

Table 3.2 Overview of the results obtained from the transmission electron microscopy and Toluidine blue light microscopy morphological analysis of the criteria set out in section 2.3.2.3 for the implantation (IS) and non-implantation (NIS) sites of the control pregnant (UT) and RU486-treated (T) animals. The characteristics of the endometrium are listed in order from the luminal surface through to the stromal compartments and the glandular epithelium.

	4.4UT IS	4.4UT NIS	5.4UT IS	5.4UT NIS	6.4UT IS	6.4UT NIS	4.4T IS	4.4T NIS	5.4T IS	5.4T NIS	6.4T IS	6.4T NIS
Luminal Secretions	None	Some	Some	Some	Some	Some	Some	Some	Some	Some	Some	Some
Large Cell Surface Protrusions	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Some	Some	Some	Some	Few
Luminal Epithelial Cells	Columnar epithelium	Columnar epithelium	Columnar to low columnar epithelium	Columnar to cuboidal epithelium	Low columnar to cuboidal epithelium	Low columnar to cuboidal epithelium	Columnar epithelium	Columnar epithelium	Columnar to low columnar epithelium	Columnar epithelium	Columnar epithelium	Columnar epithelium
Luminal Epithelial Cell Nuclei	Elongated to round fat centrally located	Round to elongated fat centrally located	Round fat basally located	Round fat to irregular basally situated	Round fat basally located	Round fat to irregular basally situated	Elongated to round fat basally centrally located	Round fat to irregular centrally located	Round to elongated fat basally located	Elongated fat to irregular centrally to basally located	Round to elongated mostly irregular basally situated	Round to elongated fat basally located
Microvilli	Long, thin and regular	Long, thin and regular	Very irregular and bleb-like	Very irregular and bleb-like	Longer, irregular and bleb-like	Irregular and bleb-like	Long, thin and regular	Long, thin and regular	Short to long, thin and regular	Short to long, thin and regular	Short to long, thin and regular	Short and mostly irregular
Cell Apices	Flat to slightly raised	Mostly flat with some apical bulges	Flat with few slight apical bulges	Flat with some slightly apical bulges	Flat to slightly raised	Mostly flat with some apical bulges	Flat with some slight apical bulges	Mostly flat with some to numerous apical bulges	Mostly flat with some slight apical bulges	Flat with some slightly apical bulges	Mostly flat with few slight apical bulges	Flat with some apical bulges
Apical Vesicles	Numerous	Numerous to some	Few to some	Few	Some to numerous	Numerous	Few to some	Some	Some to numerous	Few to some	Some	Some 1
Lipid Droplets	Some mostly basal and central	Few to some basal and central	Some clustered mostly around the nuclei.	Some to numerous basal and central. Few apical	Few mostly apical and basal	Some mostly apical and basal. Few central	Few basal, central and apical.	Few basal, central and apical.	Some basal and central. Few apical	Some clusters of mostly basal. Few apical and central	Some to numerous mostly basal. Some apical and central	Some basal and central clusters. Few apical

Table 3.2 cont. Overview of the results obtained from the transmission electron microscopy and Toluidine blue light microscopy morphological analysis of the criteria set out in section 2.3.2.3 for the implantation (IS) and non-implantation (NIS) sites of the control pregnant (UT) and RU486-treated (T) animals. The characteristics of the endometrium are listed in order from the luminal surface through to the stromal compartments and the glandular epithelium.

	4.5UT IS	4.5UT NIS	5.5UT IS	5.5UT NIS	6.5UT IS	6.5UT NIS	4.5T IS	4.5T NIS	5.5T IS	5.5T NIS	6.5T IS	6.5T NIS
Basal Plasma Membrane	Fairly irregular with some projections	Irregular	Fairly regular with very few projections	Fairly regular	Regular	Regular	Irregular with some projections	Irregular with some projections	Regular to irregular with few projections	Fairly irregular	Fairly regular	Regular basement membrane
Decidual layer	Mostly fat round cells	Cells becoming round and fat.	Large round fat cells	Round fat cells	Round fat cells	Round fat cells	Round to elongated cells of small decidual layer	Round to elongated cells of small decidual layer	Round to elongated cells of small decidual layer	Round to elongated cells of small decidual layer	Round fat cells of small decidual layer	Round fat cells of small decidual layer
Cuboidal Glandular Epithelium	Closed to slightly open and vesicular	Closed to slightly open and vesicular	Closed and slightly vesicular	Closed and slightly vesicular	Closed and vesicular	Closed and slightly vesicular	Open and very vesicular	Open and very vesicular	Mostly open and vesicular	Open and vesicular	Open to closed and slightly vesicular	Both closed and open and slightly vesicular
Apoptotic Activity	None	None	Little to none	Little to none	Little to none	Little to none	Some	Little to none	Some	Some	Some to lots	Some to none