



KERRISON STYLES

KERRISON RONGEUR EXPERT

 BEYOND
CLEAN



Alex Ebner
CEO | Wiggins Medical

Beyond Clean Kerrison Rongeur Expert™:

Kerrison Styles

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Kerrison Rongeurs are essential for spinal surgery, and they are a great instrument for decompressing the spine. Most surgeons use an 8" length Kerrison Rongeur for lumbar cases. Kerrison Rongeurs widths range from 1-6mm while cervical cases use 1-4mm. These can come with or without an ejector, various lengths, widths, and footplates to accommodate approaches as well as patient anatomy.

The Kerrison Rongeur is a surgical device composed of a cutting shaft, handle, and footplate. It operates with an external spring that controls the strength and function of the instrument. Depending on the type of procedure, surgeons use different types of footplates: thin or ultra-thin footplates for neck cases, or thin or standard footplates for lumbar and thoracic cases. To make it more efficient in certain situations, some surgeons employ techniques where they use make a 'backwards bite.' Unfortunately, this can present issues such as pain and long-term damages caused by the horn digging into the surgeon's palm. As an alternative to this technique, surgeons can utilize backbiting Kerrison's and ones that rotate, which help to prevent these unfortunate scenarios.

The back biting kerrison is an essential instrument for surgical procedures, with a design that allows for optimal maneuverability. By inverting the cutting edge and footplate 180°, the back biting kerrison can help surgeons get to certain anatomy in the patient without having to change positions or angle relative to them. Not only is this tool useful in its versatility, but it also helps protect against carpal tunnel syndrome, as the spine of the back biting kerrison does not dig into the palm like other devices do. Additionally, back biting kerrison come in either a standard 40° cutting edge or 90° cutting edge; depending on their preference, surgeons may choose between these two according to their individual needs.

Have more questions for this expert? Contact Alex at: alex@wigginsmedical.com

Beyond Clean Kerrison Rongeur Expert™ Biography:

Alex Ebner

CEO Wiggins Medical



Two decades of Medical Device experience in Sales, Marketing, Quality, Regulatory, Management, Product development and design. Alex founded ACE Medical Company in 2011 as a regional distribution company focused on better instruments for surgery. In 2015, ACE began manufacturing our first surgical instruments, a Kerrison Rongeur in our South German factory. Now, they manufacture in 8 different Surgical Instrument factories throughout Europe and the United States with global distribution in 27 countries. In 2017 Alex acquired Wiggins Medical, a leading Kerrison Rongeur manufacturer with customers in all 50 states and a reputation for quality innovative instruments. Alex travels often to Germany to meet with manufacturers and hand select the instruments they manufacture.



Stay tuned to his Kerrison Rongeur Expert Series so you can learn more about how industry conversations and best practices are impacting this unique surgical instrument!

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