

## **Structured Notes According to GYNAECOLOGY & OBSTETRICS**

Revision friendly **Fully Colored Book/Structured Notes**

For Best results, watch the video lectures along with reading notes



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(Author)**

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S. No.

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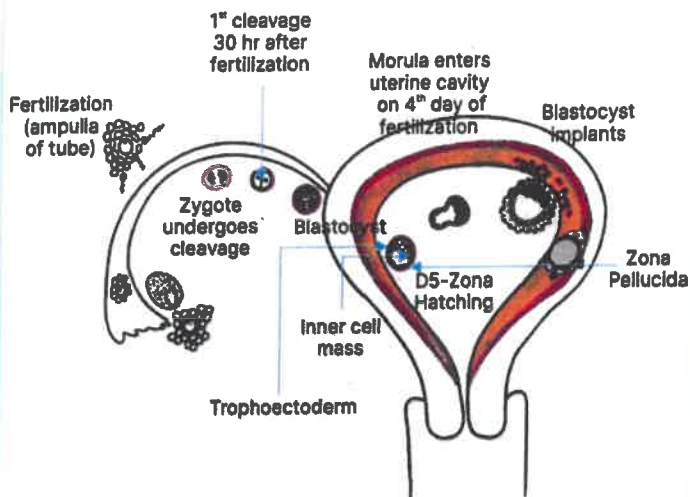
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# 1. IMPLANTATION & PLACENTATION

## FERTILIZATION



- Fertilization → occurs on the **same day of ovulation** → to form zygote
  - Site : Ampulla of fallopian tube / Junction of ampulla & isthmus
- Division of zygote → Cleavage
  - 1<sup>st</sup> cleavage → 30 hours after fertilization
- Tubal secretions (rich in pyruvate) provide nutrition to the zygote (secretory phase) → "provide nourishment to conceptus" → Zygote becomes **morula**
- Morula enters uterine cavity on 4<sup>th</sup> day of fertilization → becomes **blastocyst** (fluid filled cavity)
- Blastocyst has an
  - Inner cell mass → becomes embryo proper
  - Trophoblast → becomes placenta and fetal membranes
  - Covered by zona pellucida → prevents it from implanting
    - Zona pellucida is lysed by proteases from **secretory phase endometrial glands**
  - Blastocyst emerges from zona pellucida → **Zona hatching** → occur on 5<sup>th</sup> day of fertilization
  - Blastocyst is implanted

## IMPLANTATION



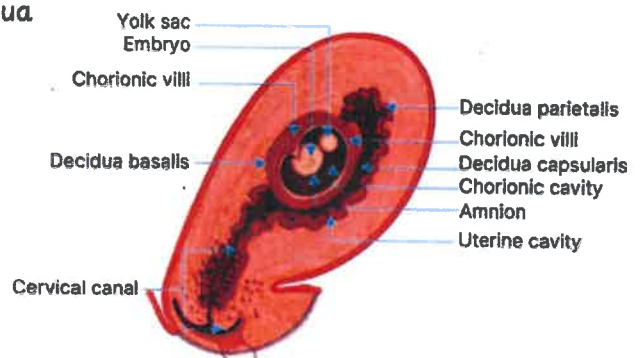
- Secretory phase → corpus luteum is present
- Corpus luteum secretes progesterone → secretory changes → makes endometrium receptive for implantation
- Timing of implantation → **Day 6 - Day 10 of fertilization**
- Window of Implantation → **Day 20 - Day 24 of cycle**
- Trophoblast layer is differentiated into 2 (By the time the implantation is taking place - Day 8 of fertilization)
  - **Outer Syncytiotrophoblast**
    - Secretes hCG
    - ↓
    - Entering the maternal blood (as early as Day 8)
    - ↓
    - Supports corpus luteum
    - ↓
    - Decidualization of endometrial lining
    - ↓
    - More secretion of progesterone
  - **Inner cytotrophoblast**
- **Steps of Implantation**
  - **Apposition** → **Invasiveness of the trophoblasts** → responsible for implantation
  - Human implantation (**type of Interstitial implantation**) → Blastocyst is within endometrium

- M/c site of implantation → **Upper posterior wall of uterus**
- Most prominent histological finding in endometrium at the time of implantation → **Stromal edema**
- Thickness of endometrium → **10 - 14 mm**
- Hormone that prepares the endometrium for implantation → **Progesterone**

## DECIDUA FORMATION

00:13:35

- Specialized endometrium for pregnancy → Decidua
- Main Hormone responsible (for decidualization) → progesterone
- Completed by **Day 10** of fertilization
- ↑ secretory activity
- Decidual cells → enlarged stromal cells which became polygonal/round cells
- Gestational sac → Chorionic cavity
- **Parts of decidua**



Beneath the implanted embryo  
(away from the cavity)  
↓  
Decidua basalis

Covering the implanted embryo (like a capsule)  
↓  
Decidua capsularis

Covering the rest of the uterine cavity  
↓  
Decidua parietalis

- Embryo grows → decidual space obliterates → Decidua parietalis & capsularis fuse → forms Decidua vera → Occurs at 14 - 16 weeks of gestation

