**Purpose**

To meet requirements for gross descriptions on anatomic pathology reports according to CAP guidelines.

**Standards**

CAP requires a written procedure/ policy for reporting of the gross examination findings on surgical pathology reports anp.12200 REVISED 7/11/11.

**Procedure**

All surgical pathology reports must contain a gross description. Each gross description must contain the following information:

1. Specimen type, number, dimensions and or weight of specimen, measurements and extent of gross lesions or any other abnormalities.
2. Summary of cassette/slide designations for sections as appropriate (e.g. margins of resection, breast quadrants, lymph node levels, etc.)
3. Annotated drawings and photographs are valuable tools for documenting gross findings but cannot be substituted for text description.