

GROSSING OF SPECIMEN

AIM

To do a gross examination of the Specimen and cut tissue blocks for processing.

MATERIAL REQUIRED

- Grossing tray/board
- Blades
- Scissors
- Forceps
- Ruler
- Gauze pieces
- Absorbent cotton swabs
- Filter paper squares
- Paper labels with numbers in lead pencil
- Tissue capsule
- Gloves

The gross description of the Specimen is a permanent record what was received from the operating room.

PROCEDURE

The Specimens are arranged in Serial order according to accession number on workbench. Requisitions are arranged serially to note the gross features of the Specimen received. Resected intestinal loops are flushed in running

water before grossing. The general format of the grossing should be as follows:

1. Number of pieces or general introductory statement about the specimen, such as "the specimen consists of a uterus with both tubes and ovaries."
2. Size in cm
3. Appearance
4. consistency
5. colour
6. contour
7. Tissue is identified

* The instruments as well as boards should be thoroughly washed in running water after grossing each specimen to prevent floaters from other specimen.

* Blocks of specimen from the lesion area are cut for processing. The blocks should be thin, not more than 4 mm thick and trimmed to a sufficiently small size.

* The tissue blocks are accompanied by label bearing the number of the specimen. The label is retained as a permanent record during sectioning and storage of the tissue blocks. The number should be written legibly on the labels.

- * They are then wrapped in gauze pieces and put in tissue capsules.
- * Specimens, which consist of very small pieces of tissue usually, are processed on their entirety. They may be wrapped in filter papers soaked in formalin. Cattering, when made up of larger pieces may require bisecting.
- * Well-presented pieces having minimal areas of haemorrhage and necrosis should be processed.
- * Tissue of tubular nature such as fallopian tube, appendix are cut transversely.
- * Skin, tissue from GIT or any epithelial surface are usually cut in a plain at right angles to the surface.
- * Muscle biopsies are sectioned in both transverse and longitudinal planes.
- * Remains of all specimens are preserved in formalin until reported.

Result

Tissue blocks are from specimen ready for further processing.