

**1724** Specific Receptivity of Rabbit Endometrium for Attachment of Trophoblast but not of Tumor Cells in vitro. H.-P. Hohn, A. Donner and H.-W. Denker; Connective Tissue Laboratory, 733 BDB, University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL 35294 & Abt. Anatomie der RWTH, Aachen, FRG. (Intr. by J. Murphy-Ullrich)

Implantation of the mammalian embryo is initiated by the attachment of the trophoblast to the uterine epithelium during its receptive phase. This interaction is not very well understood yet. To test whether the endometrial receptivity is specific for the attachment of trophoblast or would allow the invasion of any invasive cell, endometrial fragments were precultured and conditioned with steroid hormones to enter the receptive phase. In one series of studies attachment of rabbit blastocysts to those fragments was obtained when both partners were kept in close contact in synchronous co-culture starting from the preimplantation phase. Cell spheroids from several tumor cell lines derived from various species (including rabbit) and from different tissues failed to attach to the epithelium of receptive endometrial fragments although spheroids of all tested cell lines attached well to exposed stroma of the fragments. These experiments indicate specific receptivity of rabbit endometrium for trophoblast attachment in the phase of embryoimplantation - a phenomenon that seems not to exist in the rat (previous authors). Supported by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft Grant De 181/9-6.

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