## PLACENTAL DEVELOPMENT

00:18:14

- Develops from 2 sources

FETAL COMPONENT (BULK OF THE PLACENTA)	MATERNAL COMPONENT
Chorionic villi / Chorion frondosum	Decidua basalis

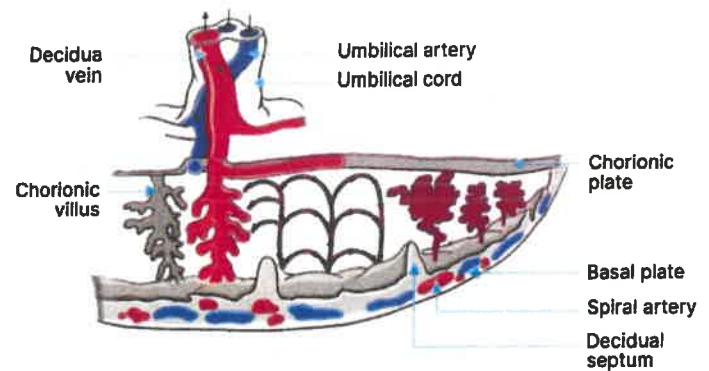
## PLACENTA

00:18:54

- Umbilical cord has 3 vessels
  - Left umbilical vein →
  - 2 Umbilical arteries → carrying deoxygenated blood to the placenta
- Chorionic plate → Chorionic villus arises
- Decidua basalis → Basal plate is formed
  - Projects inside at places (like the Decidual septum)

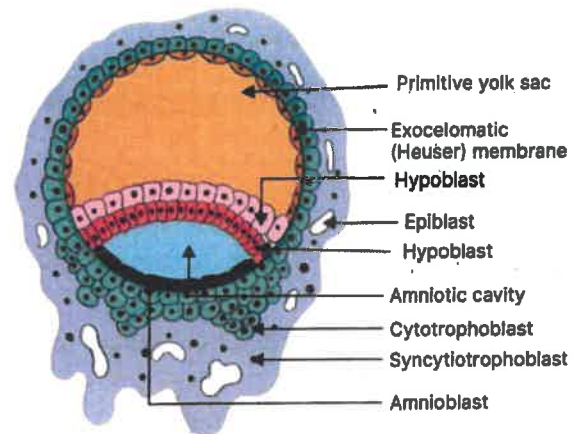
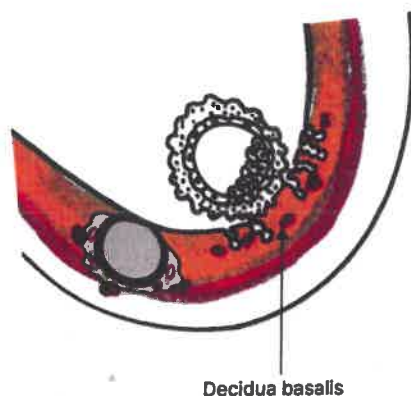


- Fetal vessels, i.e chorionic vessels (branches of umbilical vein and umbilical arteries)
  - Traveling inside chorionic villus → Fetoplacental circulation
- Spiral arteries & veins → in the region of decidua basalis
  - Push maternal blood into intervillous spaces (between various chorionic villi)
- **At term** → about [redacted] into intervillous spaces



## EARLY INVASION OF TROPHOBLASTS

00:22:38



### CHORION

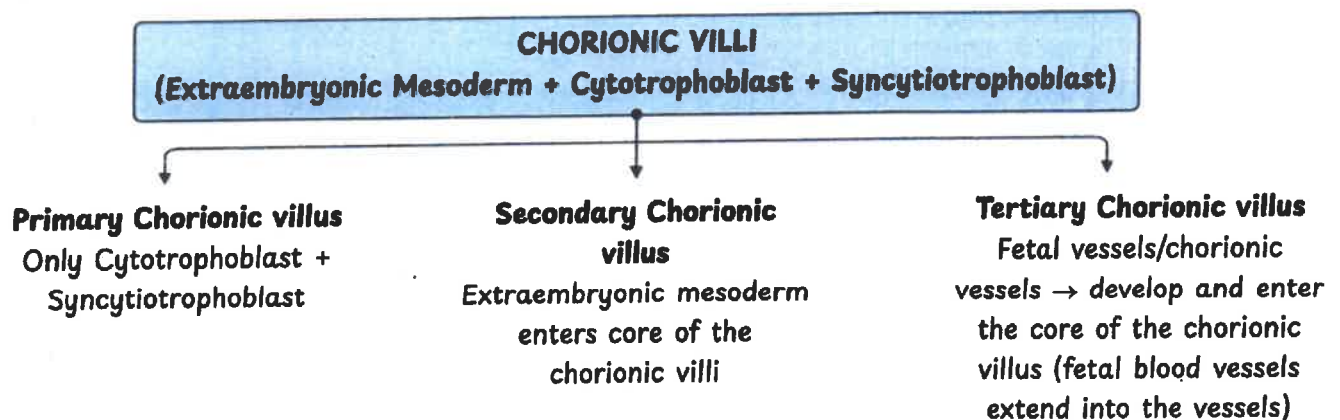
- Arises from cytotrophoblast, syncytiotrophoblast and Extraembryonic mesoderm

