Placental Bed Disorders

Basic Science and its Translation to Obstetrics

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The role of the placental bed in normal pregnancy and its complications has been intensively investigated for 50 years, following the introduction of a technique for placental bed biopsy. It is now recognized that disorders of the maternal–fetal interface in humans have been implicated in a broad range of pathologic conditions, including spontaneous abortion, preterm labor, preterm premature rupture of membranes, preeclampsia, intrauterine growth restriction, abruptio placentae and fetal death.