Genitourinary Grossing Guidelines

**Specimen Type:** NEPHRECTOMY (non tumor) –pyelonephritis, hydronephrosis, polycystic

**Procedure:**
1. Examine the specimen and describe the following three compartments:
   a. Kidney- renal capsule, cortex, medulla, collecting system
   b. Hilum- ureter, vessels, sinus fat
   c. Perinephric fat
2. Submit sections to include each of the three compartments
   a. One section of normal cortical tissue will have a “Kidney-exp” protocol
      i. Kidney-exp: 1 masson trichrome, 1 PAS, 1 Jones methenamine
3. Submit normal cortex for IF (Zeus) and 3-4 pieces of cortical tissue for EM (glutaraldehyde)- only if instructed to do so by attending
   a. Submit IF and hold EM in back refrigerator
4. Cystic kidneys are grossed in the same manner
   a. Document location of cysts (cortex vs medulla)
   b. Document size and contents of cysts
   c. Carefully examine cysts for solid areas, including thickened walls, or papillary areas. These may contain areas of neoplasia. If there is concern for neoplasia, process per neoplastic nephrectomy grossing guidelines.

**Gross Template:**
Labeled with the patient’s name (**), medical record number (**), designated “***”, and received [fresh/in formalin] is a [right, left] *** gram, *** x *** x *** cm total nephrectomy. The kidney alone measures *** x *** x *** cm. The ureter measures *** cm in length x *** cm in diameter. The renal artery measures *** cm in length x *** cm in diameter. The renal vein measures *** cm in length x *** cm in diameter. [Describe adrenal gland if present- weigh and measure].

The capsule is remarkable for [describe defects, adhesions, fibrosis, granular, etc.] The cortex [describe thickness, distinct/indistinct CMJ, cysts, other]. The medulla [describe color and shape of pyramids, cysts]. The pelvicalyceal system [is/ is not] dilated. The sinus adipose tissue [is/ is not] decreased. Calculi [are/ are not] present [describe obstruction and dilation of calyces if present]. The mucosa of the collecting system is [smooth, roughened, granular, thickened, other.] The ureter [describe stenosis, dilation, lesions present]. The vessels are remarkable for [plaque, thrombus, other, unremarkable].

No lesions or masses are identified. A portion of tissue is held in glutaraldehyde for possible future electron microscopy studies. Representative sections are submitted [describe cassette summary]. Gross photographs are taken.
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Cassette Submission: 5-6 cassettes
- Include sections of normal kidney (place in first cassette)
- Include sections of scarred areas (including cortical surface, collecting system, ureter, and blood vessels – at least 2 sections)
- Include sections of incidental lesions