### LACUNA (Later Develops Into Intervillous Spaces)

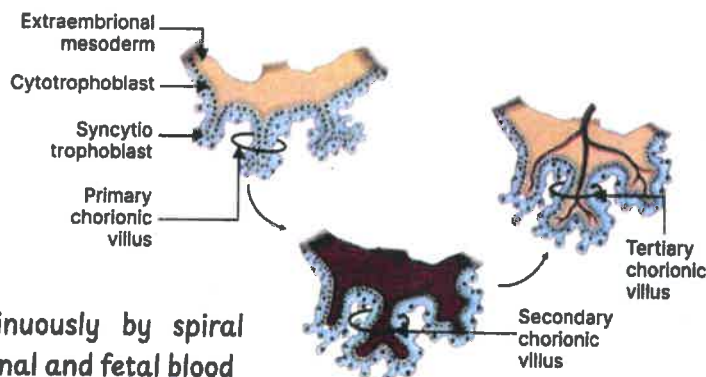
- Empty spaces which appear in invading syncytiotrophoblast layer
  - Appear by **Day 12 of fertilization**
  - Spiral arteries are present nearby; they are invaded
  - Lacuna gets filled by maternal blood; uteroplacental circulation is established by **Day 15 of fertilization**

## DEVELOPMENT OF CHORIONIC VILLI

00:26:40



- Fetal vessels in chorionic villi → functional by about Day 17 of fertilization (tertiary villi)
- Feto-placental circulation → by Day 21 of fertilization
- Functional unit of placenta → Lobule (Cotyledon)
  - Area of placenta supplied by one primary stem villi
- Maternal blood enters intervillous spaces continuously by spiral arteries → exchange of gases occurs between maternal and fetal blood



Trophoblast invasion of spiral arteries occurs  
 ↓  
 Spiral arteries becomes dilated and wide  
 ↓  
 Consistent increased blood supply to the intervillous spaces  
 ↓  
 Facilitate exchange of gasses

Amount of blood in the intervillous space (at term) →

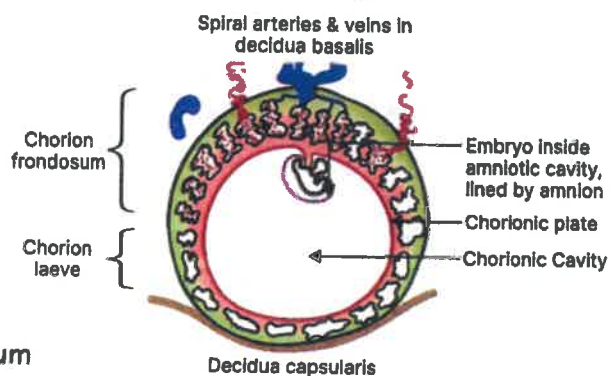
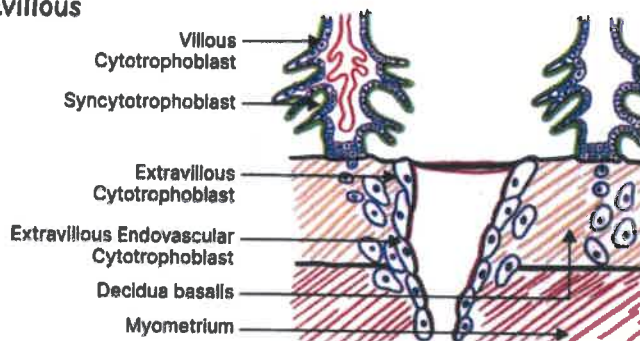
- Small narrow caliber spiral arterioles → not enough for ↑sed blood supply

#### Trophoblast invasion of spiral arteries

- Certain cytotrophoblast → leave chorionic villi → Extravillous cytotrophoblast

00:33:35

Invading decidua basalis & spiral arterioles →  
 Extravillous endovascular cytotrophoblast  
 ↓  
 Cause vascular remodeling of spiral arterioles  
 ↓  
 Extravillous endovascular cytotrophoblast lines spiral arterioles  
 ↓  
 Fibrinoid material replaces smooth muscles & connective tissue of vessel wall  
 ↓  
 Becomes loose, dilated vascular channels  
 ↓  
 More blood reach intervillous space



