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WORD SEARCH

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cyst (sist) [Gr. kystis sac, bladder]

1. an abnormal closed cavity in the body, lined by epithelium and containing a liquid or semisolid material. Some cavities that are not lined by epithelium and should properly be called [pseudocysts](#) are commonly referred to as cysts; see [pseudocyst](#). 2. a stage in the life cycle of certain parasites, during which they are enclosed within a protective wall; see, for example, [hydatid c.](#), [multilocular c.](#) (def. 2) and [pseudocyst](#) (def. 2). 3. [vesica](#).

Cyst

adventitious cyst, [pseudocyst](#) (def. 1).

allantoic cyst, [urachal c.](#)
alveolar cyst, dilatation of a pulmonary alveolus; several may fuse by breakdown of their septa to form large air cysts called [pneumatoceles](#). [alveolar hydatid c.](#)
alveolar hydatid cyst, a [hydatid cyst](#) with multiple [loculi](#) (small irregular cavities) that may contain [scolices](#) but generally little fluid; it is formed by larvae of [Echinococcus multilocularis](#) and tends to enlarge by budding since it has a poorly developed hyaline cuticle. Called also [multilocular hydatid c.](#) See [alveolar hydatid disease](#), under disease.

amniotic cyst, cystlike processes containing [amniotic fluid](#) resulting from adhesion of amniotic folds.

aneurysmal bone cyst, a benign, rapidly growing, osteolytic lesion usually occurring in childhood or adolescence; it may be primary or secondary to an existing lesion and is characterized by blood-filled, often large, cystic spaces lined by bony or fibrous septa that contain osteoid and multinucleated [giant cells](#).

angioblastic cyst, an ingrowth of the mesenchymal tissue having blood-forming power in an embryo.

apical cyst, an epithelium-lined cyst in the bone at the apex of a pulpless tooth.

arachnoid cyst, a fluid-filled cyst between the layers of the [leptomeninges](#), lined with arachnoid membrane, most commonly occurring in the sylvian fissure; called also [leptomeningeal c.](#)
Baker cyst, a swelling behind the knee, caused by escape of synovial fluid which becomes enclosed in a membranous sac; called also [popliteal c.](#)


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Sagittal plane MRI showing the posterior location of a Baker cyst.

Bartholin cyst, a mucin-filled cyst resulting from obstruction of the duct of the [greater vestibular gland](#) ([Bartholin gland](#)).

Blessig cysts, cystic spaces that frequently appear at the periphery of the retina close to the ora serrata without significant effect on vision; called also [Blessig lacunae](#), [cystoid degeneration](#), and [Iwanoff c's](#).

blue dome cyst, a benign [retention cyst](#) of the breast containing straw-colored fluid that shows a blue color when unopened; see [fibrocystic disease of breast](#), under disease.

Boyer cyst, a painless and gradual enlargement of the subhyoid bursa.

branchial cyst, **branchial cleft cyst**, a cyst arising in the lateral aspect of the neck, from epithelial remnants of a [branchial cleft](#) ([pharyngeal groove](#)), usually between the second and third [pharyngeal arches](#). Called also [cervical lymphoepithelial c.](#) and [lymphoepithelial c.](#)



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Branchial cleft cyst seen as a well-defined, low-density lesion in an axial contrast-enhanced CT scan through the midlevel of the tongue and base of the mandible. The lateral wall shows thick enhancement (arrow), indicating infection.

branchiogenic cyst, branchiogenous cyst, branchial cleft c.

bronchial cyst, bronchogenic c.

bronchogenic cyst, a spherical congenital cyst arising from anomalous budding during the formation of the tracheobronchial tree; it is usually found in the mediastinum or the lung and is lined with bronchial epithelium that may contain secretory elements. It may contain air, and if it communicates with the trachea or a bronchus it may periodically evacuate fluid contents into the air passages, resulting in attacks of voluminous expectoration. Infection leads to mediastinal or pulmonary abscess. Called also **bronchial c.**

bronchopulmonary cyst, a **bronchogenic cyst** of the lung.

bursal cyst, a cyst derived from a serous bursa.

