from →

3rd

Placenta in various groups of mammals: →

(A) Marsupials: →

The yolk sac is large and its upper wall invaginated by the embryo. on this upper wall is an area vasculosa, which extends only a short way over the outer or lower wall, the greater part of the latter being directly in contact with the trophoblast.

In Didelphys, the trophoblast opposite the area vasculosa of the yolk sac is a columnar epithelium, thrown into folds. These folds fit into corresponding depressions in the uterine wall from which they appear to absorb nutrient material, which is then handed on to the vessels of the yolk sac.

In Dasyurus, the same region of the trophoblast is applied closely to the uterine wall and there is also beyond the limits of the area vasculosa a conspicous annular zone of thickened trophoblast.

In Perameles, there is an allantoic placenta.

(B) "Placentalia":→

(1) Ungulata:→

The placenta is of the indeciduate type may be diffuse, cotyledonary or of an intermediate type eg. cow, sheep etc.

(2) Cetacea and sirenia:→

possess an indeciduate, diffuse placenta uniformly studded with villi.

(3) Proboscidea and hyracoidea:

Placenta is zonary, though villi occur.

(4) Lemuroidea:→

In this, lower division of primates the placenta is of diffuse indeciduate type.

(5) Carnivora:→

It is a group which from the comparative anatomical point of view of the greatest importance, since the placenta here holds an intermediate position between the indeciduate and deciduate types. In the mutual apposition of foetal vessels and maternal vessels the Carnivorous does indeed resemble the ungulate type, from which it may concievably have been derived and comes very near fulfilling the original definition of deciduate placenta. The shape of the placenta is always zonary.

(6) Rodentia:→

The placenta is always discoidal in shape and attached to the mesometric side of the uterus.

(7) Chiroptera: →

In vespertilio, there is a discoidal placenta or rather, since it is concave, saucer-shaped or bell shaped.

In Pteropus, the placenta is discoidal but mesometric.

(8) Insectivora: →

In this order, the placenta is again discoidal and usually concave but in Tupaia there are two placentas, one right and the other left and in Centet-es, a large number. where there is only one, it is anti-mesometric in position.

(9) Tarsius, Monkeys and Man: →

In Tarsius, the placenta is of the type, which prevails in Rodents, Ins-ectivores and chiroptera. In form, it is discoidal or rather button-shaped, protruding into the uterine cavity.

Among Platyrhine (old world monkey) it is double in Cebus, Single in Mycetes.

In Catarrhines, there are usual-y (Hylobates and Simia) and in Man, there is but a Single discoidal placenta, placenta in the two Apes on the anterior (ventral) wall of the uterus, in Man usually on the posterior wall, though the position is variable.

"Placenta in Taxonomy"

It has been held that the characters of placenta are a valuable