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. 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/previously 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:
Right- black
Left- blue
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
** 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