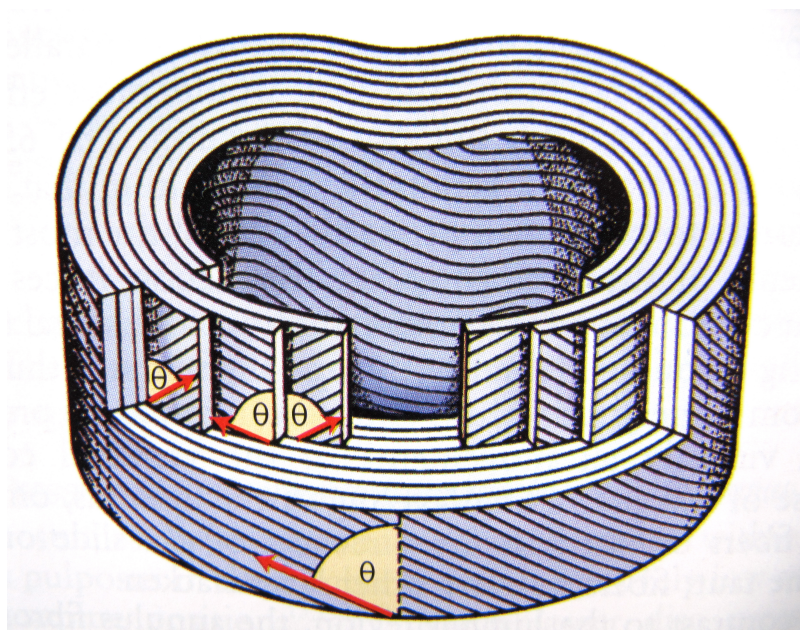


Annulus fibrosus



Each intervertebral fibrocartilage is composed, at its circumference, of laminæ of fibrous tissue and fibrocartilage, forming the **annulus fibrosus**.

Type I collagen accounts for nearly 70% of the dry weight of the outer **annulus fibrosus** (AF), with type II collagen gradually increasing and type I collagen decreasing from the outer to inner AF ¹⁾.

Each layer of the AF has an oriented collagen architecture, with adjacent lamellae alternating in fiber angles approximately 30° to the transverse plane of the disc ²⁾.

see **Annulus fibrosus repair**.

¹⁾

Oegema TR Jr. Biochemistry of the intervertebral disc. Clin Sports Med. 1993 Jul;12(3):419-39. Review. PubMed PMID: 8364983.

²⁾

Cassidy JJ, Hiltner A, Baer E. Hierarchical structure of the intervertebral disc. Connect Tissue Res. 1989;23(1):75-88. PubMed PMID: 2632144.

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Last update: **2024/02/06 23:08**

