

Fibrous Cortical Defects



Fibrous cortical defects (FCD) appear as a well-defined, oval, eccentric radiolucency with a thin rim of surrounding sclerosis. They are not expansile, they do not break through the cortex and they do not cause a periosteal reaction. They are 2cm or less in length and do not cause symptoms. They are an incidental finding and do not require care nor are they a contra-indication to any type of chiropractic care. They do not predispose to fracture. The vast majority of FCD's fill in on their own before skeletal maturity. In those few instances that they do not fill in, they elongate as the bone grows and become non-ossifying fibromas (NOF) which are benign but are predisposed to fracture.