

BREAST PATHOLOGY GROSSING GUIDELINES

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- A. Please review relevant medical history (including outside reports) and indication for surgery PRIOR to grossing any breast case. Any oncologic surgery must adhere to ischemic and formalin fixation guidelines (see below) and grossed appropriately.
- B. It may be helpful to document/diagram/photograph biopsy sites, procedure locations, and/or any unusual specimens for grossing.

FORMALIN FIXATION

Due to CAP-recommended guidelines for ER and HER2/neu (including FISH) tumor testing, as much as possible, specimens should be placed in formalin within one hour after the time of surgery or biopsy (collection time). Furthermore, the breast tissue should be in contact with formalin for at least 6 hours, not to exceed 72 hours.

Specimen Type: REDUCTION MAMMOPLASTY

Procedure:

1. Weigh in aggregate if fragmented
2. Measure (aggregate)
3. Document number of portions lined with skin (check for skin lesions/scars)
4. Describe cut surfaces (masses, cysts, %fibrous and %fatty tissue)

Gross Template:

MMODAL COMMAND: "INSERT REDUCTION"

It consists of multiple yellow-tan portions of fibroadipose tissue measuring [measure in three dimensions] cm in aggregate. The specimen weighs [***] grams in aggregate. [All/ Provide # of portions***] of the portions are surfaced with [tan unremarkable/describe lesion if present***] skin. Sectioning reveals [yellow-tan cut surfaces/describe***]. The tissue consists of [give percentage***] tan-yellow adipose tissue and [give percentage***] white fibrous tissue. No lesions or masses are grossly identified. Representative sections are submitted in cassettes [***].

[INSERT INK KEY FOR GYNECOMASTIA CASES/SEE GROSS MANUAL – OTHERWISE DELETE THIS SENTENCE]

Cassette Submission: Include two sections of breast parenchymal tissue in each cassette. Include skin with at least one section. If specimen is just breast skin (no fat) you may submit **one cassette with three representative cross sections**.

Sample Cassette Summary:

A1 – A3 Fibrous tissue and skin (at least one section with skin)