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NURSING DEPARTMENT

IMPLANTATION

Implantation is the process by which the fertilized ovum called zygote implants (fixes itself or gets attached) in the endometrial lining of uterus. After the fertilization, the ovum is known as zygote. Zygote takes 3 to 5 days to reach the uterine cavity from fallopian tube. While travelling through the fallopian tube, the zygote receives its nutrition from the secretions of fallopian tube. After reaching the uterus, the developing zygote remains freely in the uterine cavity for 2 to 4 days before it is implanted. Thus, it takes about 1 week for implantation after the day of fertilization. During the stay in uterine cavity before implantation, the zygote receives its nutrition from the secretions of endometrium, which is known as uterine milk. Just before implantation, the zygote develops into morula and then the implantation starts. A layer of spherical cells called trophoblast cells is formed around morula. Trophoblast cells release proteolytic enzymes over the surface of endometrium. These enzymes digest the cells of the endometrium. Now, morula moves through the digested part of endometrium and implants itself.