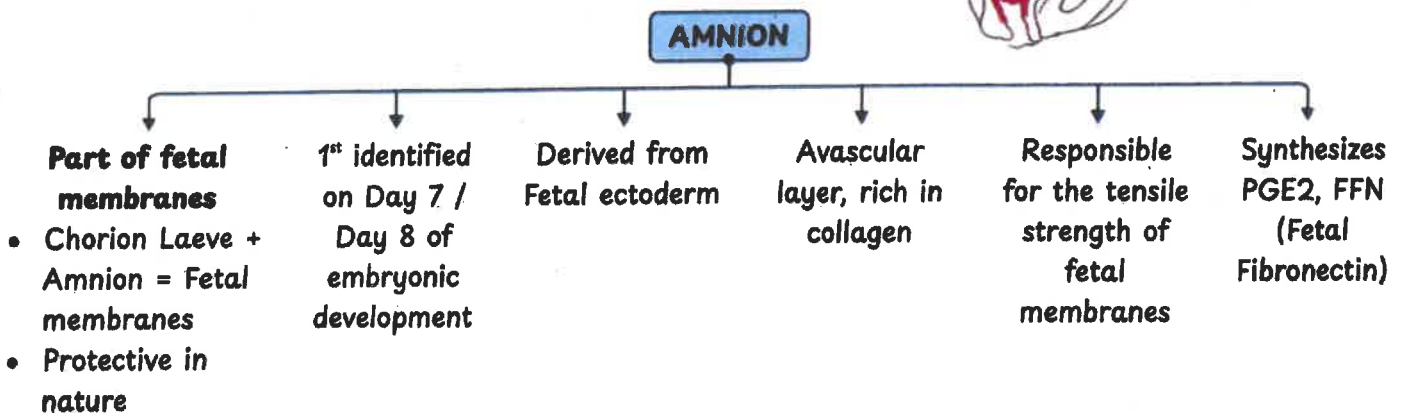
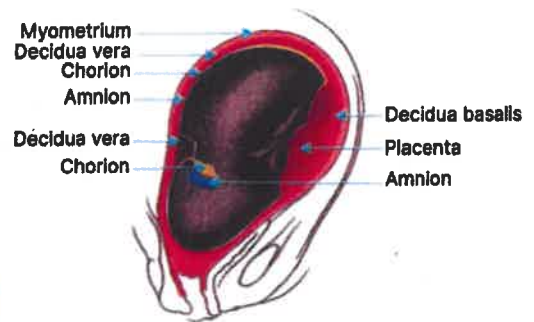
- Remodeling → extends to the superficial layer of myometrium (to some extent)
- Extravillous cytotrophoblasts remaining in the decidua basalis → Extravillous interstitial cytotrophoblast → persists as Placental bed giant cells



- Vascular remodeling occurs **only in the spiral arteries** (not veins)
  - Only in the region of Decidua basalis
- 1<sup>st</sup> wave of remodeling → [REDACTED]
- 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of remodeling → completed between 12-16 weeks

CHORION FRONDOSUM	CHORION LAEVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vascularized chorionic villus</li> <li>• Towards the embryonic end</li> <li>• Takes part in the formation of placenta (along with decidua basalis)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avascular layer of Chorion</li> <li>• Completely flattens out</li> </ul>

- Fetus is growing → amnion will fuse with the chorion → Final chorionic plate is formed
  - Around 8 - 10 weeks



## TERM PLACENTA

00:42:43

### MATERNAL SURFACE OF PLACENTA



- Rough looking
- Reddish in color
- Divided into lobes (not same as Cotyledons)
- Some portion of decidua basalis

### FETAL SURFACE OF PLACENTA



- Shiny and glistening appearance
  - Cause : covered by amnion and chorion
- Umbilical cord is attached at the center of placenta



Fetal membranes

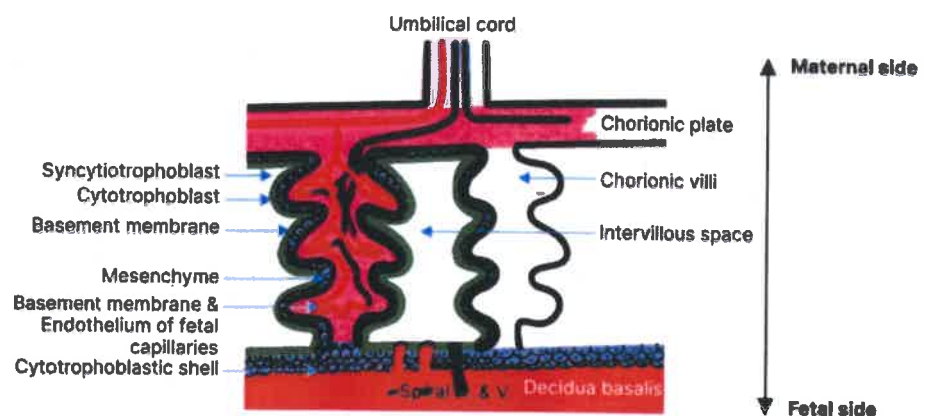
<b>SHAPE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discoid in shape</li> </ul>
<b>WEIGHT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500g</li> </ul>
<b>CONTENT - BLOOD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 ml of blood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 150 ml → in intervillous spaces</li> <li>◦ 350 ml → in chorionic villus</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>PLACENTAL WEIGHT : FETAL WEIGHT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 : 6 (Placental weight = Fetal weight at 17 weeks)</li> </ul>
<b>UTEROPLACENTAL CIRCULATION AT TERM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 700 - 900 ml/min</li> </ul>
<b>FETOPLACENTAL CIRCULATION AT TERM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 400 ml/min</li> </ul>

