Description	**Precipitating polyclonal rabbit antiserum to human alpha-lactalbumin**
Product code	RAHu/ALalb
Biological origin	Rabbit
Physical form	Delipidated, heat inactivated, lyophilized, stable whole antiserum
Preservative	No preservative added.
Immunogen	Highly purified alpha-lactalbumin isolated from human milk. Alpha-lactalbumin is one of the major proteins in the alpha region after immunoelectrophoresis of human milk. It has been implicated as a component of the enzyme lactose synthetase which catalyzes the formation of lactose from uridine diphosphate galactose and glucose. 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 reacting 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 defined antibody specificity is directed to alpha-lactalbumin as tested against human milk. Its presence can also be demonstrated in udder tissues. When tested in immunoelectrophoresis and double radial immunodiffusion against serum no reaction is obtained.
Cross-reactivity	Homologous proteins of different species frequently share antigenic determinants. The degree of cross-reactivity is also dependent on the concentrations of the reactants and the sensitivity of the assay arrangement. This antiserum has not been tested for cross-reactivity.
Protein concentration	Total protein and IgG concentrations in the antiserum are comparable to those in pooled rabbit serum. No foreign proteins added.
Antibody titre	Precipitin titre not less than 1:32 when tested against normal human milk in agar block immuno-diffusion titration.
Intended use	As precipitating antiserum to identify or measure human alpha-lactalbumin by a variety of immuno-diffusion techniques, including immunoelectrophoresis, single and double radial immunodiffusion (Mancini, Ouchterlony) and electroimmunodiffusion (Laurell). It has not been tested for use in nephelometry, ELISA or immunochemistry, but this does not exclude such use if proper controls are included.
Directions for use	In immunoelectrophoresis use 2 µl serum, plasma or equivalent against 120 µl antiserum. In double radial immunodiffusion (Ouchterlony) use a rosette arrangement with 10 µl antiserum in a 3 mm diameter centre well and 2 µl serum samples (neat and serially diluted) in 2 mm diameter peripheral wells. In single radial immunodiffusion and electroimmunodiffusion use 0.5 to 1.0 percent antiserum in the agar gel.
Handling	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* laboratory research purposes only.

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