

## “Pseudo Fusion”



“Pseudo fusion” of the posterior facets at C2 and C3 is a common NORMAL finding on lateral cervical films. It is caused by the normal increased slope of this facet from medial to lateral which prohibits the X-ray beam from looking through the joint space causing the illusion of facet fusion. Isolated fusion of this joint is extremely rare. The lack of anterior body fusion and the lack of a small rudimentary disc should help to differentiate from true fusion. If still in doubt, oblique films will clearly show the normal, freely mobile facet articulation.