Meniscal Degeneration

- Intrasubstance degeneration, myxoid degeneration, mucoid degeneration, mucinous degeneration, fraying
- Internal disruption of normal meniscal architecture ± mucinous degeneration without extension to articular surface = degeneration
- Irregularity of meniscal free edge without linear tear; or amorphous increased signal at free edge = fraying

■ Image Interpretation Pearls

- Confirm or exclude prior meniscal surgical history
- If fraying is more than minimal, consider describing as fraying vs. small free edge tear

Imaging

- Increased signal on short TE MR sequences within meniscal substance with no extension to articular surface
- Most common in posterior horn of medial meniscus
- May be linear, globular, or complex in shape
- Fraying: Irregularity of free edge without distinct linear signal

