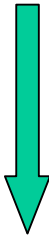


Retrograde menstruation

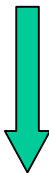


Viable endometrial cells in

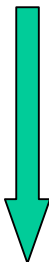
peritoneal cavity



Endometrial-Peritoneal adhesion



Ectopic implantation and invasion



**Growth and maintenance of
endometriosis**

Increased Quantity of PF Endometrial cells and/or
Decreased immune surveillance

- Defective NK cells
- Secretion of sICAM-1
- Abnormal apoptosis
- Reduced T cell cytotoxicity

Specific Quality of PF endometrial cells
and/or Pelvic Inflammation

- Increased number and activation of
macrophages
- Increased PF levels of IL-8, TNF- α ,
IL-6

- Upregulation of MMPs
- IL-1, TNF- α
- Suppression of TIMPs

- Increased angiogenesis
- Increased secretion of VEGF
- Increased expression of IL-8,
RANTES
- TNF- α

- Increased DCs which presents released
autoantigens to autoreactive T- Cells
- Reduced activity of NK cells to DCs presenting
autoantigens
- Increased autoantibodies
- Active Hormonal cycles
- Uncontrolled aromatase expression