

# **Surgical Instruments**

Diagnostics, Infection Control and Sterilization



#### **Lesson Objectives**

- 1. Review information on instrument manufacturing
- 2. Identify the different types of finishes on surgical instruments
- 3. Differentiate types of instruments by their design
- 4. Differentiate types of instruments by their function
- 5. Classify instruments by tissue type
- 6. Demonstrate how to pass basic instruments to the surgeon
- 7. Describe how to inspect instruments for defects

#### **Surgical Instruments**

- Expertise in surgical instrumentation is crucial for surgical technologists.
- Learning instrument names can be challenging due to regional variations.
- Instruments are classified by function and tissue association to foster critical thinking.
- Evaluation of instrument soundness is essential for patient safety and smooth procedures.
- Responsibility for instrument safety lies with all involved in their use and processing.
- Safety always takes precedence in instrument handling and usage.

#### **Classifications of Instruments**

- Accessory Instruments
  - Like loves, rodent guillotines, bone wax, surgical instrument lubricants, surgical instrument cases, absorbent paper points
- Cutting/Dissecting Instruments
  - Sharp
  - Used for Incisions and dissections
  - Like scalpels, blades etc.











### **Instrument Manufacturing**

- Quality and safety of surgical instruments depend on manufacturing process, materials, and quality control.
- High-quality surgical instruments use specific metals, with stainless steel being preferred.
- Stainless steel contains chromium, which resists corrosion and increases strength.

#### Instrument Grades:

- Stainless steel grades determine quality, with variations across manufacturers.
- Five grades exist, but three are commonly used in surgical instrument manufacturing.
- Surgical grade has highest chromium content, divided into premium and intermediate grades.
- Floor grade contains lower chromium, prone to bending and breaking, suitable for labs.
- Disposable grade is for one-time use, prone to breakdown with repeated exposure to high temperatures.

#### **Instrument Finishes**

- Highly polished or mirror finish
- Satin finish
- Black chromium finish
- Titanium anodizing
- Anodizing
- Gold dip
  - Tungsten carbide inserts
- Black finish



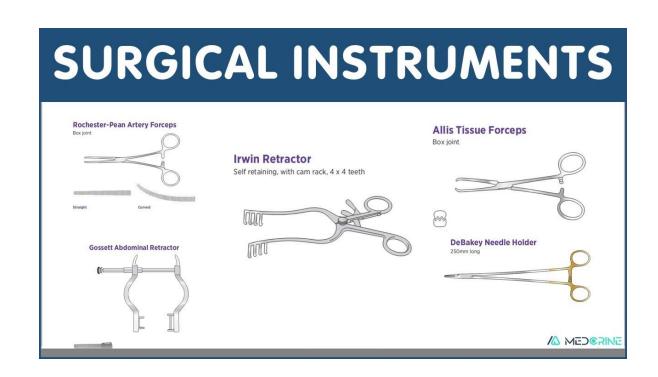
#### **Instrument Names**

- Surgical instruments are named for surgeons who invented them, such as:
  - Debakey
  - Satinsky and Cooley
  - Cloward
  - Castroviejo
  - ..and many, many more



#### Common Types of Instruments by Function

- Cutting/dissecting (Scissors)
- Clamping/occluding (Clamps, Vascular Clamps, Bulldogs)
- Grasping/holding (Forceps, Clamps)
- Retracting/exposing (Retractors)
- Aspirating/suctioning (Suction)
- Suturing (Needle Holders)
- Stapling (Staplers)
- Dilating (Dilators, other clamps used to dilate)
- Probing (Probes)
- Accessory
- Microinstruments (Small/Micro Versions of Others)
- Viewing (Scopes)



