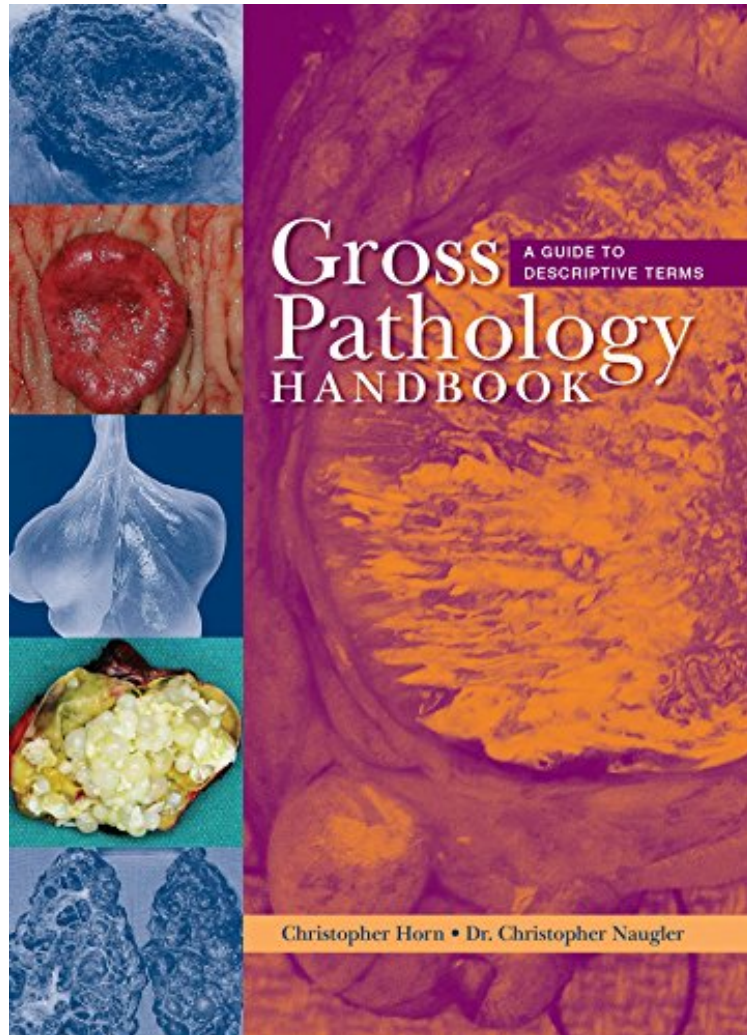


(Download ebook) Gross Pathology Handbook: A Guide to Descriptive Terms

## Gross Pathology Handbook: A Guide to Descriptive Terms

*Christopher Horn, Christopher Naugler*

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This highly practical guide helps pathology professionals quickly and accurately describe surgical and autopsy

specimens as they perform gross dissection. It helps clinicians and medical students interpret pathology reports easily and exactly. Gross Pathology Handbook provides a comprehensive list of 166 gross descriptive terms paired with images of gross specimens. Each listing includes a brief commentary describing the gross appearance, the underlying disease process and commonly affected tissues. Christopher Horn and Dr. Christopher Naugler lay the framework for a standardized method of description, resulting in easier interpretation of reports by clinicians and improved communication among healthcare providers. This edition includes a cross-referenced index and lay-flat binding for easy use in the lab.

Gross Pathology Handbook fills a much needed niche for a reference of terms and examples in gross dissection of autopsy and surgical pathology specimens. This exceptionally illustrated reference is invaluable to pathology laboratories, students, pathologist assistants, and residents, as they build detailed and precise specimen descriptions, the foundation of an accurate diagnosis. (Ivan Chebib, MD, Instructor in Pathology, Harvard Medical School; Assistant in Pathology, Massachusetts General Hospital)Gross Pathology Handbook is an excellent resource for students, teachers and those at the gross bench alike. This comprehensive collection of gross images with their corresponding descriptive text really delivers. Additional information on the tissue type affected, common etiology and sample gross descriptions make it practical and easy to use. It should be a well-thumbed, permanent feature in every gross lab and on the desk of anyone who ever has to read a pathology report. (Sarah James, Senior Pathologists Assistant, University Health Network, Toronto)About the AuthorChristopher Horn, MSc, PA(ASCP)CM is a Pathologists Assistant at Calgary Laboratory Services, where he has performed surgical gross dissection and autopsy services since 1999, and a Clinical Lecturer in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Calgary.Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.INTRODUCTION Why this guide? As medical professionals (Christopher Horn is a pathologists assistant, Christopher Naugler is a general pathologist and family physician), we have often wanted a resource with a comprehensive list of gross-descriptive terms and examples of gross specimens. We figured such a resource would help not only us, it would help other professionals as well: it could, for example, help standardize gross-descriptive terminology and make pathology reports more succinct. We couldnt find a resource like this, so we created this guide. This guide pairs a comprehensive list of gross-dissection terms with photographic examples of gross-dissection specimens. It aims to help pathology professionalspathology residents, pathologists assistants, and medical laboratory techniciansdescribe surgical and autopsy specimens as they perform gross dissection. The pathology gross room and autopsy suite are fascinating places that analyze specimens from the operating room. The specimens often involve a variety of disease processes, 1 or many organ systems, andas a resulta multitude of gross appearances. Quite often, the same disease process appears different on similar specimen types, or different from patient to patient. As a pathology-lab professional, your job is to describe what you see, so that a pathologist or clinician can read the description and visualize the specimen. This can be a daunting task, given the variability and complexity of specimensespecially for new pathology staff at the beginning of their surgical gross-dissection training. A common question in the gross room is: How would you describe this specimen? The flipside of this question, from a clinicians point of view, is: What does this specimen look like, based on this description? This guide also aims to help clinicians and medical students navigate pathology reports. How to use this guide Look up terms, look up images If you are a lab professional who is training to perform gross surgical dissection, you can use this guide, first, as a way to study specimens and the terms to describe them. Then, as you work in the surgical gross area, you can use it to identify appropriate terms by comparing your gross findings with the images. As your skills progress, you can use it to refresh and validate your gross-descriptive skills. As a clinician or medical student, you can use this guide in reverse to help interpret pathology reports: to look up unfamiliar gross-descriptive terms and see examples of specimens they describe. Combine terms for precise description As a lab professional, you should combine the terms in this guide as necessary to arrive at the most precise descriptions possible. For example, to describe the appearance of a fibroid uterus, you might combine the terms whorled and circumscribed: white-whorled, well-circumscribed masses. This description avoids words such as fibroid and leiomyoma, which are considered diagnostic terms. Note the inclusion of some diagnostic terms The grossers job is to describe and the pathologists job is to diagnose. So, gross descriptions should not, in general, employ diagnostic terminology. We have found, however, that some diagnostic terms provide the best way to describe some gross findings, and that pathologists and clinicians often agree. This guide includes these terms. It includes, for example, the term diverticulum. Although diverticulum is technically a diagnostic term, it is often preferred as a descriptor over the more traditional and wordy out pouching of mucosa and intestinal wall into the surrounding pericolonic fat. You may want to check with your pathologists before incorporating these diagnostic terms into your reports. Apply the sample gross descriptions We use each term in this guide in a unique gross-description phrase, usually based on the specimen in the accompanying image. You can use these phrases as the foundation of your own reporting.