calcifying odontogenic cyst, a slow-growing benign neoplasm either in the mandible or in the gingiva, varying from solid to soft; the center contains a layer resembling stellate reticulum, with ghost cells, some of which have dystrophic calcification. Called also **Gorlin c.**

cervical cyst, a cyst in the neck; see **branchial c.** and **thyroglossal c.**

cervical lymphoepithelial cyst, branchial c.

chocolate cyst, a cyst whose contents are dark and syrupy, resulting from collection of **hemosiderin** following local hemorrhage, such as sometimes occurs after **mastectomy** or in the ovary in **ovarian endometriosis (endometrial c.)**.

cholechoal cyst, choledochus cyst, a congenital cystic dilatation of the lower end of the **common bile duct**, usually recognized during childhood. It may cause pain in the right upper quadrant, jaundice, fever, and vomiting, or it may be asymptomatic.

chyle cyst, an abnormal sac of the mesentery containing chyle.

colloid cyst, a cyst that contains jellylike material, particularly in the third ventricle.

compound cyst, multilocular c. (def. 1).

congenital preauricular cyst, a cyst resulting from imperfect fusion of the **branchial arches** in formation of the auricle, communicating with an **ear pit** (q.v.) on the surface. See also **congenital preauricular fistula**, under fistula.

corpus luteum cyst, a cyst of the ovary formed by a serous accumulation developed from a **corpus luteum**.

Cowper cyst, see under **syringocele**.

craniobuccal cysts, craniopharyngeal cysts, Rathke c's.

cutaneous ciliated cyst, a type of solitary cyst found usually on the lower limbs of young women, located in the dermis and lined with cuboidal or columnar **ciliated epithelium**.

cutaneous myxoid cyst, digital mucous c.

daughter cyst, a small **parasitic cyst** developed from the wall of a larger one, such as a **hydatid cyst**. Called also **secondary c.**

dental cyst, one derived from some portion of the odontogenic apparatus.

dentigerous cyst, a fluid-containing **odontogenic cyst** surrounding the crown of an unerupted tooth, usually involving the crowns of normal permanent teeth.



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Dentigerous cyst around the crown of an unerupted bicuspid.

dermoid cyst, a type of **epidermal cyst**, usually present at birth along a line of embryonic fusion such as the middorsal, midventral, or branchial cleft; it represents a disorder of embryologic development, usually involves the head or neck (especially around the eyes), and is lined with **stratified squamous epithelium** containing **cutaneous appendages**, including hair. Called also **dermoid**. a benign teratoma of the ovary, usually found in young women, presumably derived from ectodermal differentiation of totipotential cells, lined by apparent skin and its adnexal structures, usually filled with sebaceous, caseous material and hair. Called also **benign cystic, cystic, or mature teratoma** and **dermoid**.

digital mucous cyst, a nodular lesion usually over a distal finger joint, consisting of mucinous degeneration of the collagen of the dermis; it is not a true cyst, because it lacks an epithelial wall and does not communicate with the underlying area of the [synovial capsule](#). Called also [myxoid c.](#), [synovial c.](#), and [synovial ganglion](#).

dilatation cyst, a cyst formed by dilation of a previously existing cavity.

distention cyst, a collection of watery fluid in a normal, but distended cavity.

duplication cyst, a congenital cystic malformation of the alimentary tract, consisting of a duplication of the segment to which it is adjacent, occurring anywhere from the mouth to the anus but most frequently affecting the ileum and esophagus.

echinococcal cyst, **echinococcus cyst**, [hydatid c.](#)

endometrial cyst, a [chocolate cyst](#), particularly in the ovary, containing blood debris and [endometrium.endometrioma](#).

endometriotic cyst, [endometrial c.](#) (def. 1).

endothelial cyst, a cyst whose sac has an endothelial lining.

enteric cyst, **enterogenous cyst**, a cyst of the intestine arising or developing from a fold or pouch, often from a fold in the primitive [foregut](#). Called also [enterocyst](#) and [enterocystoma](#).

ependymal cyst, a circumscribed dilatation of some part of the [ependyma](#).