## Instruments by Tissue Type

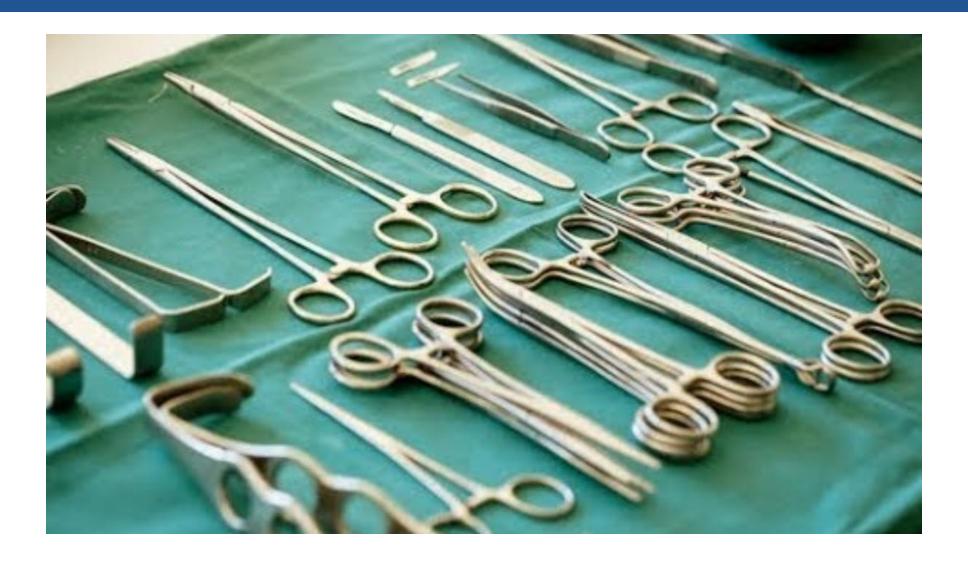
- Instruments Designed for use on specific types of tissue:
  - Skin
  - Visceral serosa
  - Lung, spleen, liver, thyroid
  - Peritoneum
  - Adipose tissue
  - Muscle
  - Bone
  - Cartilage, tendon, and fascia



# Watch the "General Minor Instrument Tray" Video for an overview of some of the most common surgical instruments

• This video includes some of the most common and used instruments and their general uses. This is a good place to start learning surgical instruments

# **General Minor Instrument Tray Video**



### **General Minor Instrument Tray Video**

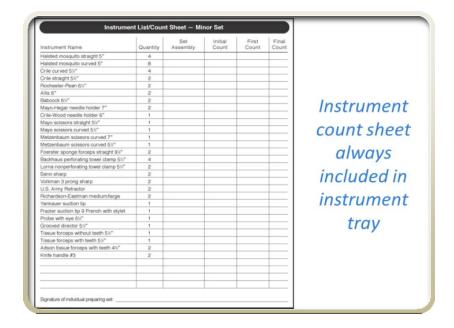
- Instruments in Video:
  - Towel Clips
  - Mosquito
  - Kelly
  - Allis
  - Babcock
  - Kocher
  - Tonsil (Schnidt)
  - Right Angle (Mixter)
  - Sponge Stick
  - Needle Holders
  - Mayo and Metzenbaum Scissors

- Knife Handles (#3 Handle)
- Retractors
  - Richardson
  - Army/Navy
  - Weitlanders
  - Senn
  - Rakes
- Forceps
  - Adson
  - "Rat Tooth"
  - Debakey
  - Russians

#### **Instrument List/Count Sheet**

Lists the type and number of instruments in a set

- Given to circulator and used to count the instruments before, during, and after the case
- Count may be waived for the procedure due to an emergency