## PLACENTAL BARRIER

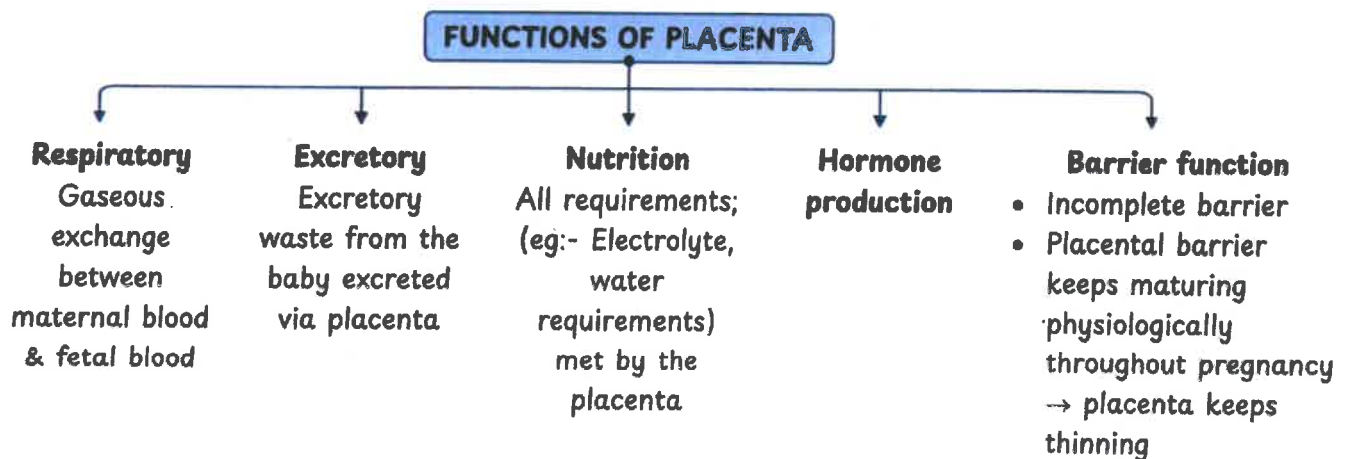
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### EXTRA-POINTERS

- Intervillous spaces → lined by syncytiotrophoblast
- **Cytotrophoblastic shell** → Formed by Cytotrophoblast cells invading into the region of decidua basalis
- **Zone of fibrinoid necrosis / NITABUCH LAYER** → Region where Cytotrophoblast shell & decidua basalis meet
  - **Function** : prevents deeper penetration of placenta
  - Absent in Morbidly adherent placenta

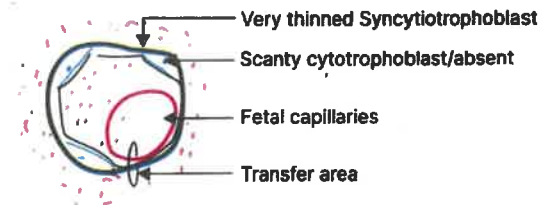


00:49:50



## TERM PLACENTAL BARRIER

- Very thinned out Syncytiotrophoblast
  - Chorionic villi keeps on branching → becomes thinner
- Absent / scanty cytotrophoblast
  - Continuity lost (because of rebranching)
- Presence of mesenchyme
- Presence of Fetal capillary → XXXXXXXXXX
- **Transfer area** → consists of endothelium & basement membrane of fetal capillaries
  - Very thinned out



### Important Information

- Smoking, bleeding, fibrin deposition of placenta → Thick placental barrier
  - Interferes with gaseous exchange & nutrient exchange across placenta
- $O_2$  diffusion occurs continuously → across intervillous space from maternal side to the fetal side → 8 ml/min/kg fetal weight
- Oxygen saturation in Intervillous space → 65 - 75 %
- $PaO_2$  in Intervillous space → 30 - 35 mmHg
- Oxygen saturation in the umbilical veins → similar to Oxygen saturation in Intervillous space
- $PaO_2$  in the umbilical veins → little bit lower to  $PaO_2$  in Intervillous space
- Transfer of  $O_2$  from the maternal to the fetal side
  - Cause
    - Low  $PaO_2$  in the umbilical veins
    - Fetal HbF has greater affinity for  $O_2$

## PREVENTION OF FETAL REJECTION

- Villous trophoblasts have no MHC expression
- Extravillous cytotrophoblasts express Class Ia HLA
  - **HLA-G** → XXXXXXXXXX
- Pregnancy hormones - Progesterone and hCG contribute to immune tolerance
- Decidual Natural Killer cells are not cytotoxic
  - Secrete substances that favor trophoblastic invasion
- Immunomodulated state of pregnancy
  - Cytotoxic immunity i.e, Th1 immunity is ↓sed
  - Antibody mediated immunity i.e Th2 immunity is ↑sed
  - Th2 response >>> TH1 response

### Important Information

- MHC expression is important in identifying cells as foreign



## MCQ's

Q. Decidual reaction is completed by

- a. Day 10 of fertilisation
- b. Day 7 of fertilisation
- c. Day 14 of ovulation
- d. Day 10 of ovulation

Ans: (a)

Q. A 30 year g2p2 delivered by normal vaginal delivery with no complications. The placenta was examined after delivery. The normal human placenta is?

- 1. Discoid
- 2. Hemochorial
- 3. Deciduate

- a. 1 & 2
- b. 2 & 3
- c. 1 & 3
- d. 1, 2 & 3

Ans: (d)

Q. A 28 year old pregnant woman who just delivered after an uncomplicated pregnancy. What would be the anticipated weight of her placenta at the time of delivery?

