

GASTROINTESTINAL PATHOLOGY GROSSING GUIDELINES

Specimen Type: APPENDECTOMY (NON-TUMOR)

Procedure:

1. Measure the length and range of diameter.
2. Measure the width of mesoappendix
3. Describe the external surface and mesoappendix. Note variation in color, presence of exudates, signs of perforation, tumors.
4. Describe the presence or absence of perforation. Measure the size and location of perforation if present.
5. Section the entire appendix transversely at 3 mm intervals except for the tip, which is sectioned longitudinally.
6. Note wall thickness, state of the lumen, luminal contents (pus, fecaliths, etc.). Look for tan or yellow nodules within the wall of the appendix especially at the tip (carcinoid tumor). Note size, location, color and consistency of any tumors

Gross Template:

Labeled with the patient's name (***), medical record number (***), designated ***, and received [fresh/in formalin] is an [intact/ruptured] appendix measuring *** cm in length x *** cm in diameter. Attached mesoappendiceal fibroadipose tissue extends *** cm from the wall. There is a *** cm in length staple line at the resection margin. The serosa is [pink-tan and smooth, red, roughened, describe perforation if present and provide location and distance to margin-check for fecalith in lumen]. The mucosa is [pink-tan, reg, granular]. The lumen ranges from *** to *** cm in diameter and contains [purulent fluid, hemorrhagic fluid, fecal material, fecalith]. The wall is [describe cut surface] with a *** cm average thickness. No perforations, masses or other lesions are identified. Representative sections are submitted [describe cassette submission].

Cassette Submission: 2 cassettes (additional cassette(s) if necessary)

- Resection margin, shave. *This should be in a separate cassette and should be specified in the cassette summary (it can be put in one cassette with the longitudinal section of the tip)*
- Submit one longitudinal section of the tip
- Submit two transverse sections from proximal and mid appendix
 - o Include inflamed areas and/or perforation sites
- **Suspected appendicitis in which appendix appears grossly normal** – submit the entire appendix
- **Incidental appendectomy** - 2 cross sections and tip.

