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A recovery from sublethal damage to the shell of a Devonian spiriferoid brachiopod

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A shell of the Famennian spiriferoid brachiopod *Cyrtiorina* sp., from the Debnik anticline in southern Poland. Displays a severe damage, probably the result of a bite by a jawed or clawed predator. The injury comprises several indentations on the pedicle valve and partial disarticulation of the shell exposing large areas of soft tissue in living animal. The brachiopod successfully repaired the damage, demonstrating its ability to recover from sublethal injuries. It is suggested that the attacker may have been repelled of the brachiopod's soft tissues, as has been observed in some Recent articulates.

Key words: spiriferoid brachiopod, Devonian, shell damage, predation.

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