epidermal cyst, a benign cyst derived from the epidermis or the epithelium of a [hair follicle](#), formed by cystic enclosures of epithelium within the dermis, becoming filled with [keratin](#) and lipid-rich debris. Types include [dermoid cyst](#), [epidermal inclusion cyst](#), [pilar cyst](#), [miliun](#), and [steatocystoma](#). Called also [epidermoid](#) or [epithelial c.](#)

epidermal inclusion cyst, a type of [epidermal cyst](#) that is an [inclusion cyst](#) on the head, neck, or trunk; it is circumscribed and mobile and is formed by keratinizing [squamous epithelium](#) that has a granular layer and is similar to the normal epithelium of the [follicular infundibulum](#). Called also [epidermoid c.](#)

epidermoid cyst, [epidermal c.](#) a benign tumor in the skull, meninges, or brain, formed by inclusion of epidermal elements, especially at the time of closure of the [neural groove](#). It may grow gradually because of accumulations of desquamated debris and may become calcified.

Called also [epidermoid](#), [epidermoidoma](#), and [epidermoid tumor.epidermal inclusion c.](#)

epithelial cyst, any cyst lined by keratinizing [stratified squamous epithelium](#); see [epidermal c.epidermal c.](#)

eruption cyst, a type of [dentigerous cyst](#) presenting as a dilatation of the follicular space about the crown of the erupting deciduous or permanent teeth in children, caused by the accumulation of tissue fluid or blood.

eruptive vellus hair cyst, a type of tiny papule that contains vellus hair, usually appearing in crops on the chest in men and ranging from flesh-colored to dark; this lesion is histologically similar and may be related to [steatocystoma multiplex](#).

extravasation cyst, [simple bone c.](#)

exudation cyst, a cyst formed by an exudate collected in a closed cavity.

false cyst, [pseudocyst](#) (def.1).

fissural cyst, [inclusion c.](#) (def. 1).

follicular cyst, a cyst that results from occlusion of the duct of a follicle or small gland.a cyst formed by the enlargement of a [graafian follicle](#) as a result of accumulated transudate.

ganglionic cyst, [subchondral c.](#)

Gartner cyst, **Gartner duct cyst**, **gartnerian cyst**, a benign cystic vaginal tumor developed from remnants of either Gartner duct, the embryonic mesonephros, or the wolffian duct system.

gas cyst, a small cyst filled with gas, of bacterial origin.

gingival cyst, an [odontogenic cyst](#) of the soft tissue of either the free or attached gingiva, presenting as a small, well-circumscribed, painless swelling, sometimes resembling a superficial [mucocele](#).

globulomaxillary cyst, an [inclusion cyst](#) of the maxillary bone, located in the globulomaxillary fissure, usually between the lateral incisor and cuspid teeth, which seldom presents any clinical manifestation.

Gorlin cyst, [calcifying odontogenic c.](#)

granddaughter cyst, a cyst occasionally seen within the [daughter cyst](#) of a [hydatid cyst](#).

hemorrhagic cyst, [simple bone c.](#)

heterotopic oral gastrointestinal cyst, a cyst lined by gastric or intestinal mucosa but occurring in the oral cavity, usually in the tongue, floor of the mouth, or neck, or adjacent to the submaxillary gland.

hilar cyst, [renal sinus c.](#)

hydatid cyst, a cyst formed during the larval stage of tapeworms of species [Echinococcus](#); it contains [daughter cysts](#) that contain many [scoleces](#). There are two types, the [alveolar](#) or [multilocular hydatid cyst](#) and the [unilocular hydatid cyst](#). Called also [echinococcal](#) or [echinococcus c.](#) and [hydatid](#). See also [hydatid disease](#), under disease.



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Hydatid cyst of liver.

implantation cyst, [epidermal inclusion c.](#)

incisive canal cyst, [median anterior maxillary c.](#)

inclusion cyst, a cyst formed by the inclusion of a small portion of epithelium or mesothelium within connective tissue along a line of fusion of embryonic processes; types found in the oral region are the median palatal cyst, median anterior maxillary cyst, globulomaxillary cyst, and nasoalveolar cyst. Called also [fissural c.epidermal inclusion c.](#)

infundibular cyst, an [epidermal cyst](#) that arises from the [follicular infundibulum](#).

intraluminal cysts, cysts that are duplications of part of the intestines, or [retention cysts](#), and are sometimes the cause of intrinsic obstruction in the newborn.

intrapituitary cysts, [Rathke c's](#).

involution cyst, [mammary duct ectasia](#).

