Description	**Precipitating polyclonal goat antiserum to human alpha-2 macroglobulin**
Product code	GAHu/A2M
Biological origin	Goat
Physical form	Delipidated, heat inactivated, lyophilized, stable whole antiserum
Preservative	No preservative added as it may interfere with the antibody activity.
Immunogen	Alpha-2 macroglobulin(clotting factor I) is the major protein in the alpha-2 region of human serum after separation by immunoelectrophoresis. The concentration in normal plasma is about 2.5 mg/ml. It is a large polymer and a strong antigen. It forms about one third in the total of the alpha-2 globulins. The protein is isolated by ammonium sulphate precipitation, ion exchange chromatography, gelfiltration and preparative starch block electrophoresis. In the purification the activation of kallikrein is avoided, since it forms an irreversible bond with alpha-2 macroglobulin, thus contaminating the final immunogen. Freund's complete adjuvant is used in the first step of the immunization procedure.
Adsorption	Immunoaffinity adsorbed using insolubilized antigens as required, to eliminate antibodies cross-reacting with other with other serum proteins. The use of insolubilized adsorption antigens prevents the presence of excess adsorbent protein or immune complexes in the antiserum.
Identity & Specificity	The reactivity of the antiserum is restricted to human alpha-2 macroglobulin. In immunoelectrophoresis and radial immunodiffusion, using various antiserum concentrations against normal human plasma a single precipitin line is obtained which shows a reaction of identity with the precipitin line obtained with purified alpha-2 macroglobulin. No reaction is obtained with any other plasma protein components or serum.
Cross-reactivity	The antiserum does not cross-react with any other component of human plasma. Inter-species cross-reactivity is a normal feature of antibodies to plasma proteins since they frequently share antigenic determinants. Cross-reactivity of this antiserum has been tested in double radial immunodiffusion against several ser of other species with the following results: bovine + cat + monkey ++ mouse - dog ± goat - rabbit + rat -
Protein concentration	Total protein and IgG concentrations in the antiserum are comparable to those of pooled normal goat serum.
Antibody titre	Precipitin titre 1:64 when tested against pooled normal human plasma in agar-block immunodiffusion titration. No foreign proteins added.
Intended use	In precipitating techniques as immunoelectrophoresis and single or double radial immunodiffusion (Mancini, Ouchterlony) to identify the presence of alpha-2 macroglobulin in human plasma or other body fluids or to determine its concentration. This antiserum is not intended for use in non-precipitating antibody binding or other highly sensitive assays, but this does exclude such use if proper controls are included.
Directions for use	The lyophilized antiserum is shipped at ambient temperature and may be stored at +4°C; prolonged storage at or below -20°C. Reconstitute the lyophilized antiserum by adding 1 ml sterile distilled water. Dilutions may be prepared by adding phosphate buffered saline (PBS, pH 7.2). Repeated thawing and freezing should be avoided. If a slight precipitation occurs upon storage, this should be removed by centrifugation. It will not affect the performance of the antiserum. Diluted antiserum should be stored at +4°C, not refrozen, and preferably used the same day.
Packing	Vial with 1 ml lyophilized antiserum.
Storage / shelf life	Lyophilized at +4°C at least 10 years reconstituted at or below -20°C 3-5 years reconstituted at +4°C 7 days
Caution	This antiserum should be handled by qualified persons only and appropriate precautions should be taken in its handling and disposal, and of all associated materials. For *in vitro* research purposes only.

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