- a. 200 grams
- b. 500 grams
- c. 700 grams
- d. 1000 grams

Ans: (b)

Q. The invasiveness of trophoblasts promotes the implantation of blastocyst into the uterine wall. All of the following statements are true regarding this except?

- a. Invasion of spiral arterioles occur all over the decidual lining
- b. Extravillous cytotrophoblasts invade the spiral arterioles
- c. Human implantation is the interstitial implantation
- d. Resistance in uteroplacental circulation decreases

Ans: (a)

**Q. Zika virus can infect the fetal macrophages present in the maternal fetal interface of the placental barrier to allow fetal transmission. These cells are called as?**

- a. Langhans cells**
- b. Whartons cells**
- c. Hoffbauer**
- d. NK cells**

**Ans: (c)**

## 2. PLACENTAL HORMONES



### BASICS OF ENDOCRINOLOGY OF PREGNANCY

00:00:54

- Early pregnancy maintenance is by:
  - Implanting blastocyst: hCG
  - Corpus luteum of pregnancy: Progesterone
- Corpus luteum secretes:
  - Estradiol
  - Relaxin
  - Inhibin A
  - Progesterone

Inhibin A  
↓  
Suppresses FSH from pituitary  
↓  
Suppresses follicular growth

Increased levels of progesterone  
↓  
-ve feedback  
↓  
Decreased levels of LH  
↓  
Suppression of ovulation

### PROGESTERONE DURING PREGNANCY

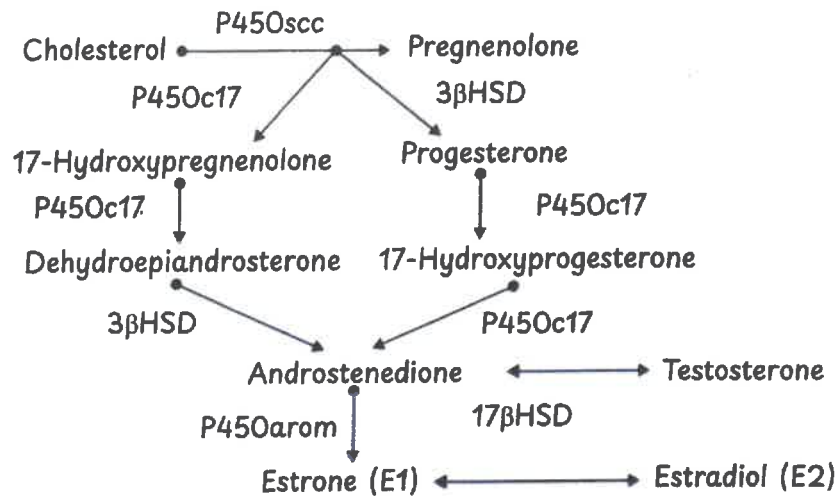
- **Till 7 weeks**  
Exclusively from corpus luteum of pregnancy
- **After 10 weeks**  
Exclusively from placenta
- **Between 7 to 10 weeks**  
Luteal - placental transition
- **8 weeks**  
Placenta takes over progesterone production
- **If corpus luteum removed before 7 weeks**  
Early pregnancy loss or abortion
- **At term**  
Placenta produces 250 mg/day progesterone
- **Low progesterone levels:**  
Ectopic pregnancy, Abortion, Failing pregnancies

### STEROID HORMONES FROM PLACENTA

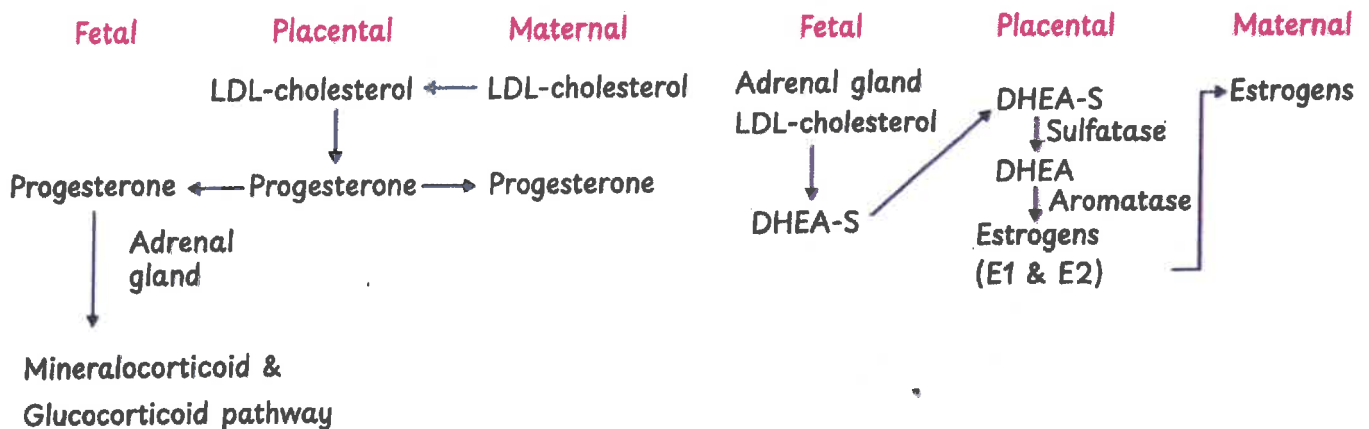
00:07:53

- Production from [redacted]
- Raw materials:
  - Maternal blood
  - Fetal blood
- Fetoplacental maternal unit produces steroid hormones