Iwanoff (Iwanow) cysts, [Blessig c's](#).

keratinizing cyst, keratinous cyst, any cyst containing keratinous material, such as an [epithelial cyst](#).

Klestadt cyst, [nasopalatine duct c.](#)

lacteal cyst, a cyst of the breast due to obstruction of a lactiferous duct; called also [milk c.](#)

lateral periodontal cyst, a cyst of the lateral periodontal membrane of an erupted tooth, usually occurring in the bicuspid region of the mandible.

leptomeningeal cyst, [arachnoid c.](#)

lutein cyst, a cyst of the ovary developed from a [corpus luteum](#).

lymphoepithelial cyst, [branchial c.](#)

median anterior maxillary cyst, a type of [inclusion cyst](#) of the maxilla found in or near an [incisive canal](#), arising from proliferation of epithelial remnants of an embryonic duct. Called also [incisive canal c.](#) and [nasopalatine duct c.](#)

median mandibular cyst, a rare type of [inclusion cyst](#) found in the midline of the mandible, believed to be caused by inclusion of the epithelium trapped in the central groove of the mandibular process, or by cystic degeneration of a supernumerary tooth germ.

median palatal cyst, a type of [inclusion cyst](#) found in the midline of the hard palate between the lateral palatal processes.

median raphe cyst, a type of small solitary cyst found on the [raphe of the penis](#), lined by stratified [columnar epithelium](#).

mediastinal cyst, a congenital cyst arising in the [mediastinum](#).

meibomian cyst, [chalazion](#).

mesenteric cyst, a congenital thin-walled cyst of the abdomen between the leaves of the mesentery, which may be of wolffian or lymphatic duct origin; as it enlarges, it may cause obstruction and [intestinal colic](#).

milk cyst, [lacteal c.](#)

morgagnian cyst, [appendix testis](#). (in the pl.) [appendices vesiculosae epooophori](#).

mother cyst, a cyst that encloses other cysts (the "[daughter cysts](#)"), such as sometimes occurs with [hydatid cysts](#).

mucous cyst, a [retention cyst](#) containing mucus.

mucus retention cyst, a mucus-containing [retention cyst](#) caused by blockage of a salivary gland duct, visible as a small nodule on the oral mucosa. Called also [mucocele](#). Cf. [mucus extravasation phenomenon](#), under phenomenon.

multilocular cyst, a cyst containing several loculi or spaces; cf. [unilocular c.](#) (def. 1). [multilocular hydatid c.](#) [multilocular c. of kidney](#).

multilocular hydatid cyst, [alveolar hydatid c.](#)

multilocular cyst of kidney, a thick-walled cyst in the kidney, found in clusters and usually unilaterally. In children it contains [blastema](#) and may develop into a [Wilms tumor](#). A variety in adults has more fibrous tissue than the juvenile variety. Called also [cystic](#) or [differentiated nephroblastoma](#), [benign cystic](#) or [multilocular cystic nephroma](#), and [multilocular cystic renal tumor](#).

myxoid cyst, [digital mucous c.](#)

Naboth cysts, nabothian cysts, Naboth follicles.

nasopalatine duct cyst, nasolabial cyst, an [inclusion cyst](#) arising from epithelial remnants at the junction of the lateral nasal and maxillary processes; it may cause a swelling in the mucolabial fold and in the floor of the nose and superficial erosion of the outer surface of the maxilla.

nasopalatine duct cyst, [median anterior maxillary c.](#)

necrotic cyst, a cyst containing necrotic matter.

neural cyst, a cyst or cystlike structure occurring in the central nervous system, such as a [soapsuds cyst](#) or a [porencephalic cyst](#).

neurenteric cyst, a type of [mediastinal cyst](#) found in the posterior mediastinum, containing tissues from the nervous system and other organs, and connecting with the spinal dura mater.

odontogenic cyst, a cyst in the jaw, derived from epithelium, usually containing fluid or semisolid material, developing during any of various stages of [odontogenesis](#); nearly all are enclosed within bone. Types include [dentigerous](#), [gingival](#), [periodontal](#), and [primordial cysts](#).

oil cyst, a cyst that contains oily matter, due to fatty degeneration of the epithelial lining.

