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ASSIGNMENT QUESTION: Write a short note on *IMPLANTATION*.

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.

In humans, implantation of a fertilized ovum is most likely to occur around nine days after ovulation; however, this can range between six and 12 days.

This process begins at the end of week 1, with most successful human pregnancies the conceptus implants 8 to 10 days after ovulation, and early pregnancy loss increases with later implantation. The implantation process continues through the second week of development.

The initial phase of the implantation process is "adplantation". This first phase requires the newly hatched blastocyst to loosely adhere to the endometrial epithelium, often "rolling" to the eventual site of implantation where it is firmly adhered. This process requires both the blastocyst adhesion interaction with the endometrium during the "receptive window".