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◀ OSTEOARTHRITIS

What Is a Subchondral Bone Cyst?

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Ganglion cysts in the wrist.. Credit:
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By [Carol Eustice](#)

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What Is a Subchondral Bone Cyst?

A subchondral bone cyst is a fluid-filled sac that forms inside of and extends from the bone of a joint. It is seen on X-rays in cases of osteoarthritis. These cysts are not treated. They are a sign of osteoarthritis, although they do not occur in all cases.

[Osteoarthritis](#) is caused by the breakdown of [cartilage](#) in one or more of your joints. Cartilage serves as a cushion between the bones of your joints, allowing the bones to glide over one another and absorb the shock from your physical movements.