omental cyst, a cyst similar to a [mesenteric cyst](#) but confined to the [omentum](#).

omphalomesenteric duct cyst, a cyst formed by failure of closure of part of the [yolk stalk \(omphalomesenteric duct\)](#); it may be at the umbilicus and visible on the skin, or more internally along the duct. Called also [umbilical](#) or [vitellointestinal c.](#)

oophoritic cyst, [ovarian c.](#)

osseous hydatid cyst, a type of [hydatid cyst](#) formed by the larvae of [Echinococcus granulosus](#), and found in bone, which may become weakened and eroded by the exuberant growth.

ovarian cyst, a cyst of the ovary proper.



Endovaginal image of ovary containing several abnormally large cysts, including one with a fluid-filled level (arrows) indicating internal hemorrhage.

pancreatic cyst, a cyst in the [pancreatic duct](#), usually a [retention cyst](#). Cf. [pancreatic pseudocyst](#).

parapelvic cyst, parapyelitic cyst, renal sinus c. peripelvic c. (def. 2).

parasitic cyst, a cyst formed by the larva of a parasite, such as a hydatid cyst.

parovarian cyst, a cyst of the epoöphoron.

pearl cyst, a cyst or a solid mass of epithelial cells in the iris caused by implantation of an eyelash, cotton, or other foreign particle.

periapical cyst, a [periodontal cyst](#) involving the apex of an erupted tooth, frequently a result of infection via the pulp chamber and root canal

through carious involvement of the tooth. Called also [radicular c.](#)

pericardial cyst, a benign collection of clear fluid, usually found next to the pericardium; such cysts must be differentiated from the more serious mediastinal tumors.

perinephric cyst, [urinoma](#).

perineurial cyst, an outpouching of the perineurial space on the extradural portion of the posterior sacral or coccygeal nerve roots at the junction of the root and ganglion; it may cause low back pain and sciatica.

periodontal cyst, a cyst in the periodontal ligament and adjacent structures, usually at the apex ([periapical c.](#)), but sometimes along the lateral surfaces of the tooth ([lateral periodontal c.](#)).

peripelvic cyst, [renal sinus c.](#) any cyst or [pseudocyst](#) adjacent to a [renal pelvis](#); called also [parapelvic c.](#)

perirenal cyst, [urinoma](#).

pilar cyst, a type of [epidermal cyst](#), usually a firm, circumscribed, subepidermal nodule, especially on the scalp; it is formed by an outer wall of keratinizing epithelium without a granular layer, similar to the normal epithelium of the [hair follicle](#) near the sebaceous duct. Called also [sebaceous c.](#), [trichilemmal c.](#), and [wen](#).



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Pilar cyst.

piliferous cyst, **pilonidal cyst**, [pilonidal sinus](#).

placental cyst, a gray to white, disklike cyst of the placenta, resulting from degeneration of trophoblastic cells.

popliteal cyst, [Baker c.](#)

porencephalic cyst, a cyst occurring in the brain substance in [porencephaly](#).

primary cyst, [mother c.](#)

primordial cyst, a relatively uncommon type of [odontogenic cyst](#) that develops through cystic degeneration and liquefaction of the stellate reticulum in an enamel organ before any calcified enamel or dentin has been formed. Such cysts originate from supernumerary teeth, and are found in place of a tooth rather than being associated with one.

proliferating pilar cyst, **proliferating trichilemmal cyst**, see under [tumor](#).

pseudomucinous cyst, [mucinous cystadenoma](#).

pyelocaliceal cyst, **pyelocalyceal cyst**, **pyelogenic renal cyst**, [calyceal diverticulum](#).

radicular cyst, [periapical c.](#)

Rathke cysts, **Rathke cleft cysts**, groups of epithelial cells forming small colloid-filled cysts in the pars intermedia of the pituitary gland; they are vestiges of [Rathke pouch](#) and are closely related to craniopharyngiomas. Called also [craniobuccal c's](#) and [craniopharyngeal c's](#).