- Placenta has 3 β hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase activity (3 βHSD)
  - Fetal adrenal glands don't have 3 β HSD activity
  - Progesterone and hydroxyprogesterone enters the glucocorticoid and mineralocorticoid pathway
  - Fetal adrenal glands do not produce glucocorticoid and mineralocorticoid if no progesterone as raw material
- Placenta does not have 17 α hydroxylase activity which is needed for the production of androgens
  - Fetal adrenal glands have 17 α hydroxylase enzyme activity → can synthesize androgens which placenta uses to produce estrogen



- DHEA-S can get hydroxylated in the fetal liver
  - 'On aromatization : E3 & E4 (pregnancy)'

### ESTROGEN DURING PREGNANCY

- Placenta produces:
  - Estradiol (E1)
  - Estrone (E2)
  - Estriol (E3) } exclusive to pregnancy
  - Estetrol (E4) }
- Estriol: Maximum amount produced (per day)
  - 1st detectable in maternal serum at 9 weeks
- Estradiol: [REDACTED]

ROLE OF PROGESTERONE	ROLE OF ESTROGEN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepares endometrium for implantation</li> <li>• Decidualization of endometrium</li> <li>• Promotes uterine quiescence</li> <li>• Suppresses maternal immune response to fetal antigens</li> <li>• Substrate for fetal adrenal gland production of corticosteroids</li> <li>• <b>Angiotensin refractoriness in pregnancy.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypertrophy &amp; hyperplasia of uterine myometrium</li> <li>• Development &amp; hypertrophy of breasts (together with progesterone)</li> <li>• Sensitizes the myometrium to oxytocin &amp; PGs</li> <li>• Along with progesterone - maternal adaptation to pregnancy</li> </ul>

## PROTEIN HORMONES FROM PLACENTA

00:22:03

They are:

- hCG
- hPL
- Produced from syncytiotrophoblast layer

hCG	hPL
Glycopeptide	Polypeptide
$T_{1/2} = 24$ hours	$T_{1/2} = 15$ mins
Alpha (similar to FSH, LH, TSH) and beta (specific) subunits	

## ROLE OF hCG IN PREGNANCY

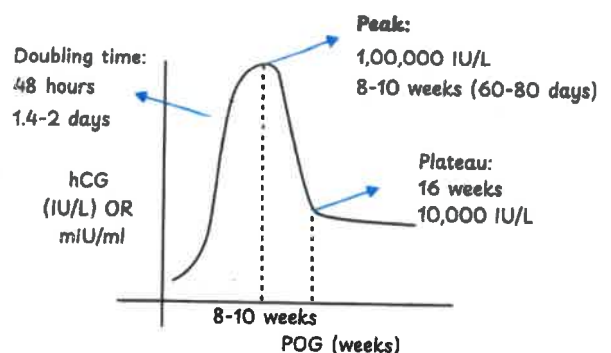
- Rescue & maintenance of corpus luteum
- Stimulation of fetal testes to produce testosterone
- Stimulation of maternal thyroid gland
- Uterine vascular dilatation & uterine smooth muscle relaxation
- Modulates maternal immune cell function in decidua

Q. When can hCG be first detected in maternal serum?

- 8 days after fertilization
- Day 22 of cycle
- 5 days prior to expected but missed periods

## Trends of hCG in maternal serum

- 'hCG levels normalize by 2 weeks after delivery & 3-4 weeks after abortion'



### Abnormal hCG levels:

HIGH	LOW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multiple pregnancy</li><li>• Molar pregnancy</li><li>• GTN (Gestational Trophoblastic Neoplasia)</li><li>• Down's syndrome fetus</li><li>• Erythroblastosis fetalis</li><li>• Renal failure (hCG is cleared by kidneys)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Failing early pregnancies</li><li>• Ectopic pregnancy</li></ul>

### HUMAN PLACENTAL LACTOGEN

- Human chorionic somatomammotropin
- Single chain polypeptide hormone; structurally similar to growth hormone
- $T_{1/2} = 15 \text{ min}$
- 1st detected in maternal serum: 12-14 weeks
- Levels rise through pregnancy & plateau in last 4 weeks
- Production rate at term: **1 gm/day**
- Levels in maternal serum correlate with placental well being

### Role of human placental lactogen

- Maternal adaptation to fetal energy requirements
- Promotes lipolysis to raise free circulating fatty acids
- Maintain insulin resistance during pregnancy



## MCQ's



- Q. A young woman is admitted to emergency with an acute abdomen in shock. She was operated for a right sided hemorrhagic corpus luteal cyst which was removed. She is also found to be 7 weeks pregnant with a healthy intrauterine pregnancy. What is she counseled about the pregnancy ?
- There is no risk to pregnancy
  - There is risk of abortion
  - Counsel for MTP
  - The other side ovary will take over progesterone production

