

General Minor Instrument Tray

(0:01 - 5:26)

What's up guys and welcome back to another Surgical Tech Tips. Today, as you can see, I have an instrument tray right here and we're going to be breaking it down. I know a lot of you out there have been wanting me to do a breakdown video with some instrument trays and I think it's a great idea and I talked to my people here and I got the okay that I'm allowed to open up a tray and talk about it.

So, we're starting with the most, I think, the simplest tray that we have in ROR and that is the general minor tray. This is a tray that you're gonna open up for any type of minor general procedure. Pretty much all of your hernias, umbilical, inguinal, stuff like that, small breast cases like lumps and small masses.

Basically, like INDs of knees, groynes, anything really. There's a lot of applications for this minor tray to be used that you don't necessarily need. You know, some of the bigger trays with much more instruments and bigger retractors and stuff like that.

So, let's go through it. All right, now we're gonna start this tray off by just going through the general instrument stringer that we have here on the on the roll towel. So, starting it off, we've got four sharp towel clips, also known as the backhouse towel clips.

As you can see, very sharp. These can pierce patient's skin and a lot of the time surgeons do use it for that application. Other times you may see surgeons as they do like a four towel off around the incision site.

A lot of the times they'll like to use this backhouse towel clip and and clip the corners of the towels together so the towels don't move around while they're working on the on the field. Other times you may see them use like a disposable stapler for that or just nothing at all. Next, we have the dull towel clip, also known as the Lorna towel clamp.

I personally like to use these for like the bovie holders and stuff like that on the field. If you use these sharp towel clips, you're going to be piercing through the drapes themselves and that is piercing through a somewhat sterile field. So, it's not a good idea to use these these sharp towel clips for that reason.

I would definitely, I definitely prefer using the the dull towel clips and if I don't have these available, I'll just use like a Kelly clamp or something like that to hold the bovie holder on. Moving along, we've got some mosquitoes here. These are the Halstead mosquito, the proper name for them.

Some other names for this Halstead mosquito might be just just mosquito, you know, sometimes they'll just call it just a mosquito, other times just a small clamp. They may use it to

clamp off a vascular structure so they could tie around it or other times it may be used to maybe dissect. Instead of using a scissor, they may want to just do blunt dissection and they'll be able to dissect with a mosquito instead.

So, the slightly bigger brother to the mosquito is the Kelly clamp. The Kelly clamp is it's not much bigger, maybe like a half of an inch bigger than the mosquito. This is kind of like your general purpose clamp.

I see this clamp used in the OR more than anything else. If the surgeon asks for a clamp, they're usually wanting this clamp right here. Your general purpose clamp.

Again, used for similar things like the mosquito, blunt dissection, stuff like that. Next up, we have the Alice forceps or the Alice clamp. There is an Alice Adair clamp as well.

The Adair clamp is just slightly wider. The teeth are slightly wider. So, instead of maybe like four and five teeth, it's like seven and eight teeth or something like that.

It's just a little bit wider. Usually, you'll see those in a GYN set. These are a general purpose clamp for basically holding on to like masses and tissue that you're trying to excise from a wound or from a patient.

It could be like a breast lumpectomy. It could be a lipoma. But the most important role of this is that it's atraumatic.

It's not going to just tear into that tissue like some other clamps used can do. Next up, we've got the Babcock. The Babcock is...nothing really looks like it.

And I have...looks like a six inch and an eight inch Babcock here in this set. This is a clamp that is used pretty much solely on bowel. It's an atraumatic clamp.

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It's not going to, you know, harm the tissue that it's clamping on, similar to the Alice. But this is just a little bit lighter on the tissue. So you'll see this used on bowel.

Now, we have something traumatic here. This is the Leahy clamp or the Leahy-Goitre clamp, I believe they call the real name of it. This clamp is, obviously, you can see it has teeth.