renal sinus cyst, a cyst in a [renal sinus](#), usually derived from aberrant lymphatic vessels, occurring either alone or in groups. Most appear after the fifth decade of life in association with inflammation, obstruction, or a calculus; they may be asymptomatic or may expand to cause pelvic compression and local deformity with pain, hematuria, infection, and pyuria. Called also [hilar c.](#), [parapelvic c.](#), and [peripelvic c.](#)

residual cyst, a [periodontal cyst](#) that remains after or develops subsequent to tooth extraction.

retention cyst, a cyst caused by blockage of the excretory duct of a gland, so that glandular secretions are retained; called also [secretory c.](#)

sarcosporidian cyst, [sarcocyst](#) (def. 2).

sebaceous cyst, [pilar c.](#)

secondary cyst, [daughter c.](#)

secretory cyst, [retention c.](#)

seminal vesicle cyst, a cyst in the wall of a [seminal vesicle](#); it may be congenital and associated with other urinary tract anomalies, or acquired such as secondary to obstruction of the vesicle.

serous cyst, a cyst that contains a thin liquid or serum.

simple bone cyst, a unilocular, cystic, often asymptomatic bone lesion usually occurring in the long tubular bones of children and adolescents; it is hollow or fluid-filled, lacks an epithelial lining, and does not penetrate the cortex or extend into soft tissue. Its origin is debated, but it is postulated to occur secondary to traumatic hematoma formation. Called also [unicameral bone c.](#)

soapsuds cyst, a type of cyst found studding the cerebral cortex in [cryptococcosis](#).

solitary bone cyst, [simple bone c.](#)

springwater cyst, [pericardial c.](#)

sterile cyst, [acephalocyst](#).

subchondral cyst, a [simple bone cyst](#) within the fused epiphysis beneath the articular plate; it is lined with a membrane (probably modified synovia) that contains a mucinous material. Called also [ganglionic c.](#)

subepiglottic cyst, a congenital cyst in the subepiglottic mucosa of a horse, often associated with respiratory stridor.

sublingual cyst, [ranula](#).

subsynovial cyst, a cyst caused by the accumulation of synovial or inflammatory fluid beneath the synovium.

suprasellar cyst, [craniopharyngioma](#).

synovial cyst, [digital mucous c.](#)

Tarlov cyst, [perineurial c.](#)

tarry cyst, a type of [corpus luteum cyst](#) resulting from hemorrhage into the [corpus luteum](#). a blood-filled cyst resulting from [endometriosis](#).

tarsal cyst, [chalazion](#).

thecal cyst, distention of a [tendon sheath](#).

theca-lutein cyst, an [ovarian cyst](#) in which the cells lining the cystic cavity are [theca-lutein cells](#).

thymic cyst, a rare congenital type of [mediastinal cyst](#), arising in the upper anterior mediastinum, containing tissue resembling that of the

[thymus](#).

thyroglossal cyst, thyrolingual cyst, a cyst in the neck caused by persistence of portions of, or by lack of closure of, the primitive thyroglossal duct.

tissue cyst, see [cyst](#) (def. 2) and [pseudocyst](#) (def. 2).

Tornwaldt (Thornwaldt) cyst, [bursa pharyngealis](#).

traumatic bone cyst, [simple bone c.](#)

trichilemmal cyst, [pillar c.](#)

true cyst, any cyst that is not a normal structure and is not formed by the dilatation of a passage or cavity.

tubular cyst, [tubulocyst](#).

umbilical cyst, [omphalomesenteric c.](#)

unicameral cyst, [unilocular c.](#) (def. 1).

unicameral bone cyst, [simple bone c.](#)

unilocular cyst, a cyst containing but one cavity. Cf. [multilocular c.](#) (def. 1). [unilocular hydatid c.](#)

unilocular hydatid cyst, the usual kind of [hydatid cyst](#), having a single [loculus](#) or cavity, seen in infections with [Echinococcus granulosus](#) and [E. vogeli](#).

urachal cyst, urachal remnant cyst, a congenital anomaly in which part of the [urachus](#) is dilated to form a cyst; it may contain mucinous fluid, cellular debris, or urine. Called also [allantoic c.](#)

urinary cyst, [urinoma](#).

vellus hair cyst, eruptive vellus hair c.

vitellointestinal cyst, omphalomesenteric duct c.

wolffian cyst, a cyst of the remnants of the [wolffian\(mesonephric\) duct](#).

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