Genitourinary Grossing Guidelines

**Specimen Type:** CYSTECTOMY- Total

**Procedure:**
1. Note overall dimensions of specimen, including bladder and ureters.
2. Take ureteral and urethral resection margins (ureteral margins are often closed with clamps).
3. Ink the bladder surgical margins
   - a. Left - blue
   - b. Right - black
   - c. anterior midline - yellow
   - d. posterior midline - red
   - e. Do not ink the serosa that covers the bladder at the superior-posterior aspect.
4. Open the bladder with Y-shaped incision, anteriorly:
   - a. Do not touch mucosal surfaces until well fixed, as the mucosa is easily denuded.
   - b. Look up the location of tumor in the patient’s chart to avoid cutting through the tumor;
   - c. Open ureters with scissors, inspect the ureteral mucosal surface.
5. Photograph the specimen.
6. Describe tumor: location, size, number, demarcation, characteristics (papillary/flat/nodular/ulcerated), extent of invasion, distance from inked deep margin, distance from ureteral orifice, invasion of prostate.
7. Describe mucosa away from tumor.
8. Look for lymph nodes in perivesical fat.

**Gross Template:**
Labeled with the patient’s name (**), medical record number (**), designated “***”, and received [fresh/in formalin] is a(n) [intact/disrupted/previous incised] cystectomy measuring *** x *** x *** cm in greatest overall dimensions. The bladder measures *** x *** x *** cm. The right ureter measures *** cm in length x *** cm in diameter. The left ureter measures *** cm in length x *** cm in diameter.

The bladder is opened along the anterior aspect to reveal a *** x *** cm [mass- (papillary, solid, flat), ulcer, area of fibrosis] located in the [trigone, dome, right/left lateral wall, anterior wall]. The mass [involves/ does not involve] the [right and/or left] ureteral orifices. Sectioning reveals the mass has a [describe cut surface-hemorrhage, necrosis] and a *** cm maximum thickness. The mass [is grossly superficial, extends into the bladder wall, extends into the perivesical fibroadipose tissue] and measures *** cm from the inked soft tissue margin and *** cm from the urethral margin.

The remaining bladder mucosa is (unremarkable, edematous). [Number] lymph nodes are identified ranging from *** to *** cm in greatest dimension. All identified lymph nodes and representative sections of the remaining specimen are submitted [describe cassette submission].

Ink Key:
Genitourinary Grossing Guidelines

Right- black  
Left- blue  
Anterior midline-yellow  
Posterior midline-red

**Cassette Submission:**  15-20 cassettes  
- Ureteral resection margins (en face)  
- Urethral resection margin (en face)  
- Tumor  
  o 2 sections of tumor with deep margin at area of deepest invasion  
  o 2 sections of tumor with adjacent uninvolved mucosa  
  o 1 section with nearest ureteral orifice, if applicable  
- One representative section each of uninvolved mucosa  
  o Anterior wall  
  o Posterior wall  
  o Trigone  
  o Dome  
  o Left lateral wall  
  o Right lateral wall  
  o Longitudinal section of each ureteral orifice  
  ** Submit any erythematous mucosa separate from the tumor  
  ** Some of these areas may have been sampled in relation to tumor. If you have done so, please do not over submit normal sections  
- All lymph nodes (perivesical lymph nodes are occasionally present)