Head and Neck Pathology Grossing Guidelines

Do not cut any HN specimens unless you are fully oriented anatomically

- Orient by anatomic structures (oral tongue, junction of buccal/gingival mucosa, alveolar ridge, angle of jaw, hard palate, etc)
- For mandibulectomies/maxillectomies, please ask for help if unsure
- Ink resection margins
- Describe all abnormalities: size (*staging cutoffs: 2 cm, 4 cm*), location, extent, depth (*staging cutoffs: 0.5 cm, 1 cm*), distance to margins
- Sample all margins (if grossly close, e.g. 1 cm, submit perpendicular section; otherwise submit a shave of the margin closest to tumor)
- Sample tumor:
  - Show relationship to peripheral/deep margins
  - Show maximum depth of invasion
- Specimens containing mandible or maxilla:
  - Bone margins
  - Sections of bone adjacent to tumor or gross involvement of bone
- Diagrams and gross photos are appreciated

Specimen Type: GLOSSECTOMY (total/partial)

MMODAL COMMAND: "INSERT GLOSSECTOMY"

Gross Template:

It consists of a [*partial/total****] glossectomy with sutures designating [*Describe orientation provided****]. The specimen measures [***] cm (anterior-posterior) x [***] cm (medial-lateral) x [***] cm (superior-inferior). The mucosa is remarkable for a [*measure in two dimensions/cm* ***] cm [*white-tan, lesion/scar/indurated area****]. Sectioning reveals a [*describe cut surface of lesion****] cut surface and the lesion has a maximum depth of [***] cm. The lesion measures [***] cm from [*state margins****].

The remaining mucosal surface is [*smooth, pink, glistening, unremarkable****]. Representative sections are submitted.

INK KEY:
Orange   Anterior
Black   Posterior
Blue   Superior
Green   Inferior
Purple   Deep

[*insert cassette summary****]

Cassette Submission: 8-10 cassettes
- Sample all margins
- One cassette per 1 cm of lesion
  - Show maximum depth of invasion
  - Show relationship to peripheral/deep margins
- One cassette of unremarkable tissue