sistina disposes of this type of radiotherapy using the safest and most powerful accelerator TRILOGY.

PET/CT and Nuclear Medicine

The Nuclear Medicine Department is equipped with PET/CT and gamma camera, which enable services for the diagnosis and staging of cancer. Furthermore this department disposes of a single apartment for treatment of patients with radioactive isotopes (radioactive), specifically designed for maximum protection of patients, staff and the environment. Radioiodine therapy is administered for patients with appropriate indication, as well as palliative treatment of metastatic bone pain.

DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT WITH MODERN TECHNOLOGY

The Oncology and Radiotherapy Center at Acibadem Sistina Hospital provides diagnosis and treatment with the most modern technology and infrastructure by the highest standards.

Technology for diagnosis

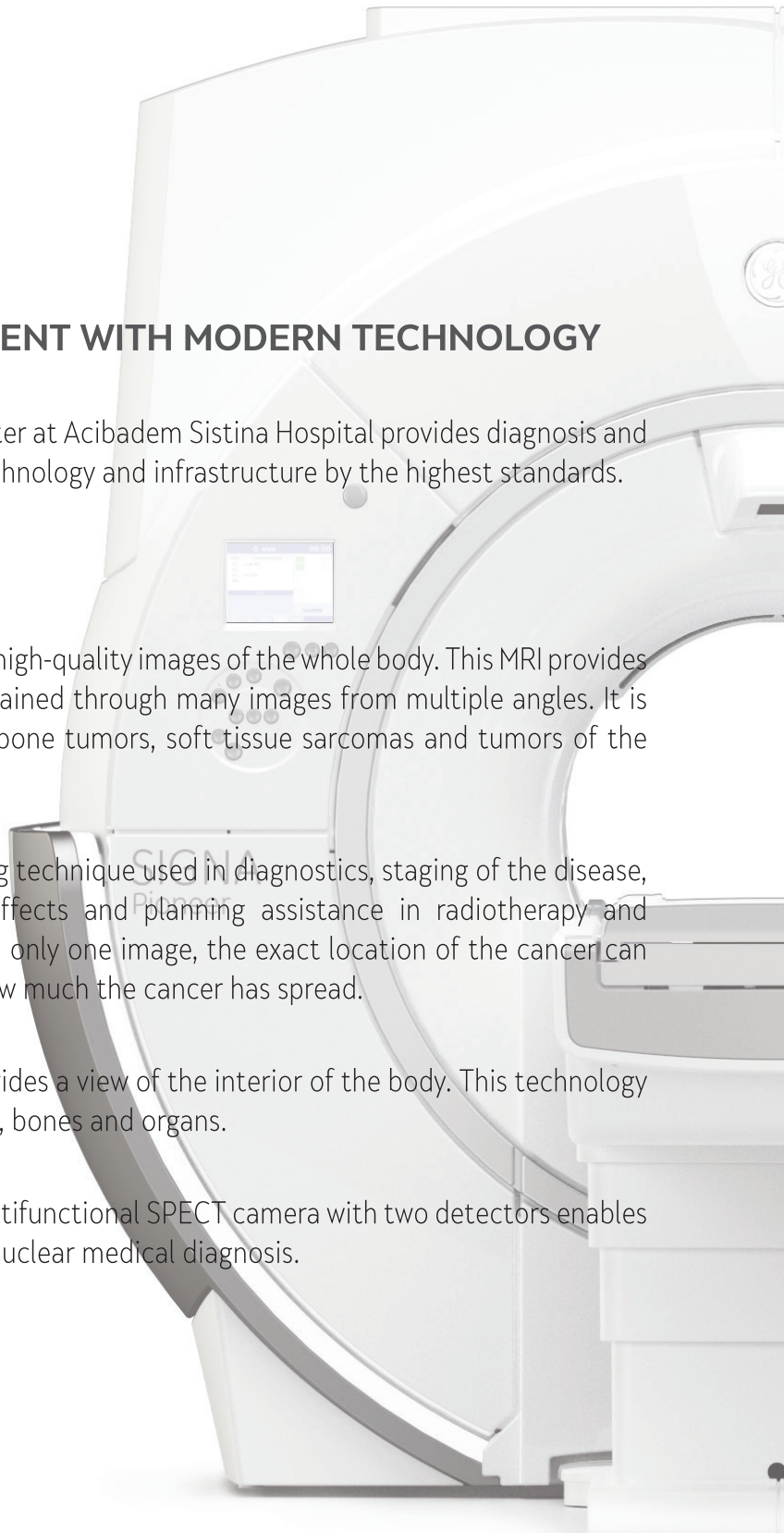
MRI (3 Tesla)*: used to obtain fast, high-quality images of the whole body. This MRI provides a clear image of the soft tissues obtained through many images from multiple angles. It is used for diagnosis of brain tumors, bone tumors, soft tissue sarcomas and tumors of the spinal cord.