It's very sharp. Similar use to, you know, Babcock and Alice where it's going to be grabbing tissue and holding on to it. The only reason they would use this, they will not use this on bowel like a Babcock would be used on.

But maybe in the surgeries where an Alice is used and the Alice just keeps on kind of slipping off of the tissue and it's not like grasping on there properly, they might just ask for a Leahy so they could really grab onto that tissue and tug on it so they can, you know, get their full dissection in that they want to achieve. Next up, we have the Kocher here or the Rochester-

Oschner-Kocher. As you can see, the inside of the clamp is similar to like a Kelly, where it just has these serrations on the inside of the clamp, but it has these teeth, you know, two little teeth here at the end, these spikes.

And this is really used to grasp onto tough, tough tissue and basically just really, really pull up on that tissue to get it out of the way, get a better view for the surgeon, that type of stuff. Again, we have a 6 and an 8 inch here and a lot of these instruments come in all different lengths as well. Next up, we have the Peon, sometimes called the Mayo clamp or just the big clamp for some surgeons.

This has similar uses to the Kelly and the Mosquito, but again, it just depends on where the surgeon is working and, you know, what they're going to need. Next up is the Tonsil, also called the Schnitt. Yes, it's not a bad word.

It's the Schnitt. This Tonsil clamp is used for dissection quite often, actually, and this length of the Tonsil, this, I believe it's an 8 inch length of the Tonsil, is the most common length that you will see for this Tonsil. A lot of the times, if the surgeon wants like a tie on a pass, you will put the tie on a Tonsil clamp for them to use for the tie on the pass.

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Other times, they may ask for maybe a peanut and this Tonsil sponge will be used to hold that peanut. This is a good general use item for those types of things. Next up is the Right Angle Clamp.

Surgeons will just call it a Right Angle. It has many different names. Sometimes, it can just be, you know, a delicate Right Angle.

Sometimes, it will be called like a thoracic gall duct, forceps, stuff like that. Basically, those just have different types of serrations in them, but they all have the Right Angle physical property to it. In a vascular tray, these are used a lot for vascular, but in the instance of the general, minor general tray, it could be used for dissection and maybe if the surgeon is coming into a big vein that's kind of in their way and maybe it's something that they don't want to clip, they might go ahead and use this Right Angle to get around the vein, dissect around the vein a little bit and put a couple ties around the vein and tie that vein off and get it out of the way.

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Next up is the sponge forcep, also known as a sponge stick, but don't get it confused with a sponge stick. If the surgeon asks you for a sponge stick, they mean they want this sponge forcep with a Raytec wrapped around the end of it. That is a sponge stick.

If they ask for a sponge forcep, this is what they're asking for. Just this. No sponge on it.

This is a sponge forcep. Coming near the end of this stringer here, we have two, four, six needle

holders for this tray. We've got these small little Haisley needle holders.

There's no inserts in them or anything. These are perfectly smooth. These will be used for a smaller type of needle and definitely a smaller, more delicate type of case.

Moving up, we have the Mayo-Hagar. These have nice little inserts that are nice and grippy for big needles. It comes in two sizes.

We've got the six inch and the eight inch size Mayo-Hagar needle holders. You'll use these for a closing suture a lot of the times. Now that we're at the end of the stringer here, we have two, four, six scissors that we have to go through.

This is the Potts Smith scissor. This scissor obviously is used for dissection and all that stuff. All these scissors are used for dissection.

This is used in vascular a lot. I don't see it used in general surgery a lot. There may be some general surgeons that like to use it, but you will know it's a Potts Smith because it has these bevels on either side of each side of the scissor itself.

It'll have this nice little line going to the tip of the scissor. That's a Potts Smith. Now we have the Metzenbaum scissor.

This is a scissor that a general surgeon will use quite often. It's got a nice blunt tip to it and they'll use this for dissection all the time. This will be your tissue, your main tissue dissection scissor for general surgery.