Ans (b)

- Q. Which hormone is secreted by the human placenta exclusively?
- hPL
  - hCG
  - GH
  - GnRH

Ans (a)

- Q. What is the source of prolactin in the amniotic fluid?
- Maternal pituitary
  - Placenta
  - Fetal pituitary
  - Decidua

Ans (d)

- Q. Relaxin hormone can be demonstrated from the corpus luteum, placenta and decidua. It contributes to all of the following in pregnancy except?
- Remodeling of reproductive tract connective tissue
  - Peripheral joint laxity
  - Increase GFR
  - Vasodilatation

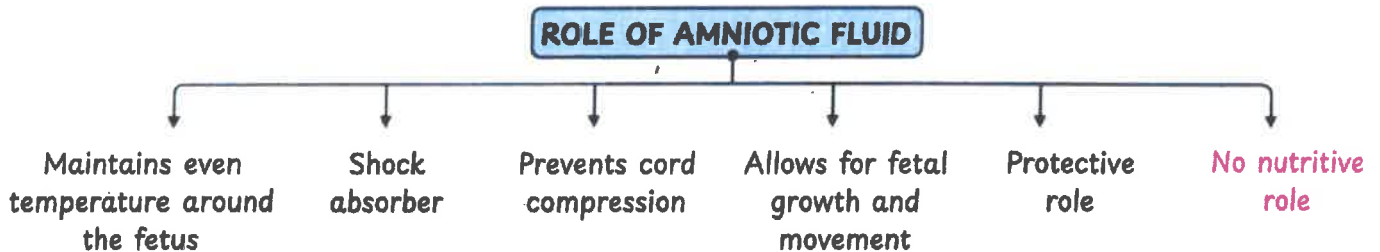
Ans (b)

- Q. Hormone responsible for the growth of fetus is?
- Growth hormone
  - Insulin
  - Glucagon
  - Thyroxine

Ans (b)

### 3. AMNIOTIC FLUID

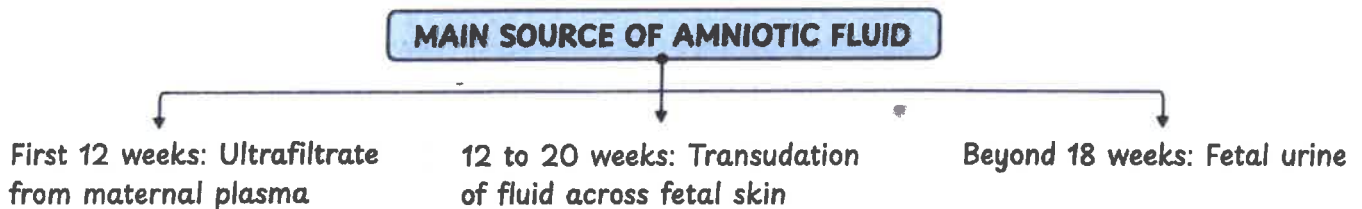
00:01:02



#### IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS

00:02:40

- Main **content** is water, replaced once in every 3 hours
- **Osmolality** : [REDACTED]
- **Specific gravity** : 1.007 - 1.010
- **pH**: 7.1 - 7.5 (alkaline)
- **Color**
  - At term: Straw colored
  - Preterm: Colorless
  - Post term: Saffron colored
  - Blood stained in placental abruption
  - Tobacco juice like with IUD
  - Rh affected fetus: Golden yellow (bilirubin)
  - Green colored: Meconium stained
    - Fetal distress
    - Breech in labor
    - Maternal listeriosis
- **Ferning**: Amniotic fluid is rich in sodium and chloride
  - It dries in a **fern like pattern**, observed under microscope



#### Important Information

- Fetus starts forming urine from 12 weeks of gestation
- Fetal skin keratinization occurs between 22 to 25 weeks

## AMNIOTIC FLUID VOLUME

00:09:18

- 10 weeks: 30 ml
- 12 weeks: 50 ml
- 16 weeks: 200 ml
- 32- 34 weeks (Maximum) : 1 litre
- Term (40 weeks): 800 ml
- Post term (> 42 weeks): 200 ml

## REGULATION OF AMNIOTIC FLUID VOLUME

00:10:48

At term,

Fetal urination	+ 1000 ml/day
Fetal lung fluid secretion	+ 350 ml/day
Fetal swallowing (Begins around 10-12 weeks of gestation)	- 750 ml/day
Intramembranous flow across fetal blood vessels on placental surface	- 400 ml/day

## MEASUREMENT OF AMNIOTIC FLUID

00:15:46

### USG:

- Measurement of amniotic fluid pocket (vertical pocket) in centimeters

### 1. Amniotic fluid index (AFI)

- Uterine cavity is divided into 4 quadrants
- Amniotic fluid volume in the 4 quadrants are measured

### 2. Single deepest pocket

- Measured in centimeters
- Normal AFI = 5-25 cm
- Normal SDP = 2-8 cm
- Oligohydramnios: AFI < 5 cm OR SDP < 2 cm OR absolute amount < 200 ml
- Polyhydramnios: amount > 2000 ml

