

Phase-contrast micrograph of a four-cell embryo. The four cells are arranged in a cross pattern, with a central region where they meet. The cells are roughly spherical and have a granular internal texture.

3a

Fluorescence micrograph of the same four-cell embryo. The nuclei of the cells are stained with a blue dye, appearing as bright blue spots against a dark green background.

3b

Phase-contrast micrograph of a two-cell embryo. The two cells are joined together, and a thin vertical line, possibly a needle or pipette tip, is visible passing through the center of the embryo.

3c

Fluorescence micrograph of the same two-cell embryo. The nuclei are stained blue, showing two distinct blue spots.

3d

Phase-contrast micrograph of an eight-cell embryo. The cells are arranged in a cubical pattern, with some cells appearing slightly larger than others. The overall structure is more complex than the previous stages.

3e

Fluorescence micrograph of the same eight-cell embryo. The nuclei are stained blue, showing eight distinct blue spots arranged in a pattern corresponding to the cell arrangement.

3f

Phase-contrast micrograph of a morula embryo. The cells are tightly packed together, forming a spherical cluster. The surface of the embryo is irregular and textured.

3g

Fluorescence micrograph of the same morula embryo. The nuclei are stained blue, showing a dense cluster of blue spots. A white arrow points to a specific spot, labeled 'Ap'.

3h

Ap