**Purpose**

A breast reduction is a procedure to relieve symptoms of Macromastia, which include back and neck pain, shoulder grooving, skin irritation and deteriorating posture. The amount of tissue (the weight) is very important for insurance billing reasons and must be included in the gross description. Sometimes this procedure is done to give a symmetrical look for women who have had a mastectomy for cancer that have Poland's syndrome. These specimens are almost always fragmented with separate breast parenchyma and skin. A nipple isn't present and these specimens cannot be reconstructed.

**Procedure**

* Weigh and measure the specimen in aggregate
* Examine the skin. Describe any lesions
* Section thoroughly at 0.5 cm maximum thickness
* Describe the cut surface - percentage of adipose or fibrous tissue present
* Describe any lesions (nodules, firm areas, cysts)

**Sections for Histology**

* 1 block with skin
* 3 blocks of representative fibrous parenchyma
* Additional blocks to represent any abnormal findings (if applicable)

**Sample Dictation**

Specimen A labeled "Right Breast" received in formalin in a large container is an 800 gm, 15 x 15 x 6 cm aggregate of yellow-pink fibroadipose tissue and tan unremarkable skin. The specimen is sectioned to reveal pink yellow adipose tissue interspersed with fibrous tissue - 15% is fibrous. No masses, lesions or areas of induration are noted.

A1. Skin and breast tissue (2ss)

A2-A4. Breast tissue (2ss each)

Specimen B labeled "Left Breast" received in formalin in a large container is an 850 gm, 17 x 15 x 7 cm aggregate of yellow-pink fibroadipose tissue and tan unremarkable skin. The specimen is sectioned to reveal pink-yellow adipose tissue interspersed with fibrous tissue - 15% is fibrous. No masses, lesions or areas of induration are noted.

B1. Skin and breast tissue (2ss)

B2-B4. Breast tissue (2ss each)