Description **Precipitating polyclonal rabbit antiserum to rat serum albumin**

Product code RARa/Alb

Biological origin Rabbit

Physical form Delipidated, heat inactivated, lyophilized, stable whole antiserum

Preservative No preservative added.

Immunogen Highly purified albumin isolated from rat serum. 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 albumin as tested against rat sera. In immuno-electrophoresis and double radial immunodiffusion (Ouchterlony), using various antiserum concentrations against appropriate concentrations of the immunogen, a single characteristic precipitin line is obtained which shows a reaction of identity with the precipitin lines obtained against rat serum and the purified albumin.

Cross-reactivity Inter-species cross-reactivity is a normal feature of antibodies to mammalian serum proteins, since 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 fraction has been tested for cross-reactivity by double radial immunodiffusion against several species sera with the following results:

cow -	goat -	human ±	rabbit -
chicken -	guinea pig ++	mouse +	sheep -
dog -	horse ±	monkey ±	swine ±

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 1:64 when tested against normal rat serum in agar block immunodiffusion titration.

Intended use As precipitating antiserum to identify or measure rat albumin by a variety of immunodiffusion 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.

NORDIC IMMUNOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
Langendijk 25, 5652 AX Eindhoven, The Netherlands
Tel. +31 630 070 625, Fax: +31 402 920 069
E-mail: info@nordiclabs.nl
www.nordiclabs.nl

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