Now we have two Mayo scissors here. We've got a straight Mayo and a curved Mayo scissor. These scissors in general surgery will be used to cut suture across the bar.

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This is your suture cutter. This scissor here will be used to cut suture. If you give the surgeon the Metz scissors to cut suture, he's probably going to say, please give me the suture scissors.

If they're asking for a suture scissor, it'll most likely be this Mayo scissor. Not all surgeons are the same, but 99% of the surgeons I work with in general use this as a suture scissor. The last scissor we have here is just a small little Stevens tenotomy scissor.

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You can tell it's a tenotomy because it has basically like little cutout on either side of the tip of the scissor just to bring it up a little bit closer for finer dissection and more precise dissection. Now going over the back of the tray here, these are all of our retractors in this minor set. We've got a couple Wheatlanders, two different sizes depending on the size of the incision.

We have some Sen retractors. Obviously it's got a blunt side and this is the sharp rake side of

the Sen. We've got some Murphy rake retractors.

These are four prong Murphy rake retractors. You'll see this a lot in breast surgery. A pin cutter, also you will see a lot in breast surgery like a needle localisation, stuff like that.

U.S. Army Navy's, also known as just the Army Navy retractor. Good general-use item. You'll see that used quite often in multitude of general cases.

The last two here are the Richardson retractors. We got a small one and we've got a big one. You'll know it's a Richardson because it's always going to kind of come back on itself a little bit at the tip as both of these do.

Those are just, again, a good general-use retractor for a multitude of things in a multitude of cases across the board as far as minor cases go. The last part of this tray is everything that you usually you'll get kind of in a bag similar to this. It's basically all of your loose items which are going to be your forceps and your knife handles like that.

Breaking these forceps down, these are very basic because, again, this is a minor general tray. These are the Adsens with teeth up front here. Obviously used for skin, so that's why I have them right here.

We have the tissue forceps here. These could be used for subcutaneous. They're also known as the rat tooth.

A lot of surgeons will just say, hey, you know, give me a rat tooth forceps. This is what they're asking for. We have a deeper version for them as well.

These are similar in their physical nature to the rat tooth, but they do not have the teeth at the end of the forceps themselves. These are used a lot as dressing forceps. If you're packing a wound with dressings, you'll see this used a lot.

This is a similar use to the rat tooth. This is the Bonnie forceps. It's just a little bit thicker, a little bit more tissue.

Maybe it's a slightly or an obese patient and they have a lot of tissue that they need to grab. They're going to be using this when they're closing up that subcutaneous tissue. The DeBakey, this forceps here is going to be used all the time.

This is the DeBakey vascular forceps. It's used, I mean, basically as soon as the incision is made and they're boveeing down to where they need to fix the problem, they're going to be using this DeBakey the entire way through. Sometimes surgeons even use this to close the subcutaneous layer of tissue, which leaves our Russian forceps at the end.

It has this signature round tip. This is good at grabbing stuff as well. I've seen patients, I'm sorry, not patients.

I've seen surgeons pack wounds with dressings with the Russian, but it's also good as a general use item if they need to scoop out a lot of tissue and grab a lot of tissue for a specimen or something like that. Now the last part of this suture bag here is the knife handle. We've just got two number three knife handles.

Again, this is like your main knife handle that you're going to be loading a number 10 blade on for them to use to make the incision. We just have two of them in this set and that's about it. That was our general minor tray.

(16:55 - 17:42)

Very, very basic tray. A lot of very, very basic instruments that you should know as a tech student and if you don't, definitely go over those instruments in that tray because that is a lot of general use instruments in that tray that you'll be utilising all the time, all the time in the OR. I felt like it was a little bit boring of a video, not as exciting as the previous videos that I've made, but that's okay.

A lot of you guys out there wanted a video that was about instruments and about, you know, an instrument tray, so I hope you guys liked it. And as always, thank you, thank you for watching. I'll see you again in the next one.

Bye.