

Curriculum Vitae Doctor Denis Laurent Kaech, Neurosurgeon  
([denis@ksgr.ch](mailto:denis@ksgr.ch) till December 2022, [denis@rollinfifties.ch](mailto:denis@rollinfifties.ch))

Doctor Denis Laurent Kaech graduated from the medical School in Basel in 1977. From 1978-1985 he worked as a resident in Germany (General Surgery), Switzerland (Neurology and Neurosurgery), then as a Attaché in Neurosurgery at the Salpêtrière in Paris and as a Neurosurgical Registrar at the Wessex Neurological Centre in Southampton.

After 4 years spent as a Senior Resident in Lausanne, he was appointed as Chief Neurosurgeon in Chur, Switzerland, in May 1989 ([www.ksgr.ch](http://www.ksgr.ch)). He then developed special interests in spine surgery and neurodiagnostic imaging. As a co-editor and translator of a book about CT and MRI in the clinical practice (French to German in 1996), he published a first monograph about interbody fusion cages and artificial discs in 1999, and a book "Spinal Restabilization Procedures" in 2002, co-authored by the American Neuroradiologist Prof. J. Randy Jinkins.

Dr Kaech was teacher at the European Courses in Neuroradiology dedicated to Spine in Prague in 1995 and in Bologna in 1998, at the EANS Courses in Luxembourg in 2006 and in Trondheim (Norway) in 2008, at the EFNS Academy for Young Neurologists held in Czech Republic in 2000, 2002, 2008, 2010, 2013 and 2015. Finally he was teacher and microsurgical hands-on course instructor at the AO-Spine Course from 16.-17.10.2014 in Muttentz/Basel, Switzerland.

He has been President of the Swiss Society of Spine Surgery in 2010 and 2011, congress president of ArgoSpine and the organizer and president of the GIEDA Inter-Rachis Symposium in December 2010 ([www.argospine.org](http://www.argospine.org); [www.gieda.net](http://www.gieda.net)). He serves as member of the board of GIEDA and of Argospine, working also as associate chief-editor of ArgoSpine News & Journal, now a supplementum of EJOST published by Springer until 2016.

His special interest, apart from spinal Neurosurgery, is Neuroimaging. Together with Dr Jean-Pierre Elsig, orthopaedic surgeon in Zürich and Swiss pioneer of open, upright, weight bearing, kinetic MRI, (or functional MRI, mainly dedicated to spine), he wrote several papers and gave many lectures about this new topic.

After retiring as Chief Neurosurgeon in July 2016, he kept working as Senior Consultant till May 2021, including weekend duties (20-27% at KSGR, plus 50% in November and December 2017 in Winterthur), and is still working one afternoon a week at Medical Center Maienfeld.

Dr. Kaech is also a Rock&Roll and Blues pianist and Songwriter, performing as bandleader of the "Rollin' Fifties": [www.rollinfifties.ch](http://www.rollinfifties.ch) [denis@rollinfifties.ch](mailto:denis@rollinfifties.ch)  
A CD with 10 own songs («Rocking the Blues») was officially presented in Chur at Loucy's on November 27, 2021, including a concert («Tribute to the Legends of Rock and Roll»).

As a railway enthusiast he enjoys travelling by train and creating landscapes for model railway layouts.