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Pharmacology
PHS212 Renal physiology

IMPLANTATION

In humans, implantation is the stage of pregnancy at which the embryo adheres to the wall of the uterus. At this stage of prenatal development, the conceptus is called a blastocyst. It is by this adhesion that the embryo receives oxygen and nutrients from the mother to be able to grow.

After the sperm and the egg join, the combined cells start multiplying pretty quickly and moving through one of your fallopian tubes to your uterus. This cluster of rapidly growing cells is called a blastocyst. Once in your uterus, this little bundle of cells has to attach, or implant, into your uterine wall. This step – known as implantation – triggers rising levels of all those fun pregnancy hormones (estrogen, progesterone, and hCG, or human chorionic gonadotropin). If implantation doesn't happen, your uterine lining is shed in your normal monthly period – a serious disappointment if you're trying to get pregnant, but a reminder that your body is likely prepping for you to try again. But if implantation does occur, your hormones – sometimes a nuisance, but doing their job – cause the placenta and the embryo (your future baby) to develop and your uterine lining to stay in place and support your pregnancy.