

BLASTOCYST

Meaning: A blastocyst is an early stage of embryonic development characterized by a hollow ball of cells that forms after fertilization and before implantation in the uterus.

1. The blastocyst stage is critical for successful implantation in the uterus.
2. Researchers study the blastocyst to understand early embryonic development.
3. During in vitro fertilization, it is often the blastocyst that is selected for transfer.
4. A healthy blastocyst typically consists of an inner cell mass and a trophoblast layer.
5. The formation of a blastocyst occurs about five to six days after fertilization.
6. Scientists can derive stem cells from the inner cell mass of a blastocyst.
7. In mammals, the blastocyst forms after the zygote undergoes several divisions.
8. The ability of a blastocyst to implant can be influenced by maternal factors.
9. Studying the genetic makeup of a blastocyst can provide insights into potential disorders.
10. The transition from a morula to a blastocyst marks a significant phase in early development.

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