

# Taichung Veterans General Hospital



Taichung Veterans General Hospital (TCVGH) is a leading medical center in central Taiwan, dedicated to patient-centered, multidisciplinary care across more than 20 specialty centers, including a dedicated Breast Medicine Center. The hospital is recognized for its commitment to clinical excellence, having received multiple national healthcare quality awards and certifications — including the National Healthcare Quality Award and breast cancer care quality certification — while also advancing cutting-edge technologies such as photon-counting CT, proton therapy, and AI-integrated smart healthcare systems. With robust programs in medical education, clinical research, and international collaboration, TCVGH serves as a premier academic medical institution with a growing global presence.

The Division of Breast Surgery at TCVGH manages approximately 700 newly diagnosed breast cancer cases annually, making breast cancer the leading cancer among women at our institution. Our breast oncology team operates through a fully integrated, multidisciplinary framework comprising breast surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, radiologists, pathologists, oncology case managers, social workers, nutritionists, and nursing staff, ensuring comprehensive and individualized care from diagnosis through treatment. We hold regular multidisciplinary tumor board meetings, conduct monthly patient support group sessions, and offer a dedicated joint breast cancer clinic established since 2007 — all reflecting our commitment to delivering internationally aligned, evidence-based breast cancer care.

TCVGH places strong emphasis on the training of the next generation of medical professionals. In July 2004, we established the first clinical skills training center in central Taiwan, subsequently reorganized into the Clinical Training Division under the Department of Medical Education. A dedicated teaching building was constructed in 2011, housing a state-of-the-art Clinical Skills Center and Immersive Simulation Center on the second floor — equipped with a VR classroom, ultrasound training room, simulated operating room, simulated ward, and central control room. The third floor serves as a nationally accredited OSCE examination venue with 16 stations, recognized by the Ministry of Health and Welfare from January 2024 through December 2027, while the fourth floor is devoted to minimally invasive surgical skills training. This comprehensive infrastructure reflects our institutional dedication to hands-on learning, clinical competency, and the cultivation of well-rounded healthcare professionals.

# Special Features and Highlights of Breast Cancer Treatment

- 1. Advanced Minimally Invasive Surgery** Our division specializes in a full spectrum of minimally invasive breast surgical techniques, including both gas-based and gasless endoscopic breast surgery with immediate reconstruction, as well as single-port robot-assisted mastectomy. These approaches reflect our commitment to achieving optimal oncological outcomes while preserving cosmetic results and promoting faster patient recovery.
- 2. Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Care** A structured multidisciplinary tumor board convenes every Friday to formulate individualized treatment plans for early-stage breast cancer patients diagnosed during the preceding week. This collaborative framework integrates the expertise of breast surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, radiologists, pathologists, and oncology nurse coordinators, ensuring consistent, evidence-based, and personalized care throughout each patient's treatment journey.
- 3. Integrative Medicine: Traditional Chinese Medicine in Supportive Cancer Care** Our division offers a selective integrative medicine pathway for patients undergoing chemotherapy, facilitating structured referrals to the Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Under appropriate clinical indications, patients receive individualized herbal medicine prescriptions aimed at alleviating treatment-related symptoms and supporting overall physiological balance.
- 4. Strong Research and Academic Engagement** Our center maintains active participation in international multicenter clinical trials and works in close collaboration with the hospital's research division on both basic and translational research initiatives. This commitment to academic inquiry enables our team to offer patients access to cutting-edge therapies and to contribute meaningfully to the global advancement of breast cancer care.
- 5. Patient-Centered Support System** We believe that comprehensive cancer care extends well beyond the clinical setting. Our patient support program includes monthly therapeutic craft workshops for up to 30 participants, two large-scale annual patient symposia, and two outdoor group activities designed to foster community and well-being. A dedicated chemotherapy education session held every Tuesday morning further empowers patients and their families with the knowledge and confidence needed to navigate treatment.
- 6. International Surgical Exchange and Visitation** Our division has had the privilege of hosting visiting physicians from internationally renowned institutions, including surgeons from MD Anderson Cancer Center (Madrid) for a surgical observership in June 2025, and colleagues from Samsung Medical Center for an institutional visit in March 2026.
- 7. Recognized Quality of Care** Our breast cancer program has received quality certification from the Healthcare Quality Improvement Council of Taiwan, affirming our compliance with rigorous clinical standards. This recognition underscores our institutional dedication to delivering safe, high-quality, and patient-centered care to every individual we serve.

## Hospital Visiting Schedule

September 16, 2026 (Thursday)	
Time	Activity
08:00 – 08:30	Welcome and Orientation Session
08:30 – 10:00	Outpatient Clinic Visit and Traditional Chinese Medicine Department Tour
10:00 – 12:00	Surgical Procedure Observation
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 17:00	Surgical Procedure Observation
13:30 – 17:00	Tour of the Clinical Skills and Immersive Simulation Center

September 17, 2026 (Friday)	
Time	Activity
07:00 – 08:30	Weekly Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Tumor Board Meeting
08:30 – 12:00	Surgical Procedure Observation
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 17:00	Tour of the Clinical Skills and Immersive Simulation Center