Juxtafacet cyst pathology

Cyst walls are composed of fibrous connective tissue of varying thickness and cellularity. There are usually no signs of infection or inflammation. There may be a synovial lining ¹⁾ (synovial cyst) or it may be absent ²⁾ (ganglion cyst). The distinction between the two may be difficult, ³⁾ possibly owing in part to the fact that fibroblasts in ganglion cysts may form an incomplete synovial-like lining ⁴⁾. Proliferation of small venules is seen in the connective tissue. Hemosiderin staining may be present, and may or may not be associated with a history of trauma ⁵⁾.

Lumbar juxtafacet cyst arise from the zygapophyseal joints of the lumbar spine and commonly demonstrate synovial herniation with mucinous degeneration of the facet joint capsule ⁶⁾.

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