PET/CT: the most effective imaging technique used in diagnostics, staging of the disease, assessment of cancer treatment effects and planning assistance in radiotherapy and chemotherapy in most cancers. With only one image, the exact location of the cancer can be detected, as well as determine how much the cancer has spread.

CT (128 slice): using X rays, it provides a view of the interior of the body. This technology is used for visualization of soft tissue, bones and organs.

SPECT gamma camera: the multifunctional SPECT camera with two detectors enables the performance of a wide range of nuclear medical diagnosis.

* Since November 2016





Technology for treatment

TRILOGY: linear accelerator for precise radiation therapy of tumors, with a small volume that at the same time provides maximum protection of the surrounding healthy tissue. It is used for successful treatment of all solid tumors, as well as certain hematological diseases such as lymphoma. It is particularly successful in the treatment of lung cancer, liver cancer, where respiratory monitoring is required. During the TRILOGY treatment, the tumor can be radiated from multiple angles and the position can be changed as well. By changing the angle, the radiation completely covers the part being radiated and protects the healthy tissue. This increases the treatment success. Technologies used in this device are:

IMRT (intensity modulated radiation therapy) - applied for better dose distribution i.e. the tumor receives the prescribed dose and the healthy tissues and organs are maximally protected. The linear accelerator moves in a certain angle and directs all the radiation intensity in different parts of the treated tumor. IMRT is used to treat tumors of the brain, head and neck, lungs and prostate.

IGRT (image-guided radiation therapy) - radiation therapy with IGRT allows determining the tumor location during treatment. The daily control images detect whether the radiated tumor is within the radiation field. The patient is monitored not only before, but also during the treatment, allowing timely prevention of possible shifts of the tumor during the imaging process.

SRS (stereotactic radiosurgery) - Stereotactic radiosurgery is aimed to accurately and intensively focus the radiation dose to the target areas. SRS is used for irradiation of the tumor area. This radiation treatment can be applied to treat tumors in parts of the brain that are inoperable.

WE BELIEVE AND FIGHT TOGETHER

Top hospital with wonderful staff!

I didn't know that there was this huge hospital in Skopje with such technical and human capabilities, otherwise I would have come much earlier. I'm fascinated by the capacity, equipment and humanity that this hospital offers. This hospital is not only the biggest Balkan center. It is much better and more modern than most European clinics. Primarily, you can get the most accurate diagnosis with the PET/CT device and the therapy conditions are astonishingly up-to-date. The preparation before therapy initiation is incredible. The patient doesn't have any side effects and most importantly everything is in one place and chemotherapy, biological therapy and immunotherapy can be combined. What is most important, Acibadem Sistina Hospital has the best doctors. After being in Switzerland, Florida, Russia, Paris, India and London, I feel that here I am in the best of hands. From here on, everything depends on what God's plans are for my life.

When a person has this disease, the relationship that doctors and the medical team have are very important. Wherever you are in "Acibadem Sistina", you will encounter a smile, support and understanding, as well as time for yourself. I don't know how you select these people so that they are always kind and empathetic. I haven't seen this anywhere so far. It is very important for me to have privacy while I'm in the hospital and to have human understanding, because if the expertise is not accompanied by humanity, the patient feels bad. It is unlikely that this hospital has 1000 employees and every employee that I was in contact with was gentle, respectful, empathetic and there was no medical arrogance and distance. In Paris, Switzerland and in Serbia doctors behaved like gods who would never get sick. That is not the case here. The humanity is the trademark of this hospital. Since I'm a writer and I'm hypersensitive, it is very important when someone says "Good morning", when someone looks at me while giving me therapy and whether I'm a diagnosis or just a human being for the doctor.

Isidora Bjelica

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Professor Jovica Ugrinoski, has a special place in my heart!

December 24, 2014 was the worst and most painful day of my life. That night was crucial for me and my family. My David, as a result of the head tumor, had an seizure at 03:30 and I started to lose him in my arms. Thank God that nurse Kristina came to our room and he was immediately taken to the operating theatre. In less than 20 minutes Professor Ugrinoski, came to Acibadem Sistina and began fighting for the life of my David. The operation lasted for several hours. Thanks to the expertise and confidence of Professor Ugrinoski, David is with us today. He saved my son with God's blessing and gave him another chance at life. I have no words to explain what this man means to me and my family. He is our savior. He not only saved David, but saved us all. Professor Ugrinoski, I wish you to stay healthy and alive and God always to be with you and your loved ones. You have a special place in my heart and I will be thankful my entire life for saving my David. I will never be able to repay you, the management and the medical staff of Acibadem Sistina for what you did for us. David was their favorite patient. He was treated the best way possible. The hospital provided the best conditions for his treatment and we received special accommodation as well to be constantly beside him.

Ana Domazetovska



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