#### Passing Surgical Instruments During Surgery

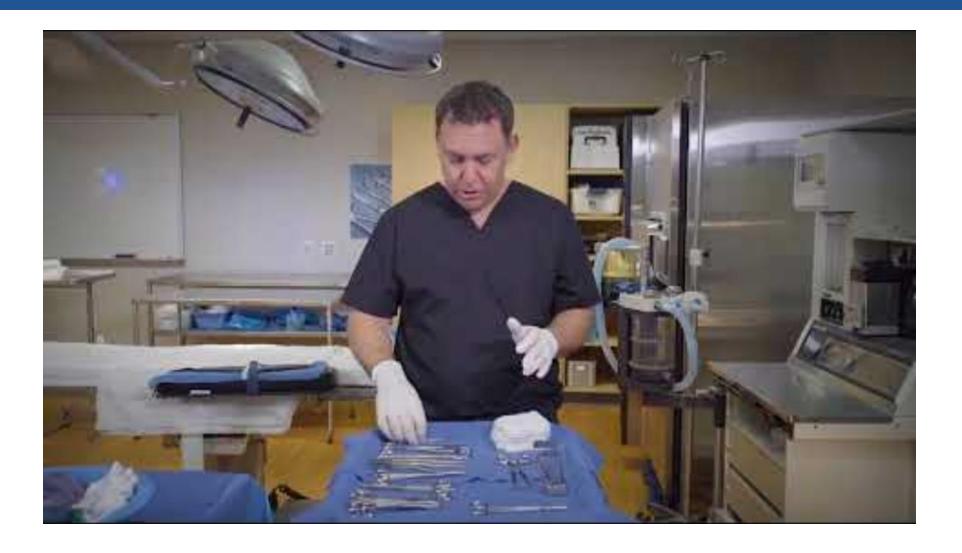
- Pass instruments to surgeon and scrubbed technologist safely to prevent injury.
- Orient instruments for immediate use while passing.
- Pass instruments purposefully and securely.
- Grasp instruments in the midsection when passing.
- Place power-driven or stapling instruments in safety mode before passing to avoid injury.
- Use a magnetic mat on surgical field during procedures without flat surfaces to prevent instrument sliding.

### **Specific Instrument Techniques**

- Knives and scalpels: Passed on sterile field ideally in a basin; if by hand, grasp in the middle with blade down.
- Tissue forceps: Passed with tips down.
- Scissors: Handles contact surgeon's palm, points pointing toward the back of the hand.
- Clamp: Hemostatic clamp passed with tips upward, finger rings touching palm.
- Retractor: Passed with right angle blade(s) pointing down towards the wound.
- Needle holder: Passed with needle point oriented upward, ready for use.

# Watch the video on "Passing Surgical Instruments" in the next slide

# Passing Surgical Instruments Video

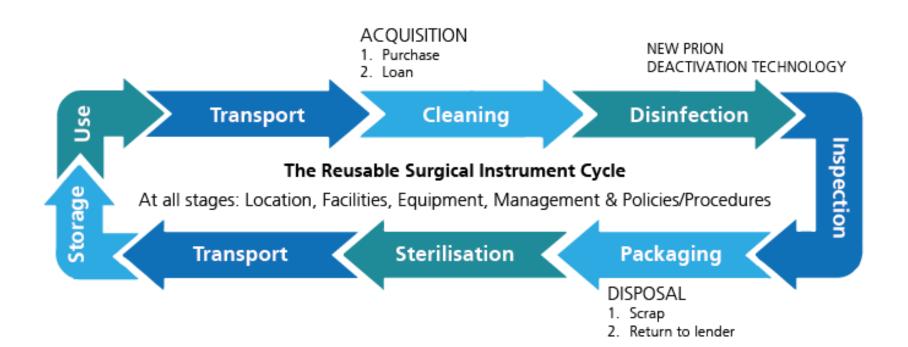


#### **Passing Instruments Video**

#### **Summary of Video:**

- Pass Instruments how they will be used by the Surgeon
- Safety is the number one priority of passing
- Pass firmly surgeon will be focused on the surgical field

## Instrument care and handling



## Watch video of Chapter 11 from the E-Book

Watch the video on "Surgical Attire", "Scrubbing, Gowning
and Gloving" from Surgical Technology - Elsevier eBook on VitalSource, 8th
Edition by logging into your Evolve account

## Read Chapter 11 from the E-Book

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## Thank you!

Get ready for your quiz and rest of the activities now. Best of luck!

# Congratulations!

Lesson 11 is complete.