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IMMUNOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF RAT UTERINE FLUID.

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Rat uterine fluid collected during the proestrus stage was studied by immunoelectrophoretic analysis and the Ouchterlony technique. Antibodies against rat uterine fluid and serum were produced in rabbits using Freund adjuvant. The immunological and electrophoretic behavior of rat uterine fluid, rat serum and rabbit anti-sera was not affected by lyophilization, and ligation of neutero-tubal junction and cervix prior to collection of the uterine fluid did not alter the characteristic behavior. This fluid gave rise to two precipitation lines with  $\beta$ -globulin mobility and one line with albumin mobility against anti-uterine fluid serum. When this serum was absorbed with rat serum it still reacted with the uterine fluid giving rise to one of the lines with  $\beta$ -globulin mobility. Results suggest that the uterine fluid is not a serum filtrate and that the uterine wall secretes a component that is antigenically different from the normal serum components. (Supported by a grant from the Planned